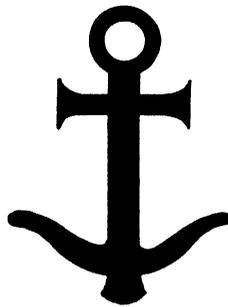


# LORD'S DAY

October 2, 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 Jesus, be present now, our hearts in true devotion bow; Thy Spirit send with grace divine, and let Thy truth within us shine. Unseal our lips to sing Thy praise, our souls to Thee in worship raise; Make strong our faith, increase our light that we may know Thy Name aright. Amen.

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

Psalm 95.1-7

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

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

*Hymn No. 23*

*GOD OF GODS, WE SOUND HIS PRAISES*

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

### **Confession of Sin**

O Lord, all that we are is laid bare before you. What could be hidden within us, even if we were unwilling to confess it? We would be hiding you from ourselves, not ourselves from you. And we make our confession not in words alone, but with the voice of our soul and in our thoughts which cry aloud to you. When we are evil, making confession to you is simply to be displeased with ourselves. When we are good, it is to make no claim on our own behalf, for without you we can do nothing. And so we confess our many sins of thought, word, and deed. We love you and so we are ashamed of ourselves and, once again, choose you and your will. Forgive us and help us to seek no pleasure for ourselves except that which is also pleasure for you; in Jesus' name. Amen.

*—Adapted from Augustine's Confessions*

*Silently add your own confession of sin.*

**\*Song of Faith in Christ**

*Hymn No. 305*

*ARISE, MY SOUL, ARISE*

**Confession of Faith**

What does the preface of the Lord's Prayer teach us?

**The preface of the Lord's Prayer, which is, "Our Father who art in heaven,"<sup>1</sup> teaches us to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence, as children to a father, able and ready to help us;<sup>2</sup> and that we should pray with and for others.<sup>3</sup>**

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, No. 100

**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.

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<sup>1</sup> Pray, then, in this way: "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name." (Mt 6.9, NAS)

<sup>2</sup> "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Lk 11.13) "For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!'" (Rom 8.15)

<sup>3</sup> "So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church." (Acts 12.5) "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way." (1 Tim 2.1-2)

**-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-**

**Sermon**

“The Letter That Changed the World”

Romans 1.1-7

Rev. Ron Gonzales

**\*Song of Response**

*Hymn No. 460*

*AMAZING GRACE!*

**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 SACRAMENTS-

### **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 ring 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 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 and clings so close, 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. 455*

*AND CAN IT BE THAT I SHOULD GAIN*

## -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 Romans 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.

## **Sermon Notes: "The Letter That Changed the World" (Romans 1.1-7)**

## **Prayer Concerns**

*God Hears Our Every Cry:* The psalmist prayed, “I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live” (Ps 116.1-2). In addition to strength and healing, pray that this week *Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Nancy Hoeft, Judie Jud, Tom Manning, Rick & Vickie Myers and Wayne Snavelly* might be confident in God’s attentive care.

*The Persecuted Church:* There are only 200,000 Christians out of 40 million people in *Iraq*. Many of them are still recovering from the brutal reign of ISIS. For others, the threat has not diminished, especially in the North. Iraq remains very tribal, which means there is significant pressure for believers from Muslim backgrounds, since conversion is seen as a rejection of heritage and family. Pray for those who are recovering from such trauma, that they might be strengthened and grow in grace. And pray for pastors who are desperately needed to care for and feed the saints in this war-torn place.

*Redeemer Presbyterian Church:* Pray for Rev. Jeff Glover, our church planter in Soldotna, AK as he prepares the congregation for electing elders and deacons, and as he continues to reach out with the love of Christ to those in the Kenai Peninsula.

*Alister & Sarah Torrens* (Ukraine), and their children, have settled in Northern Ireland again, where Saphira and Thaddeus are attending school and from where Alister is remotely teaching classes and overseeing the seminary until it is safe to return to Kyiv. Pray that that is soon, and that in the interim God uses the suffering his people are enduring to strengthen the church.

## **Announcements**

*The Women of the Church* will be reading 1 and 2 Timothy in pairs or small groups this fall. Let us know if you want to join in and need help finding a partner. A study guide is available for anyone who would like one.

### **Explanation of the Cover Symbol**

The anchor is an ancient Christian symbol for hope. It is derived from Hebrews 6.19: “We have this hope as an anchor for the soul...” When combined with a cross it makes plain that Christian hope is in Christ and His redemption. The symbol was frequently used in this sense in the catacombs of ancient Rome.