



covenant.presbyterian.church

*Gospel Centered*  
CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*  
September 24, 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,  
**missional** by seeking to spread the Gospel worldwide, and  
**relational** by encouraging the church family to build community.

*“But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”*  
Mark 4:20

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on Mark 4:20 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Revelation 4:8-11

*[8] And 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!” [9] And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, [10] the 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

*“Across the Lands”*

(sheet music pgs. 8&9)

You're the Word of God the Father from before the world began;  
Ev'ry star and every planet has been fashioned by Your hand.  
All creation holds together by the power of Your voice.  
Let the skies declare Your glory; let the land and seas rejoice.

**chorus:** *You're the Author of creation, You're the Lord of ev'ry man,  
and Your cry of love rings out across the lands.*

Yet You left the gaze of angels, came to seek and save the lost  
and exchanged the joy of Heaven for the anguish of a cross.  
With a prayer You fed the hungry, with a word You calmed the sea;  
Yet how silently You suffered, that the guilty may go free.

**chorus**

With a shout You rose victorious, wrestling vict'ry from the grave  
and ascended into Heaven, leading captives in Your way.  
Now You stand before the Father, interceding for Your own;  
from each tribe and tongue and nation You are leading sinners home.

**chorus**

by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend/CCLI 209271

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 6:1-13

Jason Van Goor, Ruling Elder

*[1] In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple.*

*[2] Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.*

*[3] And one called to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!”*

*[4] And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.*

*[5] And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”*

*[6] Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar.*

*[7] And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”*

*[8] And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.”*

*[9] And he said, “Go, and say to this people: “Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.’*

*[10] Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.”*

*[11] Then I said, “How long, O Lord?” And he said: “Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is a desolate waste,*

*[12] and the LORD removes people far away, and the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land.*

*[13] And though a tenth remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak, whose stump remains when it is felled.” The holy seed is its stump.*

Congregational Prayer

Jason Van Goor, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

*“Hallelujah, What a Savior”*

Mike Walsh, piano  
David Beuerman, violin

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Kurt Smith, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

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.*

Not what my hands have done, can save my guilty soul  
 Not what my toiling flesh has borne, can make my spirit whole  
 Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God  
 Not all my prayers and sighs and tears can bear my awful load.

Thy work alone O Christ, can ease this weight of sin  
 Thy blood alone O Lamb of God, can give me peace within  
 Thy love to me O God, not mine, O Lord, to Thee  
 Can rid me of this dark unrest, and set my spirit free!

Thy grace alone O God, to me can pardon speak  
 Thy power alone O Son of God, can this sore bondage break  
 No other work save Thine, no other blood will do  
 No strength save that which is divine, can bear me safely thru.

I bless the Christ of God, I rest on Love divine  
 And with unfaltering lip and heart, I call this Savior mine  
 His cross dispels each doubt, I bury in His tomb  
 My unbelief, and all my fear, each lingering shade of gloom.

I praise the God of grace, I trust His truth and might  
 He calls me His, I call Him mine, my God, my joy, my light  
 'Tis He who saveth me, and freely pardon gives  
 I love because He loveth me, I live because He lives!

© 2001 Kevin Twit Music/CCLI 209271

### Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, gracious Father,  
 we confess that we are not worthy of Your presence,  
 but we look now to the Lamb of God, who takes away our sin.  
 Through Him we would now come near to You, listening to Your  
 voice, trusting in Your love, delighting in Your word, and leaning on  
 Your arm. We joyfully beg to see Your face!

Now cleanse our minds of all error and our hearts of all idols,  
 that we may shine in the world with the radiant light of Your Spirit  
 and Your character. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 130:7-8

*[7] O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there  
 is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.*

*[8] And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.*

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.

**chorus:** *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 on His unchanging grace;  
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

**chorus**

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.

**chorus**

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.

**chorus**

CCLI 209271

*[1] Again he began to teach beside the sea. And a very large crowd gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat in it on the sea, and the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land.*

*[2] And he was teaching them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them:*

*[3] “Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow.*

*[4] And as he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it.*

*[5] Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil.*

*[6] And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away.*

*[7] Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain.*

*[8] And other seeds fell into good soil and produced grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundred-fold.”*

*[9] And he said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”*

*[10] And when he was alone, those around him with the twelve asked him about the parables.*

*[11] And he said to them, “To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables,*

[12] so that “they may indeed see but not perceive, and may indeed hear but not understand, lest they should turn and be forgiven.”

[13] And he said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables?”

[14] The sower sows the word.

[15] And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them.

[16] And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy.

[17] And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away.

[18] And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word,

[19] but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

[20] But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”

Sermon

“What Makes a Glorious Harvest of Souls?”

