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Gospel Centered CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*April 9, 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, andrelational by encouraging the church family to build community.

"Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay." Matthew 28:5-6

Prelude During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on Matthew 28:5-6 printed above.

Choral Introit "Day of Joy" by Williams/Martin

Greeting Pastor: Christ, the Lord, He is Risen!
Congregation: He Is Risen Indeed!

Hymn "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

"Christ the Lord is ris'n today," Alleluia! sons of men and angels say; Alleluia! raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia! sing ye heav'ns, and earth, reply. Alleluia!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Alleluia! Christ has burst the gates of hell: Alleluia! death in vain forbids His rise; Alleluia! Christ hath opened paradise. Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia! where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia! Once he died, our souls to save; Alleluia! where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! foll'wing our exalted Head; Alleluia! made like Him, like Him we rise: Alleluia! ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n! Alleluia! Praise to Thee by both be giv'n; Alleluia! Thee we greet triumphant now; Alleluia! hail, the Resurrection, Thou! Alleluia!

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Children's Choirs

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Isaiah 52:9-10

⁹ Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

"Worship Christ, the Risen King!"

Rise, O church, and lift your voices, Christ has conquered death and hell. Sing as all the earth rejoices; resurrection anthems swell. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!

See the tomb where death had laid him, empty now, its mouth declares: ""Death and I could not contain him, for the throne of life he shares."" Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!

Hear the earth protest and tremble, see the stone removed with power; all hell's minions may assemble, but cannot withstand his hour. He has conquered, he has conquered, Christ the Lord, the risen King!

Doubt may lift its head to murmur, scoffers mock and sinners jeer, but the truth proclaims a wonder thoughtful hearts receive with cheer.

He is risen, he is risen, now receive the risen King!

We acclaim your life, O Jesus, now we sing your victory; sin or hell may seek to seize us, but your conquest keeps us free. Stand in triumph, stand in triumph, worship Christ, the risen King!

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Scripture Reading

Isaiah 53:1-12

Josh Sanford, Ruling Elder

- ¹ Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
- ² For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.
- ³ He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
- 4 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.
- ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

- ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
- ⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.
- ⁸ By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?
- 9 And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.
- Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.
- ¹¹ Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.
- ¹² Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Congregational Prayer

Josh Sanford, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

"Mary, Mary" by Williams/Martin Choir

Mary, Mary, why are you a cryin'? Mary, Mary, why do you weep?
Mary, Mary, why are you a cryin'? The Lord is risen, wipe your tears away.
Mary, Mary, why are you a cryin'? Mary, Mary, why do you weep?
Mary, Mary, why don't you stop a cryin'? The Lord is risen, wipe your tears away.
Mary, Mary, run and tell Peter. Mary, Mary, run and tell John.
Mary, run and go tell all the disciples. The Lord is risen, wipe your tears away.
Mary, Mary, why are you a cryin'? Mary, Mary, why are you a cryin'?
Mary, Mary, Mary, stop!! Jesus Christ is risen as He said!
Mary, Mary, why are you a cryin'? Mary, Mary, why do you weep?
Mary, Mary, because the Lord is risen, wipe your tears away.
The Lord is risen, Mary, wipe your tears all away!

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We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn

"Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery"

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King. He, the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity. In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come! Look to Christ who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery: He the perfect Son of Man, in His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin. See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man, Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery: Christ the Lord upon the tree. In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory! See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold, bringing many sons to glory: grace unmeasured, love untold!

Come behold the wondrous mystery: slain by death, the God of life. But no grave could e'er restrain Him; Praise the Lord, He is alive! What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope. Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes. What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope. Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes.

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Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, You have raised Jesus from the grave, and crowned Him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before Him or acknowledged His rule in our lives. We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give Him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be Your faithful people, obeying the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, His body. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 5:8-10

⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

Hymn

"Up from the Grave He Arose"

Low in the grave He lay- Jesus, my Savior, waiting the coming day- Jesus, my Lord.

refrain: Up from the grave He arose, with a mighty triumph o'er His foes. He arose a victor from the dark domain, and He lives forever with His saints to reign. He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watch His bed- Jesus, my Savior; vainly they seal the dead- Jesus, my Lord. **refrain**

Death cannot keep his prey- Jesus, my Savior; He tore the bars away- Jesus, my Lord. **refrain**

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Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Pastor Reed

- ¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?
- ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.
- ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.
- ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.
- ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised.
- ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.
- ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

¹⁹ If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Sermon "It Changed Everything"

Pastor Reed

Hymn

"In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe! This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save. Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied; for every sin on Him was laid here in the death of Christ I'll live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death this is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from His hand;
till He returns or calls me home here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

<u>Sermon Outline</u> "It Changed Everything" 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

I. Responsibility		
II. Ruin		
III. Redeemer		
IV. Response		

MEMBERS OF SESSION

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Class of 2024 Mr. Jim Lewis Mr. Josh Sanford Dr. Brandon Walser

Class of 2025 Mr. Dan Butkowski Dr. Bob Tramel

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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

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COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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