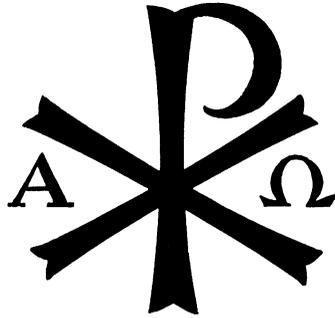


The Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 3, 2022



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

Father in heaven, we pray that you will in mercy look down upon us, your family, for whom the Lord Jesus was willing to be betrayed, given up into the hands of wicked men, and suffer death on the cross. Grant us the desires of our hearts this Lord's Day morning: to see you in your majesty and glory, to be renewed in our experience of your grace and love, and to hear your voice speaking in your Word. Help us, by your Spirit, to make a genuine and heartfelt offering of our praise, our love, and ourselves to you. Receive pleasure, this day, from your grateful people; for we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 96.1-9

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 44

HOW GREAT THOU ART

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O Lord God, the heavens declare your glory, the earth your riches. We thank you for the treasures given us in Jesus; for the unclouded revelation of him in your Word, where we behold his character, grace and glory, as well as his sufferings, death and resurrection. We come to you in his all-prevailing name, with nothing of our own to plead: no works, no worthiness, no promises. We are often straying, often knowingly opposing your authority, often abusing your goodness. Impress us deeply with a sense of your presence; that you are about our paths, our ways, our lying down, and our end. Subdue in us the love of sin and let us know the need of renewal as well as forgiveness; that we may wholeheartedly serve and enjoy you forever. This we ask in Christ's name. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 299

LOOK, YE SAINTS, THE SIGHT IS GLORIOUS

Confession of Faith

Which is the Fourth Commandment?

The Fourth Commandment is, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."¹

What is required in the Fourth Commandment?

The Fourth Commandment requires the keeping holy to God such set times as he has appointed in his Word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy Sabbath to himself.²

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, Nos. 57 and 58

¹ Exodus 20.8-11 (ESV)

² "Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant, or your ox or your donkey or any of your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you" (Dt 5.12-14).

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

“Entering God’s Rest”

Hebrews 4.1-13

Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 508

JESUS, LOVER OF 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 ring 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. 650

I WILL SING OF MY REDEEMER

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13.14

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 6:00 to 7:30 PM. They are studying Hebrews 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 are leading 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 Cherry Gonzales is studying 2 Corinthians. It is meeting on Wednesdays, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM, in the Coffee Hour room. Questions for each week can be found on the literature table, and all women are invited.

Sermon Notes: "Entering God's Rest" (Hebrews 4.1-13)

Prayer Concerns

Joy in the Trials: James writes, “Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness” (Jas 1.2-3). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Nancy Hoeft, Tom Manning, Rick & Vickie Myers, Rich Parker, and Wayne Snavely* have eyes to see the growth in character God is producing in their lives through the trials they are enduring.

The Persecuted Church: Christians make up nearly 60 percent of the 110 million people who live in *Ethiopia*, though they are targeted by radical Islamic extremists nonetheless. In the last few years the country has seen a rise in violence, which has displaced millions of believers. In some areas, Christians have been denied access to community resources and ostracized from society. In other areas, churches have been attacked. Pray for converts who have been cut off from their families and denied basic rights. Pray that the government stands up for the rule of law. And pray that God strengthens the church so that it can reach out to others with the good news of the gospel.

Rev. Tom & Melissa Manning: Pray for Tom as he reaches out to refugees in the Phoenix area, as well as works with *Frontiers*, their missions organization, in developing a training track for those preparing to go to the mission field. And of course, pray that the new round of cancer treatment he has begun proves effective.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church: Pray for Rev. Jeff Glover, our church planter in Soldotna, AK as he shepherds the flock, trains men for church leadership, and continues to reach out with the love of Christ to those in the Kenai Peninsula.

Ukraine: Pray for an end to the war, that Ukraine remains a free nation and that God continues to use his people to bring help to the hurting and the lost.

Announcements

Covenant Women’s Luncheon: What does it mean to be a disciple of Christ? We will explore this topic at our next women’s gathering: A luncheon on Saturday, May 21, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, at the church. All women and teen girls are invited.

Good Friday Service: Please join us April 15, from 6:00 to 7:00 PM, as we reflect on the passion and death of our Savior.

The Second Sunday Evening Worship will not take place this month. It will resume on May 15.

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.