

LORD'S DAY
September 26, 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

Great are you, O Lord, and highly to be praised; great is your power and your wisdom immeasurable. We desire to praise you, human beings carrying the witness of our sin and the knowledge that you resist the proud. Stir us, we pray, to take pleasure in praising you, because you have made us for yourself and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. Amen.

—Adapted from Augustine's *Confessions*

***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 Lord, no day of our lives has passed that has not proved us guilty in your sight. Prayers have been uttered from prayerless hearts. Praise has often been praiseless sound. Our best services are filthy rags. All things in us call for our rejection, yet all things in Christ plead our acceptance. Grant us to hear your voice assuring us that by your stripes we are healed; that you were bruised for our iniquities, that you became sin for us that we might become righteous in you. Grant that by resting in your righteousness we may hereafter walk in newness of life and run hard after your commandments; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 176

HAIL, THOU ONCE DESPISED JESUS!

Confession of Faith

How does the Spirit apply to us the redemption purchased by Christ?

The Spirit applies to us the redemption purchased by Christ by working faith in us,¹ and thereby uniting us to Christ in our effectual calling.²

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, No. 30

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.

¹ "In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory" (Eph 1.13-14). "All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out...And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day" (Jn 6.37, 39). "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God" (Eph 2.8).

² "That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love..." (Eph 3.17). "God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Cor 1.9).

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Sermon

“Living in the Light”
2 Kings 5.15-27
Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 638

SAVIOR, THY DYING LOVE THOU GAVEST ME

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. 457

COME THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

Benediction

Numbers 6.24-26

Gatherings

A Children's Catechism Class, taught by Pastor Ron and Elder Jacob Schroeder, meets every other Wednesday afternoon, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM, at the church. This fall the class is studying Qs 38-52 of the New City Catechism. For more information, talk to Pastor Ron.

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 2 Kings and all are welcome.

The Men's Group is resuming its "Leading by the Book" study, led by Kirk Alden, on October 1. The group will continue meeting on Fridays, from 6:00 to 7:00 AM, in the Coffee Hour room. The study is of fifty-two leadership principles related to personal development, relationships, and life skills, 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 Chris McBean, is studying 1 John on Wednesdays, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM, in the Coffee Hour room. All women are invited.

Sermon Notes: "Living in the Light" (2 Kings 5.15-27)

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Jay & Bet Denton (Boise): Pray for Jay and the RUF staff as they reach out to new students and begin a new year of ministry at Boise State University. Pray that God leads them to many who are hungry to respond to the gospel and to grow in grace.

The Persecuted Church: Nearly half of the 200 million people living in *Nigeria* are Christians, though many in the northern and middle regions of the country routinely suffer at the hands of Islamic extremists. Some are deprived of their land and means of livelihood, others face rejection from their communities. Pray that they know God's presence, are kept in his peace, and are provided with what they need to survive. Pray for their adversaries, that God will touch and change their hearts with the truth of the gospel. And pray for pastors who are seeking to help God's people rebuild their lives.

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.

Victorious in Battle: Moses writes, "And when you draw near to the battle, the priest shall come forward and speak to the people and shall say to them, 'Hear, O Israel, today you are drawing near for battle against your enemies: let not your heart faint. Do not fear or panic or be in dread of them, for the LORD your God is he who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory'" (Dt 20.2-4). In addition to strength and healing, pray that this week *Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Tom Manning, and Rick & Vickie Myers* know God's presence and victory in every battle they face.

Announcements

Sunday Evening Worship & Cultural Engagement: Beginning October 10, we are adding an evening service on the second Sunday of each month, from 6:00 to 7:15 PM. We will enjoy a brief time of worship followed by teaching and discussion of issues relevant to our society's cultural moment. Initially, Pastor Ron and Elder Jacob Schroeder will be leading a study on human sexuality, based on the report adopted by our General Assembly this past June. The service will be held in the sanctuary, and children are welcome.

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."