

covenant.presbyterian.church

Gospel Centered CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
September 17, 2023

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,

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 whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."

Mark 3:35

Prelude

During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on Mark 3:35 printed above.

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Psalm 100

[1] Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

[2] Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! [3] Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

[4] Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

[5] For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Invocation

Hymn

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

Glorious things of Thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God; He whose word cannot be broken formed thee for His own abode: on the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose? With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love, well supply Thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove; who can faint, while such a river ever flows their thirst t'assuage? Grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring, see the cloud and fire appear for a glory and a cov'ring, showing that the Lord is near: thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day, safe they feed upon the manna which He gives them when they pray.

Savior, if of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am, let the world deride or pity, I will glory in Thy Name: fading is the worldling's pleasure, all his boasted pomp and show; solid joys and lasting treasure none but Zion's children know.

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Scripture Reading

Psalm 40

Bob Tramel, Ruling Elder

[1] I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

[2] He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

[3] He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD.

[4] Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!

[5] You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

- [6] In sacrifice and offering you have not delighted, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.
- [7] Then I said, "Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me:
- [8] I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."
- [9] I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.
- [10] I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.
- [11] As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain your mercy from me; your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!
- [12] For evils have encompassed me beyond number; my iniquities have overtaken me, and I cannot see; they are more than the hairs of my head; my heart fails me.
- [13] Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me! O LORD, make haste to help me!
- [14] Let those be put to shame and disappointed altogether who seek to snatch away my
- life; let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who delight in my hurt!
- [15] Let those be appalled because of their shame who say to me, "Aha, Aha!"
- [16] But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the LORD!"
- [17] As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God!

Congregational Prayer

Bob Tramel, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

"Your Grace Still Amazes Me" arr. by Gaylen Bourland

Choir

My faithful Father, enduring Friend, Your tender mercy's like a river with no end. It overwhelms me, covers my sin. Each time I come into Your presence I stand in wonder once again. Your grace still amazes me, Your love is still a mystery; each day I fall on my knees, because Your grace still amazes me. Your grace still amazes me. O patient Savior, You make me whole; You are the Author and Healer of my soul. What can I give You, what can I say?

I know there's no way to repay You, only to offer You my praise. Your grace still amazes me. It's deeper, it's wider, it's stronger, it's higher, It's deeper, it's wider, it's stronger, it's higher than anything my eyes can see. Your grace still amazes me, Your love is still a mystery; each day I fall on my knees, because Your grace still amazes me, Your grace still amazes me. Amazing grace.

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Ephesians 2:8-10

[8] For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, [9] not a result of works, so that no one may boast. [10] For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

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

Romans 8:1, 37-39

[1] There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. [37] No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. [38] For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, [39] nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

My faith has found a resting place, from guilt my soul is freed; I trust the ever living One, His wounds for me shall plead.

refrain: I need no other argument,
I need no other plea,
it is enough that Jesus died,
and that He died for me.

Enough for me that Jesus saves, this ends my fear and doubt; a sinful soul I come to Him, He'll never cast me out.

refrain

My heart is leaning on the Word, the written Word of God: salvation by my Savior's name, salvation through His blood. **refrain**

My great physician heals the sick, the lost He came to save; for me His precious blood He shed, for me His life He gave.

refrain

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Scripture Reading Mark 3:31-35 Pastor Reed

[31] And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him.

[32] And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you."

[33] And he answered them, "Who are my mother and my brothers?"

[34] And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!

[35] For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."

Sermon "Jesus' Family" Pastor Reed

"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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5:00 pm Prayer and Communion Service

Scriptural Benediction	
Postlude	

I. A Spiritual Family.	
II. An Inclusive Family.	
III. An Exclusive Family.	

MEMBERS OF SESSION

RULIING ELDERS

Class of 2023 Mr. Bruce Hurlbut Mr. Carl Monroe Mr. Jason Van Goor Class of 2024 Mr. Jim Lewis Mr. Josh Sanford Dr. Brandon Walser Class of 2025 Mr. Dan Butkowski Dr. Bob Tramel

TEACHING ELDERS

Rev. Dr. Tim J. Reed, Senior Pastor Rev. Derek W. Coyle, Associate Pastor

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

COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILLIES

Paul & Connie Backstrom, Bentonville Peter & Jenny Boling, Mexico Dan & Nancy Butkowski, Little Rock Scott & Kathy Craig, Mexico Roger & Laura Dye, South Carolina Jamie & Jacki Gildard, France Rob & Jenny Ilderton, England Darlene Johnson, Japan Tom & Karen Mirabella, Japan Pete & Ruth Mitchell, France Jim & Karan Romaine, New York City Julian & Christiana Russell, Bahamas Jim Wroughton, Peru (retired) Will & Martha, International Wes & Kim, Undisclosed

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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