

LORD'S DAY

April 18, 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

Dear God, silence all voices within our minds but your own. Help us to seek and be able to follow your will. May our prayers be joined with those of our brothers and sisters in the faith, that together we may glorify your name and enjoy your fellowship forever. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 95.1-7

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 23

GOD OF GODS, WE SOUND HIS PRAISES

-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

1 Peter 2.24-25

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 299

LOOK, YE SAINTS, THE SIGHT IS GLORIOUS

Confession of Faith

What special act of providence did God exercise toward man, in the estate in which he was created?

When God created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of perfect obedience; forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon the pain of death.¹

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, No. 12

¹ “But the law is not of faith, rather ‘The one who does them shall live by them’” (Gal 3.12). “But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die” (Gen 2.17).

Prayer for the Church and the World

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Sermon

“The Way of Grace”
1 Kings 14.21-31
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 Thanksgiving**

Hymn No. 460

AMAZING GRACE!

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

*Benediction

Numbers 6.24-26

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 Way of Grace" (1 Kings 14.21-31)

Prayer Concerns

Chris & Mary Granberry (White Swan): Pray for the Granberrys and the Sacred Road team as they minister to the Yakama people, that God uses them to convey the love of the Savior to many, and that through their witness a great number come to know and grow in Christ.

Help From on High: David prayed, “Many are saying of me, ‘God will not deliver him.’ But you, LORD, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. I call out to the LORD, and he answers me from his holy mountain. I lie down and sleep. I wake again, because the LORD sustains me. I will not fear though tens of thousands assail me on every side” (Ps 3.2-6). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Sandy Cupolillo, Roberta Haer, Judie Jud, Del Klicker, Tom Manning, Elizabeth Miller, Vickie Myers, and Samantha Schroeder* know God’s protection from every fear as they call out to him.

Hilltop Presbyterian Church: Rev. Jon Neville is planting a church in Ferndale. Pray for God’s blessing as he gives himself to this new work, and that the Lord leads him to many who are hungry to hear and respond to the gospel.

The Persecuted Church: Christians make up nearly 60 percent of the 110 million people who live in *Ethiopia*, though they are targeted by radical Islamists nonetheless. In 2019, the country saw a rise in communal violence, which displaced millions of believers. In some areas, Christians have been denied access to community resources and ostracized from society. In other areas, Islamic mobs have attacked churches. Pray for converts to Christianity who have been cut off from their families and denied basic rights. Pray the government will stop supporting such restrictions. And pray that God will strengthen the church in grace and truth, so that it might build itself up and reach out to others with the good news of the gospel.

Announcements

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

Explanation of the Cover Symbol

The Chi Rho symbol is one of the most ancient Christian symbols. XP, the first two letters of the Greek “Christ,” is an abbreviation of the name of the Lord. This symbol is often, as here, accompanied with other symbols, in this case “Alpha” and “Omega,” the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. The symbol originates from Revelation 22.13: “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End” (cf. Revelation 1.8, 17; 21.6). This particular symbol dates from the first few centuries of the Christian era and is often found on tombs.