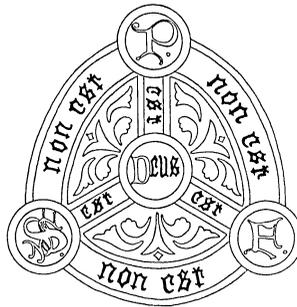


The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 31, 2019



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

Dr. Ron Gonzales, Minister

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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

Heavenly Father, Giver and Sustainer of all life: Help us, as we draw near, to love and adore and worship you with all that we are and all that we have to offer, for you alone are worthy. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 148.1, 11-13

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 112

PRAISE YE, PRAISE YE THE LORD

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O Lord, all that we are is laid bare before you. What could be hidden within us, even if we were unwilling to confess it? We would be hiding you from ourselves, not ourselves from you. And we make our confession not in words alone, but with the voice of our soul and in our thoughts which cry aloud to you. When we are evil, making confession to you is simply to be displeased with ourselves. When we are good, it is to make no claim on our own behalf, for without you we can do nothing. And so we confess our many sins of thought, word, and deed. We love you and so we are ashamed of ourselves and, once again, choose you and your will. Forgive us and help us to seek no pleasure for ourselves except that which is also pleasure for you; in Jesus' name. Amen.

—Adapted from Augustine's *Confessions*

Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 55.6-7

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 167

WHEN MORNING GILDS THE SKIES

***Confession of Faith**

Can anyone keep the law of God perfectly?

Since the fall, no mere human has been able to keep the law of God perfectly, but consistently breaks it in thought, word, and deed.¹

—The New City Catechism, No. 13

Prayer for the Church and the World

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Scripture Lesson

Luke 9.37-62

Sermon

“Jars of Clay”
Rev. Ron Gonzales

¹ “None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one” (Rom 3.10-12).

*Song of Response

Weary of Earth, and Laden with My Sin

words Samuel J. Stone, 1866; mod.
music William H. Monk 1823-1889



1. Wea - ry of earth, and la - den with my sin, I look at
2. I am so vile, how could I hope to stand in the pure
• 3. How can a sin - ner tread the heav'n - ly way? E - vil is
4. It is the voice of Je - sus that I hear; His are the
• 5. O, free - dom giv - er grant my soul to wear the hum - ble
6. There You will an - swer, right - eous Lord, for me; Yours all the



- heav'n and long to en - ter in; but there no e - vil
glo - ry of that ho - ly land? be - fore the white - ness
• ev - er with me day by day; yet, from the Lord, I
• hands stretched out to draw me near, and His the blood that
• garb of pen - i - tence and prayer, that in the Fa - ther's
mer - it, mine the vic - to - ry, Yours the sharp thorns, and



- thing may find a home, and yet I hear a voice that bids me come.
of that throne ap - pear? Yet there are hands stretched out to draw me near.
• hear a gra - cious call: "Re - pent, be - lieve, and be re - leased from all."
can for me a - tone, and set me fault - less there be - fore the throne.
• courts my glor - ious dress may be the gar - ment of Your right - eous - ness.
mine the gold - en crown; mine the life won, and Yours the life laid down.

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. 469

HOW SWEET AND AWESOME IS THE PLACE

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

***Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13.14

Postlude and Silent Prayer

Almighty and most merciful Father: Grant us a heart to love you more faithfully, and enable us to show our thankfulness by giving up ourselves to your service and delighting in all things to do your will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Please stand if able.

Our Nursery Helpers

Worship

Today: Abigail and Annie Carpenter

Next Week: Collie Parsons

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 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.

Psalm 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 in the chapel. Childcare is provided and all are welcome.

Sermon Notes: "Jars of Clay" (Luke 9.37-62)

1. Disciples Then and Now (vv. 37-56)

2. Following Jesus (vv. 57-62)

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Andrew Allen: Continue to pray for Andrew and Amy as they look to the Lord for both healing and strength.

Aria Krulish: Continue to pray for Aria's recovery from surgery, treatment, and ultimate healing as she and Jerid and the children trust the Lord amidst all the unknowns.

Tom & Melissa Manning have returned to Turkey. Pray for their ministry to the Syrian refugees, as well as for their mentoring of other team leaders who are serving in the area. And, of course, continue to pray that God grants them a one or two-year residence visa.

Vickie Myers continues to recover from her recent surgery. Pray that she soon returns to full strength and is kept from further incidents.

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

Announcements

Birthdays this Week:

March 31	Bret Reller
April 3	Linda Tinker

The Choir is practicing again today after the Coffee Hour. They will be singing on Palm Sunday.

Good Friday Service & Potluck: Please join us April 19, from 5:30 to 6:30 PM, as we reflect on the passion and death of our Savior, followed by a fellowship dinner together. The Leinwebers will provide ham (RSVP to Heidi so they know how many to cook). Please bring a side or dessert if able, but we want all to come if possible.

Sunday school, with classes for all ages, resumes next week.

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

Explanation of Cover Symbol

The Shield of the Holy Trinity is frequently found in stained glass windows of medieval churches. This emblem expresses the Christian doctrine of the trinity of Almighty God, a truth taught in Scripture and affirmed by the Council of Constantinople in AD 381.