Pastor Reed

Hymn

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above (so free, so infinite His grace!),  
humbled Himself (so great His love!), and bled for all His chosen race.  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me.  
Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay, fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
my chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.  
Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,  
bold I approach th'eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.  
Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

CCLI 209271

Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline  
*“What Makes a Glorious Harvest of Souls?”*  
Mark 4:1-20

I. The Plot of the Parable.

II. The Purpose of Parables.

III. The Point of the Parable.

# Across the Lands

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

**Triumphant and Bold** (♩ = 60)

Verse

G/A A<sup>7</sup> D G D A G

1. You're the Word of God the Fat-her from be - fore the world be - gan; — Ev - ery star and ev - ery  
left the gaze of an - gels, came to seek and save the lost — and ex - changed the joy of  
shout You rose vic - tor - ious, wrest - ling vic - t'ry from the grave — and as - cend - ed in - to

6 D/F# Em<sup>7</sup> G G/A A<sup>7</sup> D G A<sup>7</sup>

pla - net — has been fas - hioned by Your hand. All cre - a - tion holds to - get - her by the  
Heav - en — for the an - guish of a cross. With a prayer You fed the hung - ry, with a  
Heav - en, — lead - ing cap - tives in Your way. Now You stand be - fore the Fath - er, in - ter -

11 D A G D/F# Em<sup>7</sup> G<sup>6</sup>

po - wer of Your voice. — Let the skies de - clare Your glo - ry; — let the land and seas re -  
word You calmed the sea; — Yet how sil - ent - ly You suf - fered, that the guil - ty may go  
ced - ing for Your own; — From each tribe and tongue and na - tion — You are lead - ing sin - ners

Copyright © 2002 Theology Associates, by www.gettymusic.com  
and UK & Europe only, by Kingsway Music, www.kingswaymusic.com  
Used by permission.

Should churches wish to further reproduce the words or photography this sheet music, they should contact our office (pym@gettymusic.com or 206-805-6177) for permission to do so.  
However, if they hold a correct Church Copyright Licensing (CCL) license they may reproduce the words and, if they also hold a Music Reproduction License (MRL),  
they may photograph the music. They must ensure that they report the photography of the music under the title of 'YM Sheet Music'.

Across the Lands (Hymnal)



Chorus

16 Asus A Asus A G D/F# G Aadd9 BmBm/A G G/A

joyce. You're the Au - thor of cre - a - tion, You're the Lord of ev - ery man, and Your cry of love rings free. home.

22 Bm7 A7 D A Gadd9 D A

out a - cross the lands.

26 1.2. Gadd9 G/A A7 1.3. Gadd9 A7sus A7 D

2. Yet You  
3. With a

# NOT WHAT MY HANDS HAVE DONE

Words by Horatius Bonar  
Music by Kevin Twit

Real Key

1. Not what my hands have done, Can save my guilt - ty soul  
 2. Thy work a - lone O Christ, Can ease this weight of sin  
 3. Thy grace a - lone O God, To me can par - don speak

3 Not what my toil - ing flesh has borne, Can make my spir - it whole  
 Thy blood a - lone O Lamb of God, Can give me peace with - in  
 Thy power a - lone O Son of God, Can this sore bond - age break

5 Not what I feel or do, Can give me peace with God  
 Thy love to me O God, Not mine, O Lord, to Thee do  
 No o - ther work save Thine, No o - ther blood will do

7 Not all my prayers and sighs and tears,  
 Can rid me of this dark un - rest,  
 No strength save that which is di - vine,

9 Can bear my aw - ful load  
 And set my spir - it free!  
 Can bear me safe - ly thru

4. I bless the Christ of God, I rest on Love divine  
 And with unfaltering lip and heart, I call this Savior mine  
 His cross dispels each doubt, I bury in His tomb  
 My unbelief, and all my fear, Each lingering shade of gloom

5. I praise the God of grace, I trust his truth and might  
 He calls me His, I call Him mine, My God, my joy, my light  
 Tis He who saveth me, And freely pardon gives  
 I love because He loveth me, I live because He lives!

© 2001 Kevin Twit Music  
 Used by permission. All rights reserved.

## MEMBERS OF SESSION

### RULING 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

### BOARD OF DEACONS

**Class of 2023**  
Mr. Scott Freydl  
Dr. David Matlock  
Mr. Jeff Rooker

**Class of 2024**  
Mr. David Beuerman  
Dr. Ken Knecht  
Mr. Kurt Smith

**Class of 2025**  
Mr. Peter Bogaards  
Dr. Jonathan Goodwin  
Mr. Jason Guenther

### 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 FAMILIES

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

One Covenant Drive • Little Rock, AR 72211 • 501-228-5903  
cpc@covenantpca.com • www.covenantpca.com  
A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America