

Easter Sunday

April 21, 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

Almighty God, who through your only Son Jesus Christ has conquered death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: We ask you to deliver us, as we draw near, from all coldness of heart and every distraction of mind, that with the truest love and deepest gratitude we may give you praise and honor worthy of the great salvation you have given us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Isaiah 25.1, 6-9

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Easter**

Hymn No. 276

UP FROM THE GRAVE HE AROSE

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

Almighty God, who raised from the dead the Lord Jesus, we acknowledge we are unworthy of your redeeming grace. We have not believed your promises nor trusted in our living Lord. Through worldliness of spirit our eyes have been kept from discerning his presence with us. Through disappointment our hearts have not burned within us as we have heard his Word. We have not trusted in his redeeming power and have been overcome by evil. We have forgotten the good news of his victory over death and the things that belong to our peace. But in penitence we now come, beseeching your forgiveness. Mercifully grant us pardon from all our sins, and restore unto us the joy of your salvation, for the sake of Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 286

WORSHIP CHRIST, THE RISEN KING!

***Confession of Faith**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

—The Apostles' Creed

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.

***Unison Reading of the Easter Story**

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

Matthew 28.1-10

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Scripture Lesson

Acts 4.1-4

Sermon

"The Resurrection from the Dead"
Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 277

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

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.

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

In Christ Alone

words and music Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
CCLI# 2415226



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less
3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the world by dark - ness
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in



song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground, firm through the
Babe! This gift of love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the
slain; then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious day, up from the
me; from life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com -



fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of
ones He came to save. 'Til on the cross as Je - sus
grave He rose a - gain! And as He stands in vic - to -
mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of



peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease. My com - fort -
died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry
ry, and He sin's curse has lost its grip on me; for I am
man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; 'til he re -



er, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.
sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

*Benediction

Hebrews 13.20-21

Postlude and Silent Prayer

O Lord, let this wonderful news of Jesus Christ and his resurrection from the dead come unto us, not in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit, and in much assurance; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Please stand if able.

Our Nursery Helpers

Worship

Today: Samantha Schroeder

Next Week: Jenni Early

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 is on break. It resumes Sunday, May 5, at 6:30 PM, 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.

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Andrew Allen continues to decline. Pray that he and Amy know God's peace during these difficult days, and that if it be God's will, healing might yet come to Andrew's body.

The Davis & Miller Families: Please pray for the Davis and Miller families as they grieve the death of Steve's dad, Nicole's grandad, and great-grandad of the Miller children. May they know God's peace and strength.

Chris & Mary Granberry (White Swan): Pray for the Granberrys and the Sacred Road team as they share the gospel with the Yakama people. May their words and deeds bring hope and healing to many on the reservation.

Aria Krulish is recovering nicely from her recent surgery and may be healed. The surgeon believes he removed all the cancer. She is getting a second opinion at OHSU, however. Pray they confirm the diagnosis and that chemotherapy is not needed.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church: Pray for the congregation 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.

Announcements

Directory Update: We will soon be updating our church directory. If your family or contact information has changed, or you are not currently in our directory and would like to be, please notify the church office this month.

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 the Cover Symbol

In the Greek language of the early Christian era abbreviations were typically the first and last letters of words, often with a superscription to indicate the missing letters. IC is a standard abbreviation of IHCOYC, the Greek "Jesus," XC the abbreviation of XPICTOC, "Christ"; and NIKΑ means "He conquers." The symbol then reads, "Jesus Christ Conquers by the Cross" or "Jesus Christ, Victor."