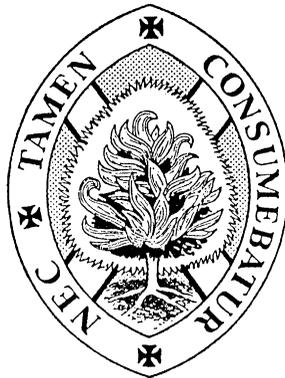


# LORD'S DAY

May 22, 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**

Lord God Almighty, King of glory and love eternal, you are worthy at all times to receive adoration, praise, and blessing; help us to praise you now for sending your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, for whom our hearts wait, and to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, be honor and dominion, now and forever. Amen.

**\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 90.1-2

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

**\*Song of Praise to God**

*Hymn No. 24*

*VAST THE IMMENSITY, MIRROR OF MAJESTY*

**-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-**

**Confession of Sin**

Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of you and for ignoring your immensity and greatness. Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that you rule the nations and our small lives. Holy Spirit, we offend you in minimizing your power and squandering your gifts. We confess that our blindness to your glory, O triune God, has resulted in shallow confession, tepid conviction, and only mild repentance. Have mercy on us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

*Silently add your own confession of sin.*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Micah 7.18-19

**\*Song of Praise to Christ**

*Hymn No. 185*

*MAJESTIC SWEETNESS SITS ENTHRONED*

## Confession of Faith

Which is the Seventh Commandment?

**The Seventh Commandment is, “You shall not commit adultery.”<sup>1</sup>**

What is required in the Seventh Commandment?

**The Seventh Commandment requires the preservation of our own and our neighbor’s chastity, in heart, speech, and behavior.<sup>2</sup>**

What is forbidden in the Seventh Commandment?

**The Sixth Commandment forbids all unchaste thoughts, words, and actions.<sup>3</sup>**

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, Nos. 70-72

## Prayer for the Church and the World

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<sup>1</sup> Exodus 20.14 (ESV)

<sup>2</sup> “But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights and likewise the wife to her husband...Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourself to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control... If anyone thinks that he is not behaving properly toward his betrothed, if his passions are strong, and it has to be, let him do as he wishes: let them marry—it is no sin” (1 Cor 7.2-3, 36). “Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person” (Col 4.6). “...when they see your respectful and pure conduct” (1 Pet 3.2).

<sup>3</sup> “For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witnesses, slander” (Mt 15.19). “But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart” (Mt 5.28). “But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving” (Eph 5.3-4).

**-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-**

**Sermon**

“A Better Hope”  
Hebrews 7.18-28  
Rev. Ron Gonzales

**\*Song of Response**

*Hymn No. 521*

*MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS*

**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

## SERVING 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) and partaking of the bread and the cup. Wine is served in the inner rings of each tray; grape juice in the outer rings. 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. 307*

*NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD*

## -GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

### **Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13.14

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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 6:00 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.

## **Sermon Notes: "A Better Hope" (Hebrews 7.18-28)**

## **Prayer Concerns**

*Boise Presbyterian Church:* Pray for Rev. Brian Frey, our church planter in Boise, as he seeks to develop leaders for this congregation, that together they might become a people who love one another and outsiders well as they continue to grow in grace.

*Consolations to Cheer the Soul:* The psalmist says of the Lord, “When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul” (Ps 94.19). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Nancy Hoeft, Tom Manning, Rick & Vickie Myers, Rich Parker* and *Wayne Snavelly* are gladdened by the Lord as they look to him.

*Tom & Melissa Manning:* In addition to the three team-leader couples the Mannings are coaching (people on the mission-field), they have also taken on two new team-leader candidates (those headed to the field), and Frontiers has asked Tom to join the Training Team at its headquarters in Phoenix. Pray God uses their wisdom and experience to help mentor this next generation of career missionaries. And continue to pray for Tom’s health. The new medication seems to be having a good effect.

*The Persecuted Church:* There 118 million professing Christians out of 144 million people living in *Russia*. In Muslim-dominated regions, those who convert from Islam suffer persecution from family, friends, and community members. The far greater threat, however, comes from the government, which surveils its citizens. Pray for the safety of church members when they are arrested and interrogated by the police. And pray that suspicion of Protestants who receive support from foreign organizations will not be an impediment to the growth and health of the church in Russia.

*Ukraine:* Pray for an end to the war, that Ukraine remains a free nation, and that God uses the church to care for the hurting and the lost.

## **Announcements**

*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.”