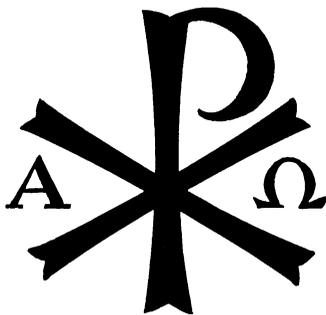


# LORD'S DAY

May 8, 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**

Almighty God, whose glory is above the heavens, praise waits for you in Zion! Out of your great mercy you have gathered us into your church. Receive the adoration of our hearts this day, and grant that we may so honor you, both in spirit and in outward form, that your name may be glorified through the worship of our lips and our hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### **\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 89.5-8, 14-18

### **\*Prayer of Adoration**

### **\*Song of Praise to God**

*Hymn No. 38*

*IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE*

## **-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-**

### **Confession of Sin**

Merciful God, we humble ourselves in your presence, confessing our unworthiness and sinfulness in your sight. We have broken your holy law. We have not sought first your kingdom and righteousness. We have been anxious and troubled about many things, and have often neglected the things that belong to our peace. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves, or done to others as we would have them do to us. Most gracious Father, who has given your Son, Jesus Christ, to save your people from their sins; forgive us, we pray; cleanse us from all unrighteousness, and renew a right spirit within us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Silently add your own confession of sin.*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Isaiah 44.21-22

## **\*Song of Praise to Christ**

*Hymn No. 175*

*A WONDERFUL SAVIOR IS JESUS MY LORD*

### **Confession of Faith**

What is forbidden in the Fifth Commandment?

**The Fifth Commandment forbids the neglecting of, or doing anything against, the honor and duty that belongs to everyone in their various situations and relationships.<sup>1</sup>**

What is the reason attached to the Fifth Commandment?

**The reason attached to the Fifth Commandment is a promise of long life and prosperity (as far as it shall serve for God's glory, and their own good) to all who keep this commandment.<sup>2</sup>**

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, Nos. 65 and 66

### **Prayer for the Church and the World**

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<sup>1</sup> "For God commanded, 'Honor your father and your mother,' and 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' But you say, 'If anyone tells his father or his mother, "What you would have gained from me is given to God," he need not honor his father.' So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God" (Mt 15.4-6). "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord GOD: Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat ones, but you do not feed the sheep. The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the injured you have not bound up, the strayed you have not brought back, the lost you have not sought, and with force and harshness you have ruled them" (Ezek 34.2-4). "Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law" (Rom 13.8).

<sup>2</sup> "Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may go well with you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you" (Dt 5.16). "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land" (Eph 6.2-3).

**-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-**

**Sermon**

“A Sure and Steadfast Hope”

Hebrews 6.13-20

Rev. Ron Gonzales

**\*Song of Response**

*Hymn No. 32*

*GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS*

**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) 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. 457*

*COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING*

## -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 Sure and Steadfast Hope" (Hebrews 6.13-20)**

## **Prayer Concerns**

*The Christian Aid Center* cares for many in our community who are hurting and in need. Pray that God continues to convey his love and grace to those they serve.

*The Persecuted Church:* There are 42 million Christians out of 52 million people in *Kenya*. Though it is a majority-Christian nation, a growing threat of Islamic radicalism exist, particularly in the Northeast and coastal regions where there is a strong al-Shabab presence. Converts in these areas live under constant threat of attack, even from their closest relatives. Pray for the church, that it grows in strength and Christlikeness through the suffering it is enduring. Pray for believers who are sometimes lured away for the faith by economic enticements. And pray for those who have suffered severe trauma at the hands of radical extremists.

*The RUF Chapter from Boise State* will be in White Swan this week, assisting the Sacred Road team in their ministry to the Yakama People. Pray that God used them to bless many with the love of Christ as they reach out in word and deed.

*Upheld by God:* David prayed, "The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand" (Ps 37.23-24). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Nancy Hoeft, Tom Manning, Rick & Vickie Myers, Rich Parker* and *Wayne Snavely* are comforted knowing that God is upholding them each day.

## **Announcements**

*Second Sunday Evening Worship & Cultural Engagement*, which would normally meet tonight, is meeting next Sunday. The topics this month are Friendship, and Repentance and Hope (pp. 12-13 of the Report on Human Sexuality; copies are available on the literature table). All are welcome.

*Covenant Women's Luncheon:* Discipleship. Is it good? Is it intimidating? Is it for everyone? What did Jesus say about it? Come to our women's luncheon on Saturday, May 21, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the church, to explore this together.

### **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.