



covenant.presbyterian.church

Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
May 31, 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.

*“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are
not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.”*
Romans 8:18

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship
by reflecting on Romans 8:18 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Psalm 146

Responsive Reading

Pastor: Praise the Lord.

All: Praise the Lord, O my soul.

Pastor: I will praise the Lord all my life;

All: I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Pastor: Do not put your trust in princes, in mortal men, who cannot save.

**All: When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;
on that very day their plans come to nothing.**

Pastor: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord his God,

**All: the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea,
and everything in them—the Lord, who remains faithful forever.**

Pastor: He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

All: The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind,

Pastor: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down,
the Lord loves the righteous.

**All: The Lord watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless
and the widow, but He frustrates the ways of the wicked.**

Pastor: The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Invocation

Hymn

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

chorus: *On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

chorus

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

chorus

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found;
dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

chorus

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Scripture Reading

Romans 8:18-25

Tom Paulus, Ruling Elder

Congregational Prayer

Tom Paulus, Ruling Elder 2

“His Strength Is Perfect”

Choir

I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength
But sometimes I wonder what He can do through me
No great success to show no glory on my own
yet in my weakness He is there to let me know
His strength is perfect when our strength is gone
He'll carry us when we can't carry on
raised in His power the weak become strong
His strength is perfect His strength is perfect
We can only know the power that He holds
When we truly see how deep our weakness goes
His strength in us begins where ours comes to an end
He hears our humble cry and proves again

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Jeff Rooker, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

Philippians 2:5-11

Jesus Christ, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be exploited;
rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of
a servant, being made in human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a man,
He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!
Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place
and gave Him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Hymn

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood;
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!”

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Corporate Confession of Sin

Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of You and for ignoring Your immensity and greatness.
Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that You rule the nations and our small lives.
Holy Spirit, we offend You in minimizing Your power and squandering Your gifts.
We confess that our blindness to Your glory, O triune God, has resulted in shallow confession,
tepid conviction, and only mild repentance. Have mercy upon us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 32:1-2

[1] Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. [2] Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Hymn

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home:
through days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong,
and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace;
for not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums,
but deeds of love and mercy, the heav'nly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears;
for gladness breaks like morning where'er Thy face appears;
Thy cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light:
the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.

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Scripture Reading

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

Sermon

"Life Under the Sun"

Rev. Justin Hilliard

Hymn

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down:
fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art;
visit us with Thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in Thee inherit, let us find the promised rest:
take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its Beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all Thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, never more Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
pray, and praise Thee, without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be:
let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
"Life Under the Sun"
Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

I. Hopeless TOIL? (v.1-3)

II. Meaninglessness REPETITION? (v.4-7)

III. Endless EXHAUSTION? (v.8-11)

RULING ELDERS

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Mr. Jeff Nissen
Mr. Bill Scholl

Class of 2027
Dr. Ken Knecht
Mr. Richard Long
Mr. Carl Monroe

Class of 2028
Mr. Jim Lewis
Dr. Tom Paulus

TEACHING ELDERS

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Rev. Derek W. Coyle, Associate Pastor

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Mr. Mike Lieblich
Dr. David Matlock

Class of 2027
Mr. Bob Davis
Mr. Scott Freydl
Mr. Jeff Rooker

Class of 2028
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Mr. Zachary Wagers
Mr. Bryant Young

STAFF

Rev. Justin Hilliard, Assistant Pastor (Pinnacle Classical Academy)
Mr. Ben Russ, Bookkeeper
Mrs. Peggy Washburn, Administrative Assistant

MUSICIANS/VOCALISTS

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

Paul & Connie Backstrom	FamilyLife/Bentonville
Dan & Nancy Butkowski	CRU Arts & Culture/Little Rock
Gabriel & Olga Diaz	Church Planting - MTW/Mexico
Frank & Daisy Du	Church Planting/Little Rock
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Pete Mitchell	MTW/France
Ben & Kirstin Spivey	MTW & RUF/London
Raimo & Annemari Survo	MTW/Finland
Will & Martha	International
Wes & Kim	Undisclosed

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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