

LORD'S DAY

August 16, 2020



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

Dr. Ron Gonzales, Minister

66 S Palouse St | Walla Walla, WA 99362

(509) 522-1020 Email: office@covenantwallawalla.org

*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

In confidence of Thy goodness and great mercy, O Lord, I draw near unto Thee, as a sick man to the healer, as one hungry and thirsty to the fountain of life, a creature to the Creator, a desolate soul to my own tender Comforter. Behold, in Thee is all whatsoever I can or ought to desire; Thou art my salvation and my redemption, my hope and my strength. Rejoice therefore the soul of Thy servant; for unto Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. Amen.

—Thomas a Kempis, AD 1380-1471

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 95.1-7

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 119

I SING THE ALMIGHTY POWER OF GOD

Confession of Faith

Should those who have faith in Christ seek their salvation through their own works, or anywhere else?

No, they should not, as everything necessary to salvation is found in Christ. To seek salvation through good works is a denial that Christ is the only Redeemer and Savior.¹

—The New City Catechism, No. 33

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O God, our great shepherd, you tenderly gather us as lambs, carrying us with your all-embracing love. Yet, like sheep, we wander from you: following our own ways, ignoring your voice, distrusting your provisions. Forgive our stubborn rebellion, our hardened hearts, our lack of trust. Refresh us once again by your quiet waters of mercy and restore our souls by your redeeming love. Guide our paths, that we might follow you more closely. This we ask, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 53.4-6

Prayer for the Church and the World

¹ “Yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified” (Gal 2.16).

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Sermon

“How We Know What We Know”

Revelation 10.1-11

Rev. Ron Gonzales

Reflection and the 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

All who are baptized Christians, living under the authority of Christ and his body, the church, are warmly invited to partake of the Supper. Simply tell the elder or deacon who passes before you whether you prefer wine or grape juice. We will wait and partake together after everyone has been served. By eating the bread and drinking the cup, you are acknowledging 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 but commend to you instead 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.

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**

Hymn No. 94

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

***Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13.14

*Please stand if able.

Sermon Notes: "How We Know What We Know" (Revelation 10.1-11)

1. What This Chapter Is All About

2. The Way Our World Thinks and Has Taught Us to Think

3. The Bottom Line

Prayer Concerns

The Jud Family: Pray for God's comfort as the Jud family grieves the passing of Lori Jud on August 6. She was wife to Britt Jud, mother of Phoebe 23, Naomi 20, Ethan 17, and Isaac 16. She spent most of the last few months at home being cared for by her husband and children in Camas, WA. May they know God's peace and be kept in his love.

Tom & Melissa (Istanbul): Pray for the Manning's ministry to the Syrian refugees who are living in Turkey. May the Lord go before them, preparing the hearts of many to receive the good news of the gospel.

The Persecuted Church: There are some 36,000 Christians out of 6.5 million people who live in *Libya*, an Islamic nation that has no central government to uphold law and order. Consequently, Libyan Christians with a Muslim background face violent and intense pressure from their family and the wider community to renounce their faith. There is also no freedom of speech, no equal treatment of Christians, and no recognition of the church. Pray for the protection of Christian converts from Islam; ask God to connect them with other believers so they will know they are not alone; and pray for a stable government to be established that will provide religious freedom for all.

Rest for Your Souls: Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Mt 11.28-30). Pray that *Eric Carpenter, Roberta Haer, Tom Manning, Clint & Elizabeth Miller, and Vickie Myers* might know the rest of Christ in their souls this week as they look to him each day.

Announcements

Session Meeting: The elders are meeting Thursday, at 5:30 PM, 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.

Visitor: Welcome to Covenant! We are glad you are here and look forward to meeting you.

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.