

Christmas Day
December 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

*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

All glory be to you, O God, for the gift of your Son, light in darkness and hope of the world, whom you sent to save us. With singing angels let us praise your name and tell the earth his story, that all may believe, rejoice, and bow down, acknowledging your love through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Luke 2.8-15

***Song of Advent**

Hymn No. 203

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Advent**

Hymn No. 214

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O God, in the beginning you spoke and creation was born—the object of your loving care. In the fullness of time you spoke and the Word became flesh—Jesus, the gift of your love. We wonder at the miracle of creation; we stand in awe before the mystery of the incarnation. Forgive us earthbound creatures, feeble in faith, empty in hope, lacking in love. This year let the miracle and mystery of Christmas happen for us again. We wait upon you with ready hearts, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

Assurance of Pardon

Galatians 4.4-5

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 12.4-6

New Testament Reading

Revelation 21.3b-4

***Song of Advent**

Hymn No. 195

JOY TO THE WORLD! THE LORD IS COME

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

“For Unto Us a King Is Born”

Isaiah 9.1-7

Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 208

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

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. 224

GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13.14

Gatherings

Home Fellowship Group is on break. The group will resume its study of Romans January 17. Everyone is invited!

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: "For Unto Us a King Is Born" (Isaiah 9.1-7)

Prayer Concerns

Chris & Mary Granberry (White Swan): Pray for the Granberrys and the Sacred Road team as they minister to the Yakama people, that God uses them to convey the love of Christ to many, and that through their witness a great number on the reservation come to know the Savior and grow in him.

I Will Sing: David prayed, "I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress" (Ps 59.16). In addition to strength and healing, pray that the hearts of *Paul Carmichael, Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Nancy Hoeft, Judie Jud, Tom Manning, Rick & Vickie Myers* and *Danielle Parker* might be tuned to sing of the Lord's steadfast love and faithfulness each and every day.

The Persecuted Church: There are 367,000 Christians out of 2.7 million people in *Qatar*. Converts from Islam face discrimination and great danger, even from their own families, since conversion is seen as betrayal. Pray that the church would continue to gather and be strengthened spiritually and in perseverance. Pray for those who are imprisoned, that they would know God's protection and encouragement. And pray for converts who live in fear of their families learning of their decision.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church: Pray for Rev. Jeff Glover, our church planter in Soldotna, AK as he shepherds the flock and trains men as officers who will help him do the same.

Announcements

Pastor Ron will be on vacation this week. He will be back in the office on January 4.

Sunday School resumes January 8.

Daily Bible Reading: Reading through the Bible regularly is vital to our spiritual growth. Many of us will be doing so again in 2023 using M'Cheyne's daily schedule, which is available on the literature table. Please consider joining us.

Explanation of Cover Symbol

In the Greek language of the early Christian era abbreviations were typically the first and last letters of words, often with a superscription to indicate the missing letters. IC is a standard abbreviation of IHCOYC, the Greek "Jesus," XC the abbreviation of XPICTOC, "Christ"; and NIKΑ means "He conquers." The symbol then reads, "Jesus Christ Conquers by the Cross" or "Jesus Christ, Victor."