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*Gospel Centered*  
CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*  
March 2, 2025

**Covenant's Mission Statement**

*"To build a faithful community of joyful disciples."*

**Covenant's Values**

Covenant is **biblical** by affirming the Bible as the authoritative Word of God,  
**connectional** by affiliating with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA),  
**confessional** by adhering to the Westminster Standards,  
**missional** by seeking to spread the Gospel worldwide, and  
**relational** by encouraging the church family to build community.

*“And if the Lord had not cut short the days, no human being would be saved.  
But for the sake of the elect, whom he chose, he shortened the days.”*

Mark 13:20

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship  
by reflecting on Mark 13:20 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Missions Conference Announcement

Call to Worship

Hebrews 10:22-25

*[22] let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,  
with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience  
and our bodies washed with pure water.  
[23] Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering,  
for he who promised is faithful.  
[24] And let us consider how to stir up one another to love  
and good works,  
[25] not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some,  
but encouraging one another, and all the more as you  
see the Day drawing near.*

Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Hymn

*“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”*

Glorious things of Thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;  
He whose word cannot be broken formed thee for His own abode:  
on the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,  
well supply Thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove;  
who can faint, while such a river ever flows their thirst t'assuage?  
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring, see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a cov'ring, showing that the Lord is near:  
thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,  
safe they feed upon the manna which He gives them when they pray.

Savior, if of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am,  
let the world deride or pity, I will glory in Thy Name:  
fading is the worldling's pleasure, all his boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasure none but Zion's children know.

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Scripture Reading

Daniel 11:25-30

Bob Tramel, Ruling Elder

Congregational Prayer

Bob Tramel, Ruling Elder

*"At the Table of the Lord"*

At the table of the Lord bread is broken.  
At the table of the Lord we are fed.  
We remember now the words that Christ has spoken:  
"This is my body," He said.  
At the table of the Lord, in thanksgiving,  
we have come to drink the wine which is poured.  
We remember Him, who died for us, now living.  
We remember Christ our Lord.  
At the table of the Lord, we are meeting.  
In communion we are many in one.  
For where we are gathered, there our Lord will be.  
At the table of the Lord, we shall be free.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Jeff Rooker, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

*"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine; now hear me while I pray,  
take all my guilt away, O let me from this day be wholly Thine.  
May Thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart,  
my zeal inspire; as Thou hast died for me,  
O may my love to Thee pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire.  
While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread,  
be Thou my guide; bid darkness turn to day,  
wipe sorrow's tears away, nor let me ever stray from Thee aside.  
When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream  
shall o'er me roll, blest Savior, then, in love,  
fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul.

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Corporate Confession of Sin

Holy Father, forgive us.  
Though You should guide us, we inform ourselves.  
Though You should rule us, we control ourselves.  
Though You should fulfill us, we console ourselves.  
For we think Your truth too high, Your will too hard,  
Your power too remote, Your love too free.

But they are not! And without them,  
we are of all people most miserable.  
Heal our confused mind with Your word,  
heal our divided will with Your law,  
heal our troubled conscience with Your love,  
heal our anxious hearts with Your presence,  
all for the sake of Your Son, who loved us  
and gave Himself for us. Amen.

#### Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

#### Assurance of Pardon

#### Psalm 103:8-12

- [8] The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and  
abounding in steadfast love.*
- [9] He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.*
- [10] He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us  
according to our iniquities.*
- [11] For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is  
his steadfast love toward those who fear him;*
- [12] as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our  
transgressions from us.*

#### Hymn

#### *“He Will Hold Me Fast”*

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
when the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;  
for my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

**chorus:** *He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
for my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;  
precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;  
bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

#### **chorus**

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;  
justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast  
till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!

#### **chorus**

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Hymn

*"The God of Abraham Praise"*  
(stanzas 1-3)

The God of Abraham praise, Who reigns enthroned above;  
Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love:  
Jehovah! great I AM! by earth and heav'n confessed;  
I bow and bless the sacred name, for ever blest.

The God of Abraham praise, at whose supreme command  
from earth I rise, and seek the joys at His right hand:  
I all on earth forsake, its wisdom, fame, and power;  
and Him my only portion make, my Shield and Tower.

He by himself hath sworn, I on His oath depend;  
I shall, on eagle's wings upborne, to heav'n ascend:  
I shall behold His face, I shall His power adore,  
and sing the wonders of his grace for evermore.

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Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Prayer of Blessing

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn

*"The God of Abraham Praise"*  
(stanzas 4-6)

The goodly land I see, with peace and plenty blest,  
a land of sacred liberty and endless rest;  
there milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound,  
and trees of life for ever grow, with mercy crowned.

There dwells the Lord our King, the Lord our righteousness;  
triumphant over the world and sin, the Prince of Peace  
on Zion's sacred height His kingdom still maintains,  
and glorious with His saints in light for ever reigns.

The whole triumphant host give thanks to God on high;  
hail Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, they ever cry:  
hail Abraham's God and mine! I join the heavenly lays  
all might and majesty are Thine, and endless praise.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline  
*"For the Sake of the Elect"* Part II  
Mark 13:14-23

I. Marking the Beginning, Not the End.

II. Enduring to the End.

III. Shortening Those Days.

A. The Sign

B. The Tribulation

C. The Ultimate Sign and Greater Tribulation

## **MEMBERS OF SESSION**

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Dr. Bob Tramel

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Mr. Ben Russ, Bookkeeper  
Mrs. Peggy Washburn, Administrative Assistant

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Mrs. Roanna Wilson, Choir Director  
Mr. David Beuerman, Violinist  
Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

Mrs. Valerie Hilliard, Vocalist  
Mrs. Katie Hughes, Pianist

### **COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILIES**

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Will & Martha, International  
Wes & Kim, Undisclosed

### **COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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