

Easter
April 4, 2021



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-

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

In our anguish we cried to the LORD;
and he answered by setting us free.
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

The LORD is our strength and our song;
he has become our salvation.
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

We will not die but live,
and will proclaim what the LORD has done.
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

The stone the builders rejected
has become the capstone;
The LORD has done this;
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

You are our God, and we will give you thanks;
you are our God, and we will exalt you.
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

—Psalm 118.1, 5, 14, 17, 22-23, 28-29 (NIV)

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Hymn No. 276**

UP FROM THE GRAVE HE AROSE

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

Gracious Father, you sent your Son to die and rise again that death might be brought to an end and that we might live a new life. Yet too often we have chosen death over life. In thought, word, and deed we have rebelled against you and your will for us; we have broken fellowship with you, whose love is better than life; we have hurt others, intentionally and unintentionally; and we have damaged ourselves, who were created to reflect your beauty. Father, forgive us our sin for Jesus' sake, and grant that your resurrection power might flow through us, that we might walk in the ways of love and justice, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 4.3, 23-25

***Hymn No. 286**

WORSHIP CHRIST, THE RISEN KING!

Confession of Faith

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

—The Nicene Creed¹

¹ The Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicea (325), and an expanded form was adopted by the Council of Chalcedon (451). It was formulated to answer heresies that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and of the person of Christ.

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

“Believing Sight Unseen”

John 20.24-31

Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Hymn No. 277**

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

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.

In Christ Alone

words and music Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
CCLI# 2415226



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less
3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the world by dark - ness
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in



song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground, firm through the
Babe! This gift of love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the
slain; then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious day, up from the
me; from life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com -



fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of
ones He came to save. 'Til on the cross as Je - sus
grave He rose a - gain! And as He stands in vic - to -
mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of



peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease. My com - fort -
died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry
ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; for I am
man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; 'til he re -



er, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.
sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

***Benediction**

Hebrews 13.20-21

Prayer Concerns

The Persecuted Church: There are 55,000 Christians out of 450,000 people who live in *Brunei*, an independent Islamic sultanate on the northern coast of the Island of Borneo in Southeast Asia. Converting from Islam to Christianity is illegal and punishable by law. Known converts can be separated from their spouse and children. Strict Shariah law regulates all of society, including Christians. Pray for believers who would like to share the gospel but are afraid to do so. Pray for Christians who worship in secret for fear of facing punishment if they worship openly. And pray for churches which are unable to import Christian literature and must operate under the radar.

The Power of God's Outstretched Arm: Jeremiah confidently prayed, "Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you" (Jer 32.17). 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* might rest, knowing that God has everything well in hand; nothing is beyond his control.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church: Pray for Rev. Jeff Glover, our church planter in Soldotna, AK as he shepherds the flock and trains men as officers who will help him do the same.

Alistair & 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.

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!

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. All women are invited.

Announcements

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

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 NIKA means "He conquers." The symbol then reads, "Jesus Christ Conquers by the Cross" or "Jesus Christ, Victor."