

LORD'S DAY
October 24, 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-

Welcome and Silent Prayer

O GOD, the protector of all who trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—From *The Book of Common Prayer*

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 18.1-3

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 30

OUR GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

Almighty God, we acknowledge our unworthiness of your grace and salvation. So little have we truly believed our Savior's conquest of sin and death for us! How often we forget that the Lord Jesus is sitting at your right hand, ruling over all things for the church, interceding for us, and will one day return to bring salvation to all who are waiting for him. How often we are weak or discouraged because we have forgotten that since Christ is in heaven, we who belong to him are as much as seated with him there. How wrong of us that so great a Savior and so great a salvation should not produce in us greater love and firmer hope. Forgive us for such little faith, restore to us the joy of our salvation, and help us to walk worthy of it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 167

WHEN MORNING GILDS THE SKIES

Confession of Faith

What is justification?

Justification is an act of God's free grace, in which He pardons all our sins,¹ and accepts us as righteous in His sight,² only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us,³ and received by faith alone.⁴

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, No. 33

¹ "...and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith" (Rom 3.24-25). "...just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: 'Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sins'" (Rom 4.6-8).

² "...that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ...For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Cor 5.19, 21).

³ "For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous" (Rom 5.17-19).

⁴ "...yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified" (Gal 2.16). "...and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith" (Ph 3.9).

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

“Jesus Makes Us Well”

Luke 8.40-56

Rev. Tom Manning

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 689

BE STILL, MY SOUL

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. 173

PRAISE HIM! PRAISE HIM!

-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 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.

Sunday Evening Worship & Cultural Engagement: On the second Sunday of each month, we gather from 6:00 to 7:15 PM for a brief time of worship followed by teaching and discussion of issues relevant to our society's cultural moment. Pastor Ron and Elder Jacob Schroeder have just begun a study on human sexuality, based on the report adopted by our General Assembly this past June. Reports can be found on the literature table. We meet in the sanctuary, and children are welcome.

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: "Jesus Makes Us Well" (Luke 8.40-56)

Prayer Concerns

Afghanistan: Pray for the Americans and our Afghan partners trying to leave Afghanistan, that they are safe and are soon able to depart.

The Giver of Strength and Peace: David prayed, "The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace" (Ps 29.11). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Tom Manning, and Rick & Vickie Myers* are filled with the LORD's strength and peace in the week ahead.

The Persecuted Church: There are some 16 million Christians out of 100 million people in *Egypt*. Many encounter substantial roadblocks to living out their faith. There are violent attacks, as well as quieter, more subtle forms of duress that burden Egyptian believers. This is particularly felt by those who convert from Islam. Pray for those who have been injured by violence, that the Lord would heal their hearts, minds, and bodies. Pray for unity in the Egyptian church, that Christians of all backgrounds would see themselves belonging to God's family. And pray that God would soften the hearts of extremists and government leaders, so that Jesus' name might be more openly made known.

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.

Rev. Alistair & Sarah Torrens (Ukraine): Pray for the Torrens 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.

Announcements

Reformation Sunday PM Service: We have been invited by Grace URC, in Kennewick, to their Reformation service, next Sunday, at 5:00 PM, followed by a light dinner. If you plan to attend, please let us know, as a head count would help Grace with meal preparations.

Session Meeting: The elders are meeting Thursday, at 5:30 PM, to pray for and conduct the business of the church. Pray for them as they do, and please let them know how they can pray for you.

Explanation of the Cover Symbol

Since the time of the Reformation, the burning bush has been a symbol of the Church. The Latin words are taken from Exodus 3.2 and read "...and yet it was not consumed." In one of his letters, Samuel Rutherford reminded his correspondent, "The bush has been burning these five thousand years, and no man yet saw the ashes of that fire."