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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
November 17, 2024

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.

*“It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man.
It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.”*
Psalm 118:8,9

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship
by reflecting on Psalm 118:8, 9 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Psalm 118:1-4, 28, 29

[1] Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! [2] Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.” [3] Let the house of Aaron say, “His steadfast love endures forever.” [4] Let those who fear the LORD say, “His steadfast love endures forever.” [28] You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. [29] Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

Invocation

Hymn

“The Steadfast Love of Christ”

Once my heart was a prison defiled and cold,
where sin and the enemy reigned.
I was bound by the chains that enslaved my soul;
no hint of repentance or shame.
But then Jesus appeared like the morning sun,
defeating the shadows with light,
and forgiveness flowed through His precious blood,
Oh, the steadfast love of Christ.

Though redeemed, I still battle the lies within
that silently war in my soul.
In my weakness I yield to the power of sin
and desperately cry out for hope.
But then grace rushes in like a mighty flood,
new strength to engage in the fight,
and I taste the freedom the cross has won
through the steadfast love of Christ.

All the world is accursed and in sorrow still,
as heartache and suffering remain.
But the hope of creation will be fulfilled:
our Savior is coming to reign.
I believe in the justice of God the Son,
I know faith will turn into sight,
every tear stain dried, every wound undone
by the steadfast love of Christ.

tag: All of heaven will quake when we see our King,
the Lamb on the throne lifted high.
We'll behold in awe and forever sing
of the steadfast love of Christ,
Oh, the steadfast love of Christ,
Oh, the steadfast love of Christ.

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.

“Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul”

Dear refuge of my weary soul,
on Thee, when sorrows rise,
on Thee, when waves of trouble roll,
my fainting hope relies.
To Thee I tell each rising grief,
for Thou alone canst heal;
Thy Word can bring a sweet relief
for every pain I feel.

But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail,
I fear to call Thee mine;
the springs of comfort seem to fail,
and all my hopes decline.
Yet, gracious God, where shall I flee?
Thou art my only trust;
and still my soul would cleave to Thee
though prostrate in the dust.

Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face,
and shall I seek in vain?
And can the ear of sov'reign grace
be deaf when I complain?
No, still the ear of sov'reign grace
attends the mourner's prayer;
O may I ever find access
to breathe my sorrows there.

Thy mercy seat is open still,
here let my soul retreat;
with humble hope attend Thy will,
and wait beneath Thy feet.
Thy mercy seat is open still,
here let my soul retreat;
with humble hope attend Thy will,
and wait beneath Thy feet.

Corporate Confession of Sin

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in Your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 1:18

“Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.”

Hymn

“A Wonderful Savior Is Jesus My Lord”

A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord, a wonderful Savior to me;
He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock, where rivers of pleasure I see.

refrain: *He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock that shadows a dry, thirsty land;
He hideth my life in the depths of His love, and covers me there with His hand,
and covers me there with His hand.*

A wonderful Saviour is Jesus my Lord, He taketh my burden away;
He holdeth me up, and I shall not be moved, He giveth me strength as my day.

refrain

With numberless blessings each moment He crowns, and filled with a fullness divine,
I sing in my rapture, O glory to God for such a Redeemer as mine!

refrain

When clothed in His brightness, transported I rise to meet Him in clouds of the sky,
His perfect salvation, His wonderful love, I'll shout with the millions on high.

refrain

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Scripture Reading

Mark 12:1-12

Sermon

“What Will the Owner of the Vineyard Do?”

Pastor Reed

Hymn

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the Head and Cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever and her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city, dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation pours perpetual melody;
God the One in Three adoring in glad hymns eternally.

To this temple, where we call Thee, come, O Lord of hosts, today:
with Thy wonted lovingkindness hear Thy people as they pray;
and Thy fullest benediction shed within its walls away.

Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants what they ask of Thee to gain,
what they gain from Thee for ever with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in Thy glory evermore with Thee to reign.

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One,
One in might, and One in glory, while unending ages run.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“What Will the Owner of the Vineyard Do?”
Mark 12:1-12

I. The Owner’s Vineyard.

II. The Owner’s Tenants.

III. The Owner’s Son.

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Mr. Josh Sanford
Dr. Brandon Walser

Class of 2025
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Mr. Dan Butkowski
Dr. Bob Tramel

Class of 2026
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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

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