

LORD'S DAY

April 15, 2018



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

Lord, what a change within us one short hour
Spent in Thy presence will prevail to make!
What heavy burdens from our bosoms take,
What parched grounds refresh, as with a shower!
We kneel, and all around us seems to lower;
We rise, and all the distant and the near,
Stands forth in sunny outline, brave and clear;
We kneel, how weak!—We rise, how full of power!
Why, therefore, should we do ourselves this wrong
Or others, that we are not always strong,
That we are ever overborne with care,
That we should ever weak or heartless be,
Anxious or troubled, when with us is prayer,
And joy, and strength, and courage are with Thee!

— Archbishop Richard Chenevix Trench, AD 1807-1886

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 66.1-4

***Prayer of Adoration**

*Song of Praise to God

Jehovah Reigns; Let Earth Be Glad

words from Psalm 97
music, Eileen Davis 2006

1. Je - ho - vah reigns; let earth be glad, and
2. Con - sum - ing fire de - stroys his foes, a -
3. The heav'ns his right - eous - ness pro - claim, through
4. Your church re - joic - es to be - hold your
5. All you that tru - ly love the Lord, hate
6. For good men light and joy are sown to

all the isles their joy make known; with clouds and dark - ness
round the world his light - nings blaze; the trem - bling earth his
earth his glo - ry shines a - broad; from i - dol wor - ship
judg - ments in the earth, O Lord; your glo - ry to the
sin, for he is just and pure; to saints his help he
bless them in the har - vest - time; O saints, your joy in

he is clad, on truth and jus - tice rests his throne.
pres - ence knows, the moun - tains melt be - fore his gaze.
turn with shame and bow be - fore the liv - ing God.
world un - fold, su - preme o'er all you are a - dored.
will ac - cord and keep them in his love se - cure.
God make known and ev - er praise his name sub - lime.

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O Lord, we long to enter your presence and worship you face to face, awed by your majesty, greatness and glory, encouraged by your steadfast love. Yet there is often a coldness in our hearts, a hardness and an unwillingness to admit our sin and need of you. Forgive us, for Jesus' sake. Come near and strengthen us until Christ reigns supreme within; in every thought, word, and deed. Give us a faith that purifies the heart, overcomes the world, works by love, fastens us to you, and always clings to the cross; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 32.1-2, 5

*Song of Praise to Christ

Hymn No. 296

ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME!

*Confession of Faith

Since no one can keep the law, what is its purpose?

That we may know the holy nature and will of God, and the sinful nature and disobedience of our hearts; and thus our need of a Savior. The law also teaches and exhorts us to live a life worthy of our Savior.¹

—The New City Catechism, No. 15

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

1 Timothy 1.1-7

Sermon

"Preserving the Church"
Rev. Ron Gonzales

¹ "For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin" (Rom 3.20).

*Song of Response

*Hymn No. 646

JESUS, THOU JOY OF LOVING HEARTS

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

-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.

***Song of Thanksgiving**

Hymn No. 705

I KNOW WHOM I HAVE BELIEVED

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

***Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13.14

Postlude and Silent Prayer

O God, forasmuch as without your help we are unable to please you: Mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Please stand if able.

Our Nursery Helpers

Sunday School

Today: Peter Early

Next Week: Peter Early

Worship

Today: Jenni Early

Next Week: Katie and Jack 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 Leinwebers' (60 Cranbrook Ln), on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, at 12:30 PM. For more information, see Chad. All (including children) are welcome.

The Martin Home Fellowship Group, led by Eric Carpenter and Steve Davis, meets at Kathy Martin's (213 Chapra St), the first and third Thursdays of each month, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. They are studying the 1 Timothy and all are welcome.

The Men's Group which meets Wednesdays, from 6:00 to 7:30 AM, at Pastor Ron's office, is taking this week off. It will resume its study of 2 Timothy on April 25.

Prayer Meeting: We meet the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary, to pray for one another, the kingdom and our world. Please join us.

Sermon Notes: "Preserving the Church" (1 Timothy 1.1-7)

1. Paul and Timothy

2. The Problems at Ephesus

3. Some Practical Lessons

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Andrew Allen: Pray the treatment Andrew is receiving continues to show good results, that it has an arresting effect on the cancer, and that he and Amy are kept in God's peace.

Christ Central Presbyterian Church: Pray for the Rev. Greg Joines, our church-planter in Corvallis, that God strengthens him and blesses his ministry, as he gives himself to the city and the church he is planting.

Chris & Mary Granberry (White Swan): Pray for the Granberrys and the Sacred Road team, that their labors of love on the reservation are met with open hearts, that the gospel brings healing to broken lives, and that God builds his church among the Yakama People.

Kristina Halvorson is due May 26. Pray that her pregnancy continues to go well, and that she knows God's strength during these last two months.

Mike Leinweber (Chad's dad) is declining rapidly and thought to have only a few weeks left. Pray he is spared unnecessary pain, and that God surrounds the family, especially Betty, with his peace.

Nicole Miller has been put on bed rest for the remainder of her pregnancy. Pray for the baby's health, that Nicole is able to carry him to full term, and that she and Sandy are kept in God's peace.

Announcements

Birthdays this Week:

April 18 Kirk Alden

Congregational Meeting: We would like to bring you up to date on where we are in the process of acquiring the building, as well as get your input on it. We are therefore having a congregational meeting after church next Sunday. Please plan to join us.

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 how they can pray for you.

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 a time of fellowship.

Explanation of the Cover Symbol

The Chi Rho symbol is one of the most ancient Christian symbols. XP, the first two letters of the Greek "Christ," is an abbreviation of the name of the Lord. This symbol is often, as here, accompanied with other symbols, in this case "Alpha" and "Omega," the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. The symbol originates from Revelation 22.13: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End" (cf. Revelation 1.8, 17; 21.6). This particular symbol dates from the first few centuries of the Christian era and is often found on tombs.