

**LORD'S DAY**

**July 18, 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](mailto: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-**

### **Welcome and Silent Prayer**

In confidence of Thy goodness and great mercy, O Lord, I draw near unto Thee, as a sick man to the healer, as one hungry and thirsty to the fountain of life, a creature to the Creator, a desolate soul to my own tender Comforter. Behold, in Thee is all whatsoever I can or ought to desire; Thou art my salvation and my redemption, my hope and my strength. Rejoice therefore the soul of Thy servant; for unto Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. Amen.

—Thomas a Kempis, AD 1380-1471

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

Psalm 145.1-13

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

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

*Hymn No. 2*

*O WORSHIP THE KING*

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

### **Confession of Sin**

Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed; not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires that we are unable to understand, but which are all known to you. We, therefore, flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we can delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

*Silently add your own confession of sin.*

**\*Song of Praise to Christ**

*Hymn No. 295*

*CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS*

**Confession of Faith**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

—The Apostles' Creed<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Although not written by the apostles, The Apostles' Creed is a concise summary of their teachings. It originated as a baptismal confession, probably in the second century, and developed into its present form by the sixth or seventh century.

## **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**

“Living In an Unjust World”

1 Kings 21.1-29

Rev. Ron Gonzales

#### **\*Song of Response**

*Hymn No. 319*

*DAY OF JUDGEMENT! DAY OF WONDERS!*

## **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**

We celebrate the Lord's Supper by coming forward (generally from the back of the sanctuary to the front, though you may commune at any time) and partaking of the bread and the cup. Wine is served in the inner rings of each tray; grape juice in the outer ring. We warmly invite to the Table all baptized Christians, who are living under the authority of Christ and his body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking of 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 and commend to you 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. 455*

*AND CAN IT BE THAT I SHOULD GAIN*

## -GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

### \*Benediction

Numbers 6.24-26

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### 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 Covenant Women's Study*, led by Jenni Early, is studying the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5-7), on Tuesdays, from 7:00 to 8:30 AM, in the Coffee Hour room. All women are welcome, and copies of the passage and questions for next week are available on the literature table.

## **Sermon Notes: "Living In an Unjust World" (1 Kings 21.1-29)**

## **Prayer Concerns**

*Afflicted but Not Crushed:* Paul writes, “We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies” (2 Cor 4.8-10). In addition to strength and healing, pray that this would be true of *Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Tom Manning, Elizabeth Miller, and Vickie Myers* — that the life of Jesus would more and more be seen in them as a result of the difficulties they are enduring in faith.

*The Christian Aid Center* cares for many in our community who are hurting and in need. Pray that God continues to make known his love and grace through its staff and volunteers.

*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 eager to hear and respond to the gospel.

*The Persecuted Church:* There are only a few thousand Christians out of 37 million people who live in *Afghanistan*, a tribal society where loyalty to one’s family, clan and tribe are extremely important. It is also an Islamic society, meaning it is illegal for an Afghan to leave Islam. Those who choose to follow Christ often do so in secret out of great fear. Pray for these Christians to have courage and perseverance. Pray for a softening of the country’s leadership, that conversion from Islam might be permitted. And pray for the spread of the gospel through secret believers and the underground church.

## **Announcements**

*Visitors:* Welcome to Covenant! We are glad you are here and would love to have you join us, following the service, for some refreshments and fellowship.

### **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.”