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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day

May 2, 2021

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.

*"Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.
We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."
2 Corinthians 5:20*

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship
by reflecting on 2 Corinthians 5:20 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Psalm 118:14-16

¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

¹⁵ Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly,

¹⁶ the right hand of the LORD exalts, the right hand of the LORD does valiantly!"

Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn

"Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

Rejoice, the Lord is King: your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.

refrain: *Life up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

Jesus the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love;
when He had purged our stains, He took his seat above.
refrain

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n.
refrain

He sits at God's right hand till all His foes submit,
and bow to His command, and fall beneath His feet,
refrain

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come,
and take His servants up to their eternal home.
refrain

- ¹ In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train^[a] 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." Isaiah's Commission from the Lord*
- 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."*

Congregational Prayer

Tom Paulus, Ruling Elder

Corporate Profession of Faith

Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him.

He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

William Fennell, Deacon

Hymn

“Holy, Holy, Holy!”

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, Holy, Holy, Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy, all the saints adore Thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, Holy, Holy, though the darkness hide Thee,
though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee
perfect in pow’r, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

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Corporate Confession of Sin

Merciful Lord, we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in You there is the fullness of righteousness and abundance of mercy.

We are spiritually poor, but You are rich and in Jesus Christ came to be merciful to the poor. Strengthen our faith and trust in You.

We are empty vessels that need to be filled; fill us. We are weak in faith; strengthen us.

We are cold in love; warm us, and make our hearts fervent for You that our love may go out to one another and to our neighbors. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 5:8-11

⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

¹⁰For 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.

¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Hymn

“Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord”

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,
yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,
there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

*refrain: Grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that is greater than all our sin.*
refrain

Sin and despair like the sea waves cold,
threaten the soul with infinite loss;
grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,
points to the Refuge, the mighty cross.
refrain

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide,
what can avail to wash it away?
Look! there is flowing a crimson tide;
whiter than snow you may be today.
refrain

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Scripture

2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2

5:11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience.

12 We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart.

13 For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.

14 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died;

15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;

19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling[b] the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

6:1 Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain.

2 For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

Sermon

"We Are Christ's Ambassadors: Today Is the Day of Salvation"

Rev. Pete Mitchell

Hymn

"Wonderful, Merciful Savior"

Wonderful merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and friend,
Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?
O You rescue the souls of men.

chorus: You are the one that we praise, You are the one we adore.
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,
O our hearts always hunger for.

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace,
You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way,
O we've hopelessly lost the way.

chorus

Almighty, Infinite Father, faithfully loving Your own,
here in our weakness You find us falling before Your throne,
O we're falling before Your throne.

chorus

by Dawn Rogers & Eric Wyse/CCLI 209271

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn

“May the Mind of Christ My Savior”

May the mind of Christ, my Savior,
live in me from day to day,
by His love and pow’r controlling
all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly
in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph
only through His pow’r.

May the peace of God my Father
rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort
sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me
as the waters fill the sea;
Him exalting, self abasing,
this is victory.

May His beauty rest upon me,
as I seek the lost to win,
and may they forget the channel,
seeing only Him.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Notes

“We Are Christ’s Ambassadors: Today Is the Day of Salvation”
2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2

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COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America