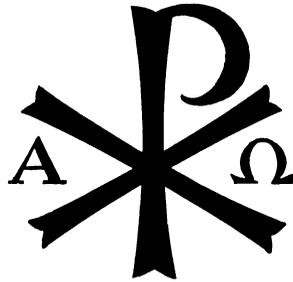


**LORD'S DAY**  
**September 25, 2022**



**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](mailto: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**

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts this day such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed our every hope and desire; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

Psalm 105.1-3

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

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

*Hymn No. 57*

*HALLELUJAH, PRAISE JEHOVAH, O MY SOUL*

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

### **Confession of Sin**

Lord Jesus, forgive us and help us. We are slow to learn, prone to forget, and weak to climb. We are in the foothills when we should be on the heights. We are pained by our graceless hearts, our prayerless days, our poverty of love, our sloth in the heavenly race, our sullied consciences, our wasted hours, and our unspent opportunities. We are blind while the light shines around us. Take the scales from our eyes and grind to dust our hearts of unbelief. Make it our greatest joy to study, meditate, and gaze upon you; to sit like Mary at your feet, to lean like John on your breast, to appeal like Peter to your love, to count like Paul all things rubbish compared to knowing and gaining you. Amen.

*Silently add your own confession of sin.*

## \*Song of Praise to Christ

## Across the Lands

words Keith Getty and Stuart Townend  
 music Keith Getty and Stuart Townend: arr. Ruth Coleman  
 CCLI #2415226



1.You're the Word of God the Fa-ther from be - fore the world be - gan; Ev - 'ry  
 2.Yet You left the gaze of an - gels, came to seek and save the lost, And ex -  
 3.With a shout You rose vic - to - rious, wrest - ing vic - t'ry from the grave, And as -



star and ev - 'ry plan - et has been fash - ioned by Your hand. All cre - a - tion holds to -  
 changed the joy of Heav - en for the an - guish of a cross With a prayer You fed the  
 cend - ed in - to Heav - en, lead - ing cap - tives in Your way. Now You stand be - fore the



geth - er by the pow - er of Your voice. Let the skies de - clare Your  
 hun - gry, with a word You calmed the sea; Yet how si - lent - ly You  
 Fa - ther, in - ter - ced - ing for Your own; From each tribe and tongue and



glo - ry; let the land and seas re - joice.  
 suf - fered, that the guilt - y may go free. You're the au - thor of cre - a - tion, You're the  
 na - tion You are lead - ing sin - ners home.



Lord of ev - 'ry man, and Your cry of love rings out a - cross the lands. \_\_\_\_\_

## Confession of Faith

What is prayer?

**Prayer is an offering up of our desires to God,<sup>1</sup> for things agreeable to his will,<sup>2</sup> in the name of Christ,<sup>3</sup> with confession of our sins,<sup>4</sup> and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.<sup>5</sup>**

What rule has God given for our direction in prayer?

**The whole Word of God is of use to direct us in prayer,<sup>6</sup> but the special rule of direction is the form of prayer that Christ taught his disciples, commonly called “the Lord’s Prayer.”<sup>7</sup>**

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, Nos. 98-99

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<sup>1</sup> “Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us” (Ps 62.8).

<sup>2</sup> “And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us” (1 Jn 5.14).

<sup>3</sup> “In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you” (Jn 16.23).

<sup>4</sup> I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Therefore, let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him (Ps 32.5-6). I prayed to the Lord my God and made confession, saying, “O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments” (Dan 9.4).

<sup>5</sup> “...do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God” (Ph 4.6).

<sup>6</sup> See 1 John 5.14 above.

<sup>7</sup> See Matthew 6.9-13 and Luke 11.2-4.

## Prayer for the Church and the World

### -ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

#### Sermon

“Last Words”  
Hebrews 13.17-25  
Rev. Ron Gonzales

#### \*Song of Response

*Hymn No. 341*

*O BREATH OF LIFE, COME SWEEPING THROUGH US*

### 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.

## **\*Song of Thanksgiving**

*Hymn No. 498*

*JESUS! WHAT A FRIEND FOR SINNERS!*

### **-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-**

**Benediction**

Numbers 6.24-26

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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: "Last Words" (Heb 13.17-25)**

## **Prayer Concerns**

*Tom & Melissa Manning:* Tom is working with Frontiers' mobilization leader on a training cohort for candidates who are sensing a call to the Middle East. Pray that it bears much fruit. Since Tom's health is currently stable, he and Melissa are planning a trip to Turkey and Jordan in November to see and encourage those they have helped establish in the faith. Pray for safe travels and fruitful ministry. Finally, pray for the Manning's support. Inflation has hurt them as well.

*The Persecuted Church:* There are only a few thousand Christians out of half a million people in *Maldives*. Citizens are required to be Muslim, and conversion from Islam results in loss of citizenship and severe punishment under Sharia law. Even foreign workers who are Christians are closely monitored, and churches are outlawed. Pray that God gives the Maldives' leaders a willingness to condone other religions. Pray that secret believers find fellowship with one another and access to the Bible. And pray that, despite the fear of suffering, many who are Muslim will turn to Christ and be saved.

*Strength & Defense:* The psalmist prayed, "The LORD is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation" (Ps 118.14). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Nancy Hoeft, Judie Jud, Tom Manning, Rick & Vickie Myers, Rich Parker* and *Wayne Snavely* know the Lord as their defender this week.

*Ukraine:* Pray for safety, comfort, and courage for Ukrainian churches and their pastors. Pray for peace in Ukraine, for wisdom, for provision, and that God brings to nothing Putin's plans to destroy Ukraine.

## **Announcements**

*The Fear of the LORD Is the Beginning of Wisdom;* The adult class begins its study of Proverbs next Sunday. Join us as we learn to read, interpret, and apply this wisdom book to our spiritual lives.

*Men & Boys:* Join us downstairs this coming Saturday, at 8:00 AM, for our Fellowship Breakfast, and bring a friend or neighbor!

*Sunday School,* with classes for all ages, begins next week at 9:00 AM.

*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 to participate. Please let us know by September 30 if you would like one.

### **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.