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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
November 29, 2020

Covenant's Mission Statement
Covenant seeks to glorify God by
Establishing Disciples biblically,
Engaging Culture redemptively,
Expanding Christ's Church faithfully.

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 families to build community.

*The First Sunday in Advent
Hope*

“He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Luke 1:32-33

Prelude

During the prelude, prepare for worship by reflecting on Luke 1:32-33 printed above.

Welcome

Call to Worship

Isaiah 40:9-11

⁹ Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!”

¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

¹¹ He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Invocation

Opening Hymn

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him born the King of angels;

refrain: O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light;
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb:
Very God, Begotten, not created;
refrain

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highest;
refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning:
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing;
refrain

Today's Advent Readers are Andrew and Nicole Kinzler
and Winston, Ellie, and Schaeffer

Responsive Reading

Reader: Blessed is the man who hopes in the Lord, whose
confidence is in Him.

**Congregation: He will be like a tree planted by the water that
sends out its roots by the stream.**

Reader: It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are
always green.

**Congregation: it has no worries in a year of drought and
never fails to bear fruit.**

Advent Scripture Reading

Colossians 1:15-23

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

*¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and
invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities - all things
were created through him and for him.*

¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

*¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the
firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.*

¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

*²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or
in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.*

²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,

*²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to
present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,*

*²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting
from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been
proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul,
became a minister.*

Lighting of the Candle

Prayer

Come, Thou long expected Jesus born to set Thy people free;
 from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.
 Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
 Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see Thee, Dayspring from on high, appear;
 come, Thou promised Rod of Jesse, of Thy birth we long to hear!
 O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth;
 "Go to Him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories knew no end;
 by His life He brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
 Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
 this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
 born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
 By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
 by Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

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Congregational Prayer

J. C. Baker, Ruling Elder

*Scripture Reading

2 Samuel 7:8-16

J. C. Baker, Ruling Elder

- ⁸ Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, "Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel.
- ⁹ And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth.
- ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly,
- ¹¹ from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.
- ¹² When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
- ¹³ He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
- ¹⁴ I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men,
- ¹⁵ but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you.
- ¹⁶ And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

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-wingèd 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

Almighty God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ You have given us a sure hope and future, yet we confess that we have set our hope on other things: money, family, success, pleasure.

Forgive us for breaking Your Law and putting these things ahead of You. By Your Spirit, help us to set our hope fully on Your promises and to lead holy lives as we await Christ’s return. In Jesus name, Amen.

Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 1:13-14

¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,

¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

*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.

refrain: *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 upon unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.

refrain

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.

refrain

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.

refrain

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*Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-33

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,

²⁷ to a virgin betrothed^[a] to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.

²⁸ And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!”^[b]

²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

³⁰ And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,

³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Hymn

“Let Your Kingdom Come”

Your glorious cause, O God, engages our hearts.
May Jesus Christ be known wherever we are.
We ask not for ourselves, but for Your renown.
The cross has saved us so we pray, “Your Kingdom come.”

chorus: *Let Your Kingdom come, let Your will be done,
So that everyone might know Your Name.
Let Your song be heard everywhere on earth,
till Your sovereign work on earth is done. Let Your Kingdom come.*

Give us Your strength, O God, and courage to speak.
Perform Your wondrous deeds through those who are weak.
Lord, use us as You want, whatever the test.
By grace we’ll preach Your Gospel till our dying breath.

chorus

Sovereign Grace Praise (BMA) / CCLI 209271

Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“Hope of All the Earth”
Luke 1:31-33

I. God will show Kindness.

II. God will provide His King.

III. God will establish His Kingdom.

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Kevin Breniman
Jerry Potts

Class of 2022
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Tom Paulus
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Tim J. Reed, Senior Pastor

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