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*Gospel Centered*  
CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*  
May 4, 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.

*“By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us,  
and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.”*

1 John 3:16

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship  
by reflecting on 1John 3:16 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Revelation 1:5-6

*[5] To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood [6] and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

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

*“Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder”*

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name.  
He has hushed the law's loud thunder, He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame.  
He has washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood.  
He has washed us with His blood. He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies;  
called us by His grace and taught us gave us ears and gave us eyes  
He has washed us with His blood. He has washed us with His blood.  
He has washed us with His blood. He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing though fierce temptation, threaten hard to bear us down  
for the Lord our strong salvation holds in view the conqueror's crown.  
He who washed us with His blood. He who washed us with His blood.  
He who washed us with His blood soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder grace and justice join and point to mercy's store  
when through grace in Christ our trust is justice smiles and asks no more.  
He who washed us with His blood. He who washed us with His blood.  
He who washed us with His blood. Has secured our way to God.

Let us praise and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high  
here they trusted Him before us now their praises fill the sky.  
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood. Thou hast washed us with Thy blood.  
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood. Thou art worthy Lamb of God.

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Scripture Reading

Genesis 4:1-16

William Fennell, Ruling Elder

Congregational Prayer

William Fennell, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

*“Keep Your Lamps”*

Choir

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.  
Children don't get weary, 'til your work is done.  
Christian journey soon be over; the time is drawing nigh.  
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Jason Guenther, Deacon

All saints, that are united to Jesus Christ their Head, by His Spirit, and by faith, have fellowship with Him in His grace, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory: and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces, and are obliged to the performance of such duties, public and private, as do conduce to their mutual good, both in the inward and outward man.

Hymn

*“O How Good It Is”*

Oh how good it is when the fam'ly of God dwells together in spirit, in faith and unity; where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love are the fruit of His presence here among us.

**chorus:** *So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,  
and with one heart we'll live out His Word;  
till the whole world sees the Redeemer has come,  
for He dwells in the presence of His people.*

Oh how good it is on this journey we share to rejoice with the happy, and weep with those who mourn; for the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace, when we offer the blessing of belonging.

**chorus**

Oh how good it is to embrace His command to prefer one another, forgive as He forgives; when we live as one we all share in the love of the Son, with the Father, and the Spirit.

**chorus**

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Scripture Reading

1 John 3:10-18

Sermon

*"Love and Hate"*

Pastor Coyle

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Hymn

*“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”*

Jesus, Thou Joy of loving hearts, Thou Fount of life, Thou Light of men,  
from the best bliss that earth imparts we turn unfilled to Thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; Thou savest those that on Thee call;  
to them that seek Thee Thou art good, to them that find Thee all in all.

We taste Thee, O Thou Living Bread, and long to feast upon Thee still;  
we drink of Thee, the Fountainhead, and thirst our souls from Thee to fill.

Our restless spirits yearn for Thee, where'er our changeful lot is cast;  
glad when Thy gracious smile we see, blest when our faith can hold Thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay, make all our moments calm and bright;  
chase the dark night of sin away, shed o'er the world Thy holy light.

## Invitation to The Lord's Supper

### Corporate Confession of Sin

We confess, our Father, that we do not live up to the family name.  
We are more ready to resent than to forgive, more ready to manipulate than to serve,  
more ready to fear than to love, more ready to keep our distance than to welcome,  
more ready to compete than to help.  
At the root of this behavior is mistrust. We do not love one another as we should,  
because we do not believe that you love us as you do.  
Forgive us our cold unbelief.  
And make more vivid to us the meaning and depth of your love at the cross.  
Show us what it cost you to give up your Son  
that we might become your sons and daughters.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus our righteousness. Amen.

### Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

#### Assurance of Pardon

Titus 3:4-7

[4] But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, [5] he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, [6] whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, [7] so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

#### Prayer of Blessing

#### Distribution of the Elements

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

#### Hymn

*"We Are God's People"*

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,  
born of His Spirit, established by His Word;  
our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Him we stand:  
O let us live transparently, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,  
for we have known it, the love of God outpoured  
now let us learn how to return the gift of love once giv'n:  
O let us share each joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleases heav'n.

We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,  
called to obey Him, now risen from the dead;  
He wills us to be a family, diverse yet truly one:  
O let us give our gifts to God, and so shall His work on earth be done.

We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,  
formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;  
we die alone, for on its own each member loses fire:  
yet joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to inspire.

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#### Scriptural Benediction

#### Postlude

Sermon Outline

*"Love and Hate"*

1 John 3:10-18

I. The Mandate to Love (v.11)

II. The Message of Hate (v.12-13, 15)

III. The Mark of Love (v.14, 16-18)

1. How will considering Christ more increase your love for His people?
2. How does Deuteronomy 15:7-11 complement John's message of loving one another?
3. What might it look like for you to love the brothers "in deed and in truth"?
4. How does this passage aid our assurance of eternal life (the theme of this letter)?

## **MEMBERS OF SESSION**

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Mr. J. C. Baker (sabbatical)  
Mr. Dan Butkowski  
Dr. Bob Tramel

**Class of 2026**  
Mr. William Fennell  
Mr. Jeff Nissen  
Mr. Bill Scholl

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

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Rev. Derek W. Coyle, Associate Pastor

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Mr. Jason Guenther

**Class of 2026**  
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Mr. Mike Lieblich  
Dr. David Matlock

**Class of 2027**  
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Mr. Scott Freydl  
Mr. Jeff Rooker

### **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 Beurman, Violinist  
Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

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

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

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