

**LORD'S DAY**  
**November 18, 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**

Father, may our lives be steeped in prayer, filled with a spirit of grace and supplication, each prayer perfumed with the incense of atoning blood. Help us, until from praying ground we pass to the realm of unceasing praise. Urged by our need, invited by your promises, called by your Spirit, we enter your presence, worshiping you in godly fear, awed by your majesty and your glory, and encouraged by your love. Amen.

### **\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 92.1-4

### **\*Prayer of Adoration**

### **\*Song of Praise to God**

*Hymn No. 97*

*WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD, OUR REDEEMER, CREATOR*

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

### **Confession of Sin**

Almighty God, to know you is the fulfillment of our deepest longings and the satisfaction of our most fervent desires. Yet foolishly we have sought our pleasures elsewhere. We have put the seeking of idols, which are bound to leave us empty, above seeking you. We have failed to love you with our whole heart, soul, and mind. We have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us our sins for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. And grant that we might from this time forth serve you in newness of life. Amen.

*Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin*

**\*Song of Thanksgiving**

*Hymn No. 715*

*COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME*

**\*Confession of Faith**

What is the Lord's Supper?

**Christ commanded all Christians to eat bread and to drink from the cup in thankful remembrance of him and his death. The Lord's Supper is a celebration of the presence of God in our midst; bringing us into communion with God and with one another; feeding and nourishing our souls. It also anticipates the day when we will eat and drink with Christ in his Father's kingdom.<sup>1</sup>**

—The New City Catechism, No. 46

**Prayer for the Church and the World**

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<sup>1</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes (1 Cor 11.23-26).

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Scripture Lesson

Luke 3.1-20

Sermon

“The Gospel of Repentance”  
Rev. Ron Gonzales

\*Song of Response

Teach Me, O Lord, Thy Holy Way

words William T. Matson, 1866  
music William B. Bradbury, 1853

1. Teach me, O Lord, thy ho - ly way, and  
2. Guide me, O Sav - ior, with thy hand, and  
3. Help me, O Sav - ior, here to trace the  
4. Guard me, O Lord, that I may ne'er for -  
5. Bless me in ev - 'ry task, O Lord, be -

give me an o - be - dient mind; that in thy ser - vice  
so con - trol my thoughts and deeds, that I may tread the  
sa - cred foot - steps thou hast trod; and, meek - ly walk - ing  
sake the right, or do the wrong: a - gainst temp - ta - tion  
gun, con - tin - ued, done for thee: ful - fil thy per - fect

I may find my soul's de - light from day to day.  
path which leads right on - ward to the bless - ed land.  
with my God, to grow in good - ness, truth, and grace.  
make me strong, and round me spread thy shel - t'ring care.  
work in me; and thine a - bound - ing grace af - ford.

## 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 (generally from the back of the sanctuary to the front, though you may commune at any time) 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 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. 679*

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

## -GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

**\*Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13.14

### **Closing Prayer**

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets, to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant us the grace to heed their warning and forsake our sin, that we may greet with joy the coming of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

\*Please stand if able.

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### **Our Nursery Helpers**

Worship

*Today:* Sam Schroeder

*Next Week:* Nicole Miller

### **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 (October through May), from 3:30 to 5:00 PM, at the church.

*The Martin Home Fellowship Group* led by Eric Carpenter and Ronnie Curfman, meets at Kathy Martin's (213 Chapra St), the first and third Tuesdays of each month, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. They are studying the Gospel of Luke and all are welcome.

*The Men's Group* is taking this week off. It will resume its study of Acts on November 28. All men are invited.

*Prayer Meeting:* We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, at 5:15 PM in the chapel, to pray for one another, the kingdom, and our world. Please join us.

*Psalms Sing:* The Schroeders (55 Buttonquail Ln) invite you every Sunday, at 6:30 PM, to learn to sing the Psalms together and enjoy a time of fellowship. All ages and voice are most welcome.

*The Women's Study* is taking this week off. It will resume its study of Acts on November 29. All women are invited.

## **Sermon Notes: "The Gospel of Repentance" (Luke 3.1-20)**

1. John's Mission, Message and Results

2. Some Thoughts on Repentance

## **Prayer Concerns**

*Rev. Andrew Allen:* Pray the drugs Andrew is taking arrest the cancer, that he is granted strength to endure, and that he and Amy are kept in God's peace.

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

*Mike Givens:* Pray for relief from the pain Mike is experiencing, and that God brings healing to his shoulder without the need for surgery.

*Tom & Melissa Manning's* ninety-day stay in Turkey is winding down. Their visa requires them to leave for three months before coming back. Pray the work among the Syrian refugees continues in their absence, and that God uses this break to replenish their resources.

*Pastor Ron* is having carpal tunnel surgery tomorrow on his left hand. Pray that it goes well and that he recovers as quickly as he did from the surgery on his right hand.

## **Announcements**

*Birthdays this Week:*

November 18      Patton McBean

*Christmas Choir:* Matt and Kristina Halvorson are organizing an adult choir that will sing a couple Christmas hymns in our worship service on December 16. The choir will practice today, as well as on December 2 and 9, at 11:45 AM for about 45 minutes. All are welcome!

*Hanging the Greens:* We will be decorating the sanctuary for Advent this coming Saturday, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. If you would like to help, please join us.

*The Leinweber Home Lunch Group* is closed for the winter.

*Operation Christmas Child:* Your shoeboxes are due today. Please give them to Judie Jud.

*Women's Fellowship Tea:* All women are invited to a time of fellowship, food and fun, Saturday, December 1, from 10:00 AM to Noon, in the Coffee Hour room next to the sanctuary. We will be introducing the Women's Ministry Team that is putting this on. Come and get to know your sisters at Covenant Presbyterian better.

### **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.