

covenant.presbyterian.church

Gospel Centered CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*May 21, 2023

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, andrelational by encouraging the church family to build community.

"O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption." Psalm 130:7

During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on Psalm 130:7 printed above.

Prelude

Life of the Church

STEP Ministries Update

Recognition of Graduates

Kerry Fox, Drew Knecht, Walt Sanford, Emerson Thompson, and Anna Wilson

Call to Worship

Deuteronomy 10:20-21

[20] You shall fear the LORD your God. You shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear. [21] He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen.

Invocation

Hymn

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, victorious, Thy great Name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might; Thy justice like mountains high soaring above Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight; All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

CCLI 209271

Scripture Reading

Brandon Walser, Ruling Elder

Luke 15:11-24

[11] And he said, "There was a man who had two sons.

[12] And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them.

[13] Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. [14] And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need.

[15] So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs.

[16] And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

[17] "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger!

[18] I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.

[19] I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."

[20] And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

[21] And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

[22] But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet.

[23] And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate.

[24] For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

Congregational Prayer

Brandon Walser, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

"By Our Love" by Nockels/McDonald Choir

Brothers, let us come together, walking in the Spirit, there's much to be done. We will come reaching out from our comforts, and they will know us by our love. Sisters, we were made for kindness, we can pierce the darkness as He shines through us. We will come reaching with a song of healing, and they will know us by our love. The time is now: come, Church, arise! Love with His hands; see with His eyes. Bind it around you; let it never leave you, and they will know us by our love. Children, you are hope for justice; stand firm in the truth now, set your hearts above. You will be reaching long after we're gone, and they will know you by your love!

The time is now: come, Church, arise! Love with His hands; see with His eyes. Bind it around you; let it never leave you, and they will know us by our love. The time is now: come, Church, arise! Love with His hands; see with His eyes. Bind it around you; let it never leave you, and they will know us by our love. Bind it around you; let it never leave you, and they will know us by our love. The time is now: come, Church, arise!

CCLI 209271 3

Corporate Profession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism Question 1

What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

Hymn

"God Moves in a Mysterious Way"

God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform; He plants His footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines of never failing skill He treasures up His bright designs, and works His sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds ye so much dread are big with mercy, and shall break in blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, but trust Him for His grace; behind a frowning providence He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast, unfolding ev'ry hour; the bud may have a bitter taste, but sweet will be the flow'r.

Blind unbelief is sure to err, and scan His work in vain; God is His own interpreter, and He will make it plain.

CCLI 209271

Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty and most merciful Father, we confess that we have not trusted You with our whole heart; we have leaned on our own understanding and been wise in our own eyes; in our thoughts, words and deeds we have not acknowledged You and so our paths have been crooked before You. Forgive us our sins and teach us by Your Spirit to fear You and to turn away from evil, to the glory of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Micah 7:18-20

[18] Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. [19] He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. [20] You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

Hymn

"I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)"

(sheet music pgs. 8,9,10)

Out of the depths I cry to You in darkest places I will call incline Your ear to me anew and hear my cry for mercy, Lord.

Were You to count my sinful ways how could I come before Your throne yet full forgiveness meets my gaze I stand redeemed by grace alone.

chorus: I will wait for You
I will wait for you
On Your Word, I will rely
I will wait for You
Surely wait for You
Till my soul is satisfied.

So put your hope in God alone take courage in His power to save completely and forever won by Christ emerging from the grave.

Now He has come to make a way and God Himself has paid the price that all who trust in Him today find healing in His sacrifice.

CCLI 209271

Scripture Reading

Ruth 1:1-5

Pastor Coyle

[1] In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons.

[2] The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there.

[3] But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons.

[4] These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years,

[5] and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

Sermon Pastor Coyle

"Going Nowhere"

Hymn

"Christ Our Hope in Life and Death"

(sheet music pgs. 11&12)

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone. What is our only confidence? That our souls to Him belong.

Who holds our days within His hand? What comes apart from His command? And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.

chorus: O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal; O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good. Where is His grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial? Who sends the waves that bring us nigh unto the shore, the rock of Christ? **chorus**

Unto the grave, what will we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!" And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with Him.

