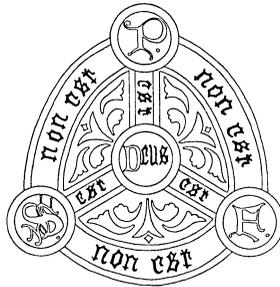


The Second Sunday in Lent
February 28, 2021



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

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts this day such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed our every hope and desire; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 105.1-3

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 57

HALLELUJAH, PRAISE JEHOVAH, O MY SOUL

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O Lord, you promised that if we confess our sins, you are faithful and just and will forgive us. Humbly we come, seeking your forgiveness; that we may know the joy of your presence, the light of your face. You alone know our hearts: how often we have offended you, how often we have offended others. Forgive us, Lord, for every unkind thought, every false word, every wrong act. Forgive us, for we have lived not for you, but for ourselves. Forgive us for failing to give you thanks, for our neglect of prayer, our ignorance of your Word, our loss of purpose. Heavenly Father, have mercy on us. Create in us clean hearts, and renew a right spirit within us; by the blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

Confession of Faith

What are the decrees of God?

The decrees of God are his eternal purposes, according to the counsel of his will, by which, for his own glory, he has foreordained whatever comes to pass.¹

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, No. 7

Prayer for the Church and the World

¹ “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world...In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will” (Eph 1.3-4, 11). “What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory” (Rom 9.22-23)?

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Sermon

“The Quest for Happiness”

1 Kings 9.1-10.29

Rev. Ron Gonzales

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. We will 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 Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 696

I'VE FOUND THE PEARL OF GREATEST PRICE!

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

***Benediction**

Numbers 6.24-26

*Please stand if able.

Gatherings

Home Fellowship Group, led by Pastor Ron, meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at Chad and Heidi Leinweber's, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. They are studying 1 Kings and all are welcome.

The Men's Group meets Fridays, from 6:00 to 7:00 AM, in the Coffee Hour room. They are going through a series, led by Kirk Alden, entitled "Leading by the Book," in which fifty-two leadership principles related to personal development, relationships, and life skills are studied from a biblical perspective. All men and older sons are invited!

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 and fourth Tuesdays of each month, at 5:15 PM in the sanctuary, to pray for one another, for the kingdom, and the world. Please join us.

The Women's Ministry Study, led by Cherry Gonzales, is studying the Psalms of Ascent (120-134), on Tuesdays at 7:00 AM, in the Coffee Hour room. (Morning coffee provided!) All women are invited.

Sermon Notes: "The Quest for Happiness" (1 Kings 9.1-10.29)

Prayer Concerns

Boise Presbyterian Church: Pray for Rev. Brian Frey, our church planter in downtown Boise, as he labors to establish this young congregation.

The Persecuted Church: There are 1.2 million Christians out of 30 million people in *Nepal*, a country in South Asia, located in the Himalayas. Most of the persecution comes from Hindu radicals whose goal is to return Nepal to a Hindu state. Seen as betraying their ancestors' faith, Christian converts from Hinduism live under intense pressure, including anti-conversion laws. They are often beaten, arrested and sentenced to prison, and church buildings are destroyed. Pray for those who have converted and are daily at risk because of their faith. Pray for their protection, and for all the believers in Nepal, that God will give them discernment in when and with whom to share their faith. And pray for the churches as they gather for worship under the threat of violence.

Alister & Sarah Torrens (Ukraine): Pray for the Torrenses as they give themselves to planting a new church in Kiev, for Alister's teaching responsibilities at the seminary, and that God blesses their labors as they reach out to unbelievers around them.

A Tree Planted by Water: Jeremiah writes, "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit" (Jer 17.7-8). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Eric Carpenter, Sandy Cupolillo, Roberta Haer, Judie Jud, Del Klicker, Tom Manning, Elizabeth Miller, and Vickie Myers* are growing in their trust in God and thereby bearing the fruit of his Spirit.

Announcements

Financial Update: The January financial statement has been posted to the church website. If you need the password to view it, Jacob Schroeder would be happy to give it to you.

Visitors: Welcome to Covenant! We are glad you are here and are eager to get acquainted.

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 triunity of Almighty God, a truth taught in Scripture and affirmed by the council of Constantinople in AD 381.