

LORD'S DAY
November 14, 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

Heavenly Father, Giver and Sustainer of all life: Help us, as we draw near, to love and adore and worship you with all that we are and all that we have to offer, for you alone are worthy. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 100.1-5

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 716

SING TO THE LORD OF HARVEST

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, what could move hearts like ours, which have your Son, yet still lack confidence? Would another sacrifice convince the guilty of your grace? Would health convince the ailing of your care? Would more money convince the struggling of your kindness? Would a miracle convince the doubter that you hear prayers? O God, our sin is ever before you. You gave your own Son, yet we still doubt you. He is our consolation, but trouble makes us question your care; our shield, but persecution makes us slow to speak your name; our provision, but hunger makes us neglect your kingdom; our atonement, but death makes us fear your judgment. What more could be given to a people? What more could be done? Forgive us our folly; forgive us our sins and give us confidence in the gift of your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 178

THERE IS NO NAME SO SWEET ON EARTH

Confession of Faith

What are the benefits that in this life accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification?

The benefits that in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification are: assurance of God's love, peace of conscience,¹ joy in the Holy Spirit,² increase of grace,³ and perseverance to the end.⁴

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, No. 36

Prayer for the Church and the World

¹ "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God...and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us" (Rom 5.1-2, 5).

² "For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Rom 14.17).

³ "But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day" (Pr 4.18).

⁴ "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life" (1 Jn 5.13). "...who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (1 Pt 1.5).

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Sermon

“Servants of God”
2 Kings 10.1-36
Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 532

TEACH ME, O LORD, THY HOLY WAY

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. 469

HOW SWEET AND AWESOME IS THIS PLACE

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13.14

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 Philippians on Wednesdays, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM, in the Coffee Hour room. All women are invited.

Sermon Notes: "Servants of God" (2 Kings 10.1-36)

Prayer Concerns

The LORD's Watchful & Steadfast Love: The psalmist writes, "Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love" (Ps 33.18). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Tom Manning, and Rick & Vickie Myers* might fix their hope on the LORD's steadfast love and know his watchful care.

Rev. Tom & Melissa Manning have returned to Arizona, though while they were in Idaho and Washington, they contracted COVID. Pray for them as they fight the virus and that Tom's weakened immune system poses no problems for a full recovery.

The Persecuted Church: There are 4 million Christians out of 54 million people in *Myanmar*, formerly known as Burma. Extremists believe that to be Burmese is to be Buddhist, so there is intense pressure on all religious minorities, including Christians. Churches have been forcibly closed and the government severely restricts the rights of believers. Pray for persecuted Christians, that they would lovingly care for other persecuted minorities, including Muslims (there is great opportunity for ministry to them). Pray that many hearts would be open to the gospel. And pray that those who convert from Islam and Buddhism would see their need to connect with the church.

Announcements

Advent Evensong Services: On November 28, at 6:00 PM, we will begin four weeks of Sunday evening Advent services. In addition to Scripture readings and Christmas carols, each week we will consider a different aspect of the incarnation.

Directory Update: We will be printing an updated church directory in January. If your information has changed or you would like to be in the directory, please let us know.

Hanging the Greens: We will be decorating the sanctuary for Advent on Saturday, November 27, at 9:00 AM. If you would like to help, please join us.

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

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.