There we will rise to meet the Lord, then sin and death will be destroyed, and we will feast in endless joy, when Christ is ours forevermore. **chorus (2 times)**

CCLI 209271

Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

<u>Sermon Outline</u> "Going Nowhere" Ruth 1:1-5

I. Leaving the Promise Land (v.1-2)

II. Lingering in Exile (v.3-4)		
III. Losing Everything (v.5)		

I Will Wait for You

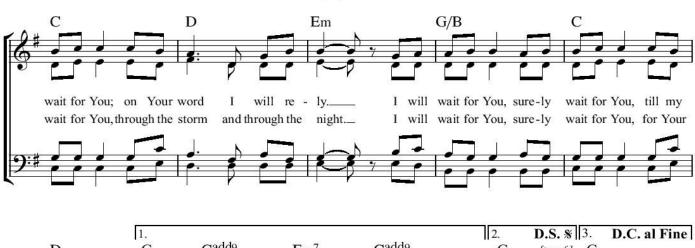
Words and Music by
Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker,
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
'Lord, from the Depths I Call to You'
"Martyrdom" Music by Hugh Wilson
Words: Psalter, Free Church of Scotland

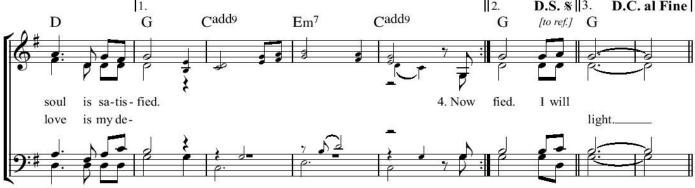


I Will Wait For You © 2018 Getty Music Publishing (BMI) / Jordan Kauflin Music (BMI) / Matthew Merker Music (BMI) / Getty Music Songs, LLC (adm. by MusicServices.org) / Townend Songs (PRS) (adm. by MusicServices.org in the US and Canada and by www.songsolutions.org elsewhere in the World). Lord, from the Depths I Call to You © 2003 Sing Psalms, Free Church of Scotland Psalmody & Praise Committee.

I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130) (Hymnal, Key of G)







Christ Our Hope in Life and Death





12 CCLI 2092701

MEMBERS OF SESSION

RULIING ELDERS

Class of 2023 Mr. Bruce Hurlbut Mr. Carl Monroe Mr. Jason Van Goor

Class of 2024 Mr. Jim Lewis Mr. Josh Sanford Dr. Brandon Walser

Class of 2025 Mr. Dan Butkowski Dr. Bob Tramel

TEACHING ELDERS

Rev. Dr. Tim J. Reed, Senior Pastor Rev. Derek W. Coyle, Associate Pastor

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2023 Mr. Scott Frevdl Dr. David Matlock Mr. Jeff Rooker

Class of 2024 Mr. David Beuerman Dr. Ken Knecht Mr. Kurt Smith

Class of 2025 Mr. Peter Bogaards Dr. Jonathan Goodwin Mr. Jason Guenther

STAFF

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

MUSICIANS/VOCALISTS

Mrs. Liz Baker, Choir Director Mr. David Beuerman, Violinist Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

Mrs. Cheryl Visser, Flutist Mr. Mike Walsh, Pianist Mrs. Roanna Wilson, Vocalist

COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILLIES

Paul & Connie Backstrom, Bentonville Peter & Jenny Boling, Mexico Dan & Nancy Butkowski, Little Rock Scott & Kathy Craig, Mexico Roger & Laura Dye, South Carolina Del & Hazel Farris, MNA Ministry to State Will & Martha, International Jamie & Jacki Gildard, France Rob & Jenny Ilderton, England

Darlene Johnson, Japan Tom & Karen Mirabella, Japan Pete & Ruth Mitchell, France Jim & Karan Romaine, New York City Jim Wroughton, Peru (retired) Wes & Kim, Undisclosed

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

One Covenant Drive • Little Rock, AR 72211 • 501-228-5903 cpc@covenantpca.com • www.covenantpca.com A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America