

# LORD'S DAY

August 13, 2017



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America*

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*Upon entering the sanctuary, please be sensitive  
to the congregation's preparation for worship, and please make sure  
all electronic devices are turned off or set to silent mode.*

**-DRAWING NEAR TO GOD-**

**Welcome and Silent Prayer**

Dear God, silence all voices within our minds but your own. Help us to seek and be able to follow your will. May our prayers be joined with those of our brothers and sisters in the faith, that together we may glorify your name and enjoy your fellowship forever. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

**\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 29.1-2

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

**\*Song of Praise to God**

*Hymn No. 103*

*HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE YOUR NAME*

## **-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-**

### **Confession of Sin**

Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess that we are prone to evil and slothful in good. You alone know how often we have offended you: in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. But you, O Lord, have mercy on those who are ashamed of and sorry for their iniquities. Teach us to hate our offenses; cleanse us from our secret faults; forgive us our sins for the sake of your dear Son. And O most loving Father, help us, we pray, to live in your light and walk in your ways, in keeping with the commandments of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Psalm 32.1-2, 5

### **\*Song of Praise to Christ**

*Hymn No. 369*

*SHOUT, FOR THE BLESSED JESUS REIGNS*

### **Congregational Petitions 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 also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-**

**Scripture Lesson**

Galatians 4.1-7

**Sermon**

“Once Slaves, Now Sons”  
Rev. Ron Gonzales

**\*Song of Response**

*Hymn No. 529*

*LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING*

**Worship of God with Tithes and Offerings**

*\*DOXOLOGY*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Him, all creatures here below;*

*Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

words Thomas Ken, 1709; music Genevan Psalter, 1551; Public Domain

**Confession of Faith**

Why was it necessary that the Mediator should be man?

**It was necessary that the Mediator should be man, that he might advance our nature, perform obedience to the law, suffer and make intercession for us in our nature, and have a fellow feeling of our infirmities; that we might receive the adoption of sons, and have comfort and access with boldness to the Throne of Grace.**

—The Westminster Larger Catechism, No. 39

## **-OBSERVING THE SACRAMENT-**

### **The Lord's Supper**

We celebrate the Lord's Supper by coming forward and partaking of the bread and the cup. Wine is served in the inner ring of each tray; grape juice in the outer ring. We warmly invite to the Table all baptized Christians, who are living under the authority of Christ and his Church. By eating the bread and drinking of the cup, you are admitting that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Christ alone for salvation. If this does not describe you, we are glad you are here and commend to you the following prayers for your use during this time.

#### *A Prayer for those Searching for the Truth*

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life you promise. Amen.

#### *A Prayer of Belief*

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### *A Prayer for those Struggling with Sin*

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need and may turn from every false pleasure to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

### **\*Song of Thanksgiving**

*Hymn No. 498*

*JESUS! WHAT A FRIEND FOR SINNERS!*

## -GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

### \*Benediction

2 Corinthians 13.14

### Postlude and Silent Prayer

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, kindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

\*Please stand if able.

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### Our Nursery Helpers

Worship

*Today:* Abigail and Annie Carpenter

*Next Week:* Erika and Katie Leinweber

### Gatherings

*Kids' Quest* is a catechism class for children, ages 5 through elementary grades, taught by Pastor Ron. It meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month (September through May), from 3:30 to 4:45 PM, at the church.

*The Leinweber Home Fellowship Group*, led by Chad, meets at the Leinweber's (60 Cranbrook Ln) on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. They are considering the Bible's teaching on parenting and all (including children) are welcome.

*The Martin Home Fellowship Group* is taking a break for the summer. It will resume in September.

*The Men's Group* meets Wednesdays, from 6:00 to 7:30 AM, at Pastor Ron's office, for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. The group is currently studying Ecclesiastes, and all men are invited.

*Prayer Meeting:* We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary, to pray for one another, the kingdom, and our world. Please join us.

## **Sermon Notes: "Once Slaves, Now Sons" (Galatians 4.1-7)**

1. The Period of Enslavement (vv. 1-3)

2. The Process of Adoption (vv. 4-7)

## **Prayer Concerns**

*Rev. Andrew Allen (Soldotna, AK):* The medication Andrew has been taking in his battle with cancer has stopped working and his doctors are trying to find another treatment option. Pray they do, and that he and Amy know God's peace as they move forward.

*Robert Fastenow* remains at Park Manor. Pray his rehab is effective, and he is kept in God's peace.

*Riley Granberry (Chris's nephew)* continues his battle with cancer. Pray that he and his family know God's presence and peace.

*Shawn & Jamie Riley (Chester, CA):* Pray for Shawn and Jamie and the children as they settle into their new home and ministry at St Andrews Almanor, for the school year about to begin, and for opportunities to influence for Christ both those inside and outside the church.

## **Announcements**

*Birthdays & Anniversaries this Week:*

August 13	Kirk and Kristi Alden
August 17	Michael Devine
August 18	Cherry Gonzales
August 18	Tom Klicker

*Session Meeting:* The elders are meeting this Thursday, at 5:30 PM at Pastor Ron's office, to pray for and conduct the business of the church. Pray for them as they do, and please let them know if there is any way they can pray for you.

*Vacation:* Pastor Ron will be on vacation from August 21 to September 12.

*Visitors:* Welcome to Covenant! We are glad you are here and would love to have you join us downstairs, following the service, for refreshments and fellowship.

### **Explanation of Cover Symbol**

The anchor is an ancient Christian symbol for hope. It is derived from Hebrews 6.19: "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul..." When combined with a cross it makes plain that Christian hope is in Christ and His redemption. The symbol was frequently used in this sense in the catacombs of ancient Rome.