

LORD'S DAY
November 13, 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

*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 66.1-5, 8-9

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 76

PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O Lord, no day of our lives has passed that has not proved us guilty in your sight. Prayers have been uttered from prayerless hearts. Praise has often been praiseless sound. Our best services are filthy rags. All things in us call for our rejection, yet all things in Christ plead our acceptance. Grant us to hear your voice assuring us that by your stripes we are healed; that you were bruised for our iniquities, that you became sin for us that we might become righteous in you. Grant that by resting in your righteousness we may hereafter walk in newness of life and run hard after your commandments; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 172

LET US LOVE AND SING AND WONDER

Confession of Faith

For what do we pray in the sixth petition?

In the sixth petition, which is, “And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,”¹ that God would either keep us from being tempted to sin,² or support and deliver us when we are tempted.³

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, No. 106

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.

¹ “And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil” (Mt 6.13).

² “Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak” (Mt 26.41).

³ “So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me” (2 Cor 12.7-8).

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Sermon

“God’s Answer to Man’s Dilemma”
Romans 3.21-31
Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 251

BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS

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 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

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.

Women's Studies: This fall women are meeting in pairs or small groups to study 1 and 2 Timothy. Study guides are available on the literature table. If you need help finding a partner or a group, please let us know.

Sermon Notes: "God's Answer to Man's Dilemma" (Romans 3.21-31)

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.

Our Helper & Keeper: The psalmist writes, "From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD is your keeper" (Ps 121.1-5). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Paul Carmichael, Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Nancy Hoeft, Judie Jud, Tom Manning, and Rick & Vickie Myers* rest in the LORD, their helper and keeper.

The Persecuted Church: There 9 million Christians out of 97 million people in *Vietnam*, a Buddhist country where Christians are sometimes imprisoned for their faith and where converts are often victims of pressure and violence from their families and communities. Pray for the protection of those who convert to Christianity. And pray for itinerant pastors to help believers grow in their faith and strengthen the church, especially in rural areas where the gospel and discipleship are most needed.

Announcements

Directory Update: We will be printing an updated church directory in December. If your information has changed or you would like to be in the directory, please let us know.

Financial Update: The October financial statement has been posted to the church website. If you need the password to access it, Jacob Schroeder would be happy to help you.

Hanging the Greens: We will be decorating the sanctuary for Advent on Saturday, November 26, at 9:00 AM. If you would like to help, please join us.

Session Meeting: The elders are meeting this Thursday, at 5:30 PM. Pray for them as we 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."