



covenant.presbyterian.church

Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
May 10, 2026

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.

*“ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies
of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”*

1 Peter 2:9

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship
by reflecting on 1 Peter 2:9 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Psalm 96:1-6

[1] Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

[2] Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

[3] Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

[4] For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

[5] For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

[6] Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Invocation

Hymn

“Holy, Holy, Holy!”

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.
Holy, Holy, Holy, Merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy, all the saints adore Thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, Holy, Holy, though the darkness hide Thee, though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee perfect in pow’r, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

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Scripture Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Richard Long, Ruling Elder

Congregational Prayer

Richard Long, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

“Arise! Shine!”

Choir

Arise and shine, the light has come, the glorious day of the Lord.

Arise for your light has come.

Arise with the morning sun.

Arise, a new day begun.

Sing alleluia, alleluia, lift up your praise to the Lord

Arise and shine, the light has come the glorious day of the Lord.

Oh, let your heart be glad. Come now and let your soul rejoice.

O come and praise the Lord with all your heart and soul and voice.

The darkness shall be as dawning. The light of our hope shall be restored.

Lift up your heart. Lift up your eyes and see the glory of the Lord.

Arise. Arise and shine.

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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 into hell¹. 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 catholic² church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

¹ that is He remained under the power of death until the third day (WCFLC #50)

² "catholic" means universal

Communicant's Received by Profession of Faith

Laura McCullar
Michael McCullar
Claire Walser

Hymn

"O, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus,
vast unmeasured, boundless, free,
rolling as a mighty ocean
in its fullness over me,
underneath me, all around me
is the current of Your love,
leading onward, leading homeward
to Your glorious rest above.

refrain: *Oh the deep, deep love, all I need and trust
is the deep, deep love of Jesus.*

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus,
spread His praise from shore to shore,
how He came to pay our ransom
through the saving cross He bore;
how He watches o'er His loved ones,
those He died to make His own,
how for them He's interceding,
pleading now before the throne.

refrain

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus,
far surpassing all the rest,
it's an ocean full of blessing
in the midst of every test.
Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus,
mighty Savior, precious Friend,
You will bring us home to glory,
where Your love will never end.

refrain

Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we are thankful that Your mercy is higher than the heavens,
wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin.
Forgive our careless attitudes toward Your purposes,
our refusal to relieve the suffering of others,
our envy of those who have more than we have,
our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure,
our indifference to the treasures of heaven,
our neglect of Your wise and gracious law.
Help us to change our way of life
so that we may desire what is good,
love what You love, and do what You command,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

"Take Time to Be Holy"

Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;
abide in Him always, and feed on His Word.
Make friends of God's children; help those who are weak;
forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;
spend much time in secret with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, like Him thou shalt be;
thy friends in thy conduct His likeness shall see.

Take time to be holy, let Him be thy guide,
and run not before Him, whatever betide;
in joy or in sorrow, still follow thy Lord,
and, looking to Jesus, still trust in His Word.

Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul;
each thought and each motive beneath His control;
thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,
thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.

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Scripture Reading

Ezra 9

Sermon

"A Plea for Mercy"

Pastor Reed

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,
yonder on Calvary’s mount outpoured, there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

chorus: *Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that is greater than all our sin!*

Sin and despair like the sea waves cold, threaten the soul with infinite loss;
grace that is greater, yes grace untold, points to the Refuge, the mighty cross.

chorus

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide, what can avail to wash it away?
Look! there is flowing a crimson tide; whiter than snow you may be today.

chorus

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe.
You that are longing to see His face, will you this moment His grace receive?

chorus

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“A Plea for Mercy”
Ezra 9

I. The Report to Ezra.

II. The Response of Ezra.

A. Mourning over faithlessness.

B. Prayer of Confession.

[1] God has called us to be His holy people (Deuteronomy 7:6; 1 Peter 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:7). What does it mean to be holy?

[2] Jeremiah 2:13 helps us think about the sin of idolatry? How do we struggle with the sin of idolatry and fail to be God's holy people?

[3] How does Ezra's prayer of confession guide us in confessing sin and rely on God's mercy?

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Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

Mrs. Valerie Hilliard, Vocalist
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Will & Martha	International
Wes & Kim	Undisclosed

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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