

LORD'S DAY
September 4, 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

Glorious Lord, it is the passion of our lives to worship you, the crown and glory of our souls to adore you. Enable us by your Spirit to do so now, that we may forget the world and be brought into the fullness of life as we gaze upon your beauty and holiness. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 97.1-9

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 100

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!

-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

1 John 2.1-2

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 181

WE COME, O CHRIST, TO YOU

Confession of Faith

What is a Baptism?

Baptism is a sacrament, in which the washing with water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,¹ does signify and seal our grafting into Christ, and receiving of the benefits of the Covenant of Grace, and our engagement to be the Lord's.²

To whom is Baptism to be administered?

Baptism is not to be administered to any who are out of the visible church, till they profess their faith in Christ and obedience to him;³ but infants of those who are members of the visible Church are to be baptized.⁴

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, Nos. 94-95

¹ "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Mt 28.19).

² "We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life" (Rom 6.4). "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Gal 3.27).

³ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2.38). And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him (Acts 8.36-38).

⁴ "This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised" (Gen 17.10). And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself" (Acts 2.38-39). "For the unbelieving husband is made holy because of his wife, and the unbelieving wife is made holy because of her husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy" (1 Cor 7.14). "In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead" (Col 2.11-12).

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

“A Final Warning With a Promise”

Hebrews 12.14-29

Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 562

ALL TO JESUS I SURRENDER

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

-OBSEVRING 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 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. 500

ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13.14

Gatherings

Home Fellowship Group, led by Pastor Ron, meets on the first and third Tuesday of the 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.

Sermon Notes: "A Final Warning With a Promise" (Hebrews 12.14-29)

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Drew & Jessica Burdette (Boise State University): Pray for the Burdettes as they get to know the students and begin a new school year, that God uses them and the ministry of RUF to reach many with the good news of the gospel and help many students grow in Christian faith and discipleship.

Fear's Alternative: David prayed, "When I am afraid I put my trust in you" (Ps 56.3). In addition to strength and healing, pray this week that *Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Nancy Hoeft, Tom Manning, Rick & Vickie Myers, Rich Parker* and *Wayne Snavely* would put their trust in the Lord whenever they are inclined to fear.

The Persecuted Church: There are 750,000 Christians out of 18.5 million people in *Syria*, a principally Islamic nation. The country's years-long civil war has left it in turmoil and the church has not been spared the suffering. Even in more secure parts of country, those who have converted from Islam face pressure and discrimination. Pray for peace. Pray for relief and aid for those who have fled their homes or lack basic resources in their cities. And pray that church leaders have wisdom and perseverance as they lead God's people.

Announcements

Potluck in the Park: Join us for a potluck at Pioneer Park on Sunday, September 11. Lunch will start at noon, so there will be no Coffee Hour that day. The church will provide smoked pulled pork and buns; please bring a side or a dessert to share (and your own tableware and drinks).

Save the Date: Women's Ministry is meeting for a luncheon on September 24, from 11-2. We will discuss the book of John which we have been reading this summer. There is still time to grab a book if you would like to join in the discussion.

A Vision for the Church: "The world seems to be coming apart at the seams... Many Christians despair. Others flee to safe spaces waiting for Jesus to come. But it's not a moment for despair or retreat. It's time for hopeful action. When everything unravels, God calls the church to minister to the dying and to rebuild the ruins." Peter Leithart, the president of Theopolis Institute for Biblical, Liturgical, and Cultural Studies, will explain how the church can meet this challenge on Friday evening and Saturday morning, September 16-17, at Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church in Yakima. To learn more: www.saintandrewsyakima.org/events.