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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
October 23, 2022

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 families to build community.

*“Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial,
for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life,
which God has promised to those who love him.”*

James 1:12

Prelude

During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on James 1:12 printed above.

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Revelation 4:8-11

⁸And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

⁹And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever,

¹⁰the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

¹¹“Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

Invocation

Hymn

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”

Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God;
will you pray with all your power, while we try to preach the Word?
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down;
brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Brethren, see poor sinners round you slumb’ring on the brink of woe;
death is coming, hell is moving - can you bear to let them go?
See our fathers and our mothers, and our children sinking down;
brethren, pray and holy manna will be showered all around.

Sisters, will you join and help us? Moses’ sister aided him:
will you help the trembling mourners who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior – tell them that he will be found;
sisters, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too;
let us love and pray for sinners till our God makes all things new.
Then He’ll call us home to heaven, at His table we’ll sit down;
Christ will gird Himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.

Proverbs 3:1-12

- ¹ *My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments,*
² *for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.*
³ *Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.*
⁴ *So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.*
⁵ *Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.*
⁶ *In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.*
⁷ *Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.*
⁸ *It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.*
⁹ *Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;*
¹⁰ *then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.*
¹¹ *My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline or be weary of his reproof,*
¹² *for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.*

Congregational Prayer

Tom Paulus, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Ken Knecht, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

Galatians 4:4-7

- ⁴ *But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,*
⁵ *to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.*
⁶ *And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"*
⁷ *So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.*

Hymn

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

How deep the Father’s love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss- the Father turns His face away,
as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life- I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything: no gifts, no pow’r, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ: His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer;
but this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.

words and music by Stuart Townend/CCLI 209271

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 and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 55:6-9

⁶ *“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;*

*⁷ let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and
to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.*

*⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,
declares the LORD.*

*⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher
than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

Hymn

“O Love That Will Not Let Me Go”

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe, that in Thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.

O Light that follow'st all my way, I yield my flick'ring torch to Thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray, that in Thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to Thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain,
that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from Thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.

words by George Matheson/music by Christopher Miner
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Scripture

Hebrews 12:3-17

³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

⁴ In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

⁵ And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him.

⁶ For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.”

⁷ It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?

⁸ If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

⁹ Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live?

¹⁰ For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness.

¹¹ For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

- ¹² *Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees,*
¹³ *and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not
be put out of joint but rather be healed.*
¹⁴ *Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which
no one will see the Lord.*
¹⁵ *See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root
of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become
defiled;*
¹⁶ *that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his
birthright for a single meal.*
¹⁷ *For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing,
he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought
it with tears.*

Sermon

“Holy Runners”

Pastor Reed

Hymn

“Take Time to Be Holy”

Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;
abide in Him always, and feed on His Word.
Make friends of God’s children; help those who are weak;
forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;
spend much time in secret with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, like Him thou shalt be;
thy friends in thy conduct His likeness shall see.

Take time to be holy, let Him be thy guide,
and run not before Him, whatever betide;
in joy or in sorrow, still follow thy Lord,
and, looking to Jesus, still trust in His Word.

Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul;
each thought and each motive beneath His control;
thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,
thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
"Holy Runners"
Hebrews 12:3-17

I. Inspired for Endurance.

II. Enduring for Discipline.

III. Disciplined for Holiness.

MEMBERS OF SESSION

RULING ELDERS

Class of 2022
Mr. Jeff Nissen
Dr. Tom Paulus, Clerk
Mr. Bill Scholl

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

Class of 2024
Mr. Josh Sanford
Dr. Brandon Walser

TEACHING ELDERS

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Rev. Derek W. Coyle, Associate Pastor

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Mr. Tom Fox, Chairman

Class of 2023
Mr. Scott Freydl

Class of 2024
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Mr. Kurt Smith

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. Becca Sanders, Vocalist
Mr. Mike Walsh, Pianist
Mrs. Roanna Wilson, Vocalist

COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILIES

Paul & Connie Backstrom, Bentonville
Peter & Jenny Boling, Mexico
Dan & Nancy Butkowski, Little Rock
Scott & Kathy Craig, Mexico
Roger & Laura Dye, South Carolina
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Jamie & Jacki Gildard, France
Rob & Jenny Ilderton, England

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

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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