

# LORD'S DAY

October 4, 2020



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**

Almighty God, whose glory is above the heavens, praise waits for you in Zion! Out of your great mercy you have gathered us into your church. Receive the adoration of our hearts this day, and grant that we may so honor you, both in spirit and in outward form, that your name may be glorified through the worship of our lips and our hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

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

Psalm 18.1-3

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

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

*Hymn No. 40*

*GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND OUR STRENGTH*

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

### **Confession of Sin**

Merciful God, we humble ourselves in your presence, confessing our unworthiness and sinfulness in your sight. We have broken your holy law. We have not sought first your kingdom and righteousness. We have been anxious and troubled about many things, and have often neglected the things that belong to our peace. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves, or done to others as we would have them do to us. Most gracious Father, who has given your Son, Jesus Christ, to save your people from their sins; forgive us, we pray; cleanse us from all unrighteousness, and renew a right spirit within us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Silently add your own confession of sin.*

### Confession of Faith

What should we pray?

**The whole Word of God directs and inspires us in what we should pray, including the prayer Jesus himself taught us.<sup>1</sup>**

—The New City Catechism, No. 40

### 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.

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<sup>1</sup> "For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen" (Eph 3.14-21).

**-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-**

**Sermon**

*“God’s Strange Work”*  
Revelation 14.6-20  
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. 469*

*HOW SWEET AND AWESOME IS THE PLACE*

## -GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

**\*Benediction**

Numbers 6.24-26

\*Please stand if able.

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### **Gatherings**

*Home Fellowship Group*, led by Pastor Ron, meets at Chad and Heidi Leinweber's, the first and third Tuesdays of each month, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. They are studying Revelation and all are welcome.

*A Men's Leadership Bible Study*, led by Kirk Alden, meets at Tate's Umapine Mercantile on Thursdays, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. All men are invited. For more information, talk to Kirk.

*Prayer Meeting*: We meet the second Tuesday of each month, at 5:15 PM in the sanctuary, to pray for one another, for the kingdom, and for the world. Please join us.

**Sermon Notes: "God's Strange Work" (Revelation 14.6-20)**

## **Prayer Concerns**

*God's Sustaining Presence:* Moses said to Joshua, "It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed" (Dt 31.8). In addition to healing and strength, pray that *Eric Carpenter, Sandy Cupolillo, Roberta Haer, Tom Manning, Clint & Elizabeth Miller, and Vickie Myers* know God's sustaining presence this week, as well.

*Judie Jud* will have back surgery in Hillsboro on Wednesday. Pray that it is successful, that her recovery goes well, and that she, too, is strengthened by God's presence throughout.

*Tom & Melissa Manning* (Turkey): The Mannings begin to saturate east Istanbul with the gospel through a media campaign this month. Pray that God uses it to create in many a hunger for the truth, and that a great number will respond by asking for more information.

*The Pacific Northwest Presbytery* meets this Thursday and Friday at Trinity Church Seattle. Pray for travel mercies for those attending, and that the work they do is a blessing to the church.

*The Persecuted Church:* There are 744,000 Christians out of 18.5 million people in *Syria*, which is principally an Islamic nation. The country's years-long civil war has left it in turmoil, and Christians have not been spared from the suffering. Indeed, they have been caught in the crossfire between government troops and rebel forces. Even in more secure parts of Syria, those who have converted from Islam face pressure and discrimination from their communities. Pray for peace for Syria, and ask God to relieve the suffering of Christians in hostile regions held by rebel groups who oppose Christianity. Pray for relief and aid to reach Christians who have fled their homes or lack basic resources in their cities. And pray for Syrian church leaders to have wisdom, perseverance, and discernment as they lead their people and provide hope.

## **Announcements**

*Visitors:* Welcome to Covenant? We are glad you are here and look forward to meeting you. If you have time, please join us for some fellowship outside immediately following the service.

### **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."