

# LORD'S DAY

March 3, 2019



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**

Great are you, O Lord, and highly to be praised; great is your power and your wisdom immeasurable. We desire to praise you, human beings carrying the witness of our sin and the knowledge that you resist the proud. Stir us, we pray, to take pleasure in praising you, because you have made us for yourself and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. Amen.

*—Adapted from Augustine's Confessions*

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

Psalm 145.1-7, 10-12

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

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

*Hymn No. 23*

*GOD OF GODS, WE SOUND HIS PRAISES*

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

### **Confession of Sin**

Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed; not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires that we are unable to understand, but which are all known to you. We, therefore, flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we can delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

*Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin*

## \*Song of Praise to Christ

## Across the Lands

words Keith Getty and Stuart Townend  
 music Keith Getty and Stuart Townend: arr. Ruth Coleman  
 CCLI #2415226



1.You're the Word of God the Fa-ther from be - fore the world be - gan; Ev - 'ry  
 2.Yet You left the gaze of an - gels, came to seek and save the lost, And ex -  
 3.With a shout You rose vic - to - rious, wrest - ing vic - t'ry from the grave, And as -



star and ev - 'ry plan - et\_\_ has been fash - ioned by Your hand. All cre - a - tion holds to -  
 changed the joy of Heav - en\_\_ for the an - guish of a cross With a prayer You fed the  
 cend - ed in - to Heav - en, lead - ing cap - tives in Your way. Now You stand be - fore the



geth - er by the pow - er of Your voice. Let the skies de - clare Your  
 hun - gry, with a word You calmed the sea; Yet how si - lent - ly You  
 Fa - ther, in - ter - ced - ing for Your own; From each tribe and tongue and



glo - ry;\_\_ let the land and seas re - joice.  
 suf - fered, that the guilt - y may go free. You're the au - thor of cre - a - tion, You're the  
 na - tion\_\_ You are lead - ing sin - ners home.



Lord of ev - 'ry man, and Your cry of love rings out a - cross the lands.\_\_\_\_\_

## **\*Confession of Faith**

What does God require in the first, second, and third commandments?

**First, that we know and trust God as the only true and living God. Second, that we avoid all idolatry and do not worship God improperly. Third, that we treat God's name with fear and reverence, honoring also his Word and works.<sup>1</sup>**

—The New City Catechism, No. 9

## **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**

Luke 8.22-39

### **Sermon**

“A Glimpse of Reality”  
Rev. Ron Gonzales

### **\*Song of Response**

*Hymn No. 92*

*A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD*

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<sup>1</sup> It is the LORD your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you” (Dt 6.13-14).

## 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. 498*

*JESUS! WHAT A FRIEND FOR SINNERS!*

## -GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

### \*Benediction

Numbers 6.24-26

### Postlude and Silent Prayer

Lord, we plead with you to give us grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil; and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

\*Please stand if able.

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### Our Nursery Helpers

Worship

*Today:* Collie Parsons

*Next Week:* Nicole Miller

### Gatherings

*A Children's Catechism Class*, taught by Pastor Ron and Pastoral Intern Ronnie Curfman, meets twice a month (generally the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, during the school year), 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* meets Wednesdays, from 6:00 to 7:30 AM in the chapel, for Bible study, fellowship and prayer. The group is currently studying Exodus and 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* meets Sunday evenings at 6:30, at the Schroeder's (55 Buttonquail Ln). All ages and voices are invited.

*The Women's Study:* A study of the Book of Acts, led by Cherry Gonzales, meets Thursdays, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM at the Church (childcare is provided), and all are welcome.

## **Sermon Notes: "A Glimpse of Reality" (Luke 8.22-39)**

1. Jesus and Miracles

2. The Miracle on the Lake (vv. 22-25)

3. The Miracle among the Gerasenes (vv. 26-39)

## **Prayer Concerns**

*Rev. Andrew Allen* continues to gain strength and show signs of improvement. Pray for complete healing, and that he and Amy are kept in God's peace.

*Mike Givens* is dealing with swelling in both wrists. Pray for relief from the pain, that the problem can be easily treated, and that he is kept in God's peace.

*Barb McLean* is having a knee replaced on Wednesday. Pray the procedure is successful, that her recovery goes well, and that she knows God's presence and strength throughout.

*Vickie Myers* is having surgery in Portland on Wednesday. Pray the procedure is successful, that her recovery goes well, and that she is kept in God's peace.

*Redeemer Presbyterian Church*: Pray for the church in Soldotna, AK as they look for a new pastor. May God lead and protect the church and make it a vital witness on the Kenai Peninsula.

*Alister & Sarah Torrens (Kiev)*: Pray for the Torrens as they prepare to plant a new church in Kiev, for Alister's ongoing responsibilities at the seminary, and for the relationship they are seeking to build with unbelievers around whom they live.

## **Announcements**

*Birthdays this week:*

March 7	Rebekah Schroeder
March 9	Hannah Schroeder

*Christian Aid Dinner*: We are serving dinner at the Christian Aid Center on Monday, March 11. If you would like to help, either preparing or serving the meal, please let Heidi Leinweber know.

*Financial Update*: The January financial report has been posted to the church website. If you need the password to view it, Jacob Schroeder would be happy to give it to you.

*Women's Ministry Event*: All women and girls are welcome to attend a Book Share on Friday, March 15 at 7:00 PM in the chapel. We will enjoy a time of fellowship with one another as we talk about books! Come prepared by thinking of one or two books that you would recommend to others. It can be your favorite book, or a recent good read. Books can be from any genre. Light refreshments will be served. Contact Anna Curfman if you have any questions.

### **Explanation of 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.