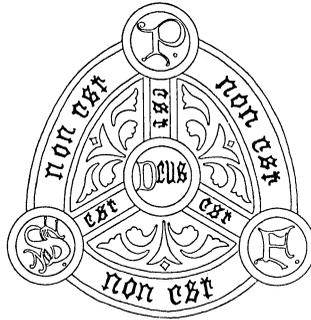


LORD'S DAY

September 6, 2020



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

Father, most kind and generous: We come to you as your children, because we need you and want to be with you; we come to you as our Lord and God, because we are in awe of you and worship you; we come to you in the name of Jesus, because you have promised to be with us when we gather in his name. All glory be to you, O Father, and to the Eternal Son, and to the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 100.1-5

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 116

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

Confession of Faith

What do you believe about the Holy Spirit?

That he is God, coeternal with the Father and the Son, and that God grants him irrevocably to all who believe.¹

—The New City Catechism, No. 36

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, what could move hearts like ours, which have your Son, yet still lack confidence? Would another sacrifice convince the guilty of your grace? Would health convince the ailing of your care? Would more money convince the struggling of your kindness? Would a miracle convince the doubter that you hear prayers? O God, our sin is ever before you. You gave your own Son, yet we still doubt you. He is our consolation, but trouble makes us question your care; our shield, but persecution makes us slow to speak your name; our provision, but hunger makes us neglect your kingdom; our atonement, but death makes us fear your judgment. What more could be given to a people? What more could be done? Forgive us our folly; forgive us our sins and give us confidence in the gift of your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8.31-34

¹ “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you” (John 14.16-17).

The Celebration of Baptism

Josie Grace Miller

Questions

1. Do you understand that you are a sinner and that Jesus died on the cross to pay for your sin and to give you eternal life?
2. Have you taken Jesus as your Savior and are you trusting in him alone for your salvation?

Baptism and Prayer

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-

Sermon

“The Dragon, the Woman, and Her Seed”

Revelation 12.1-17

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. 92

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

***Benediction**

Numbers 6.24-26

*Please stand if able.

Sermon Notes: "The Dragon, the Woman, and Her Seed" (Revelation 12.1-17)

Prayer Concerns

Borne on Eagles' Wings: In a beautiful picture of his power and care, the LORD said to Moses as his people camped at Mount Sinai, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself" (Ex 19.3-4). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Kristi Alden, Eric Carpenter, Roberta Haer, Tom Manning, Clint & Elizabeth Miller, and Vickie Myers* might know the Lord's abiding power and tender care this week.

The Persecuted Church: There are nearly 2 million Christians out of 42.5 million people in *Sudan*, an Islamic nation in northeast Africa. Sudan's current political chaos has left Christians in limbo. The secession of South Sudan in 2011 has made Christians more vulnerable as Islamic conservatives push for a Shariah state. Recently the government has arrested many Christian leaders and numerous churches have been demolished. Extremists have attacked Christians, especially in the Nuba Mountain region, where thousands have been killed or displaced. Pray that Christians would have the freedom to worship without fear of violence, that they would be sustained in their faith amidst the difficulty, and they would have access to Bibles and to discipleship training.

Tom & Melissa Manning (Turkey), along with another member of their team, have asked us to join them in praying for east Istanbul in September before they saturate it with the Word in October and follow up with personal contacts in November. The area they are focusing on has approximately 25,000 Arabs, most of whom are Syrian refugees. Pray that God goes before them, preparing the soil of hard hearts to receive the gospel with eagerness and faith.

Announcements

Home Fellowship Group will resume September 22 and, from then on, will meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the Leinwebers', from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. Led by Pastor Ron, the group will study Revelation, beginning with chapter 14 on the 22nd. All are welcome!

Prayer Meeting: On Tuesday, September 8, at 5:15 PM, we will meet in the sanctuary to pray for one another, for the kingdom, and for the world. Please join us.

Explanation of the 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.