

LORD'S DAY
February 12, 2023



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

Heavenly Father, Giver and Sustainer of all life: Help us, as we draw near, to love and adore and worship you with all that we are and all that we have to offer, for you alone are worthy. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 98.1-4

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 44

HOW GREAT THOU ART

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O Lord God, the heavens declare your glory, the earth your riches. We thank you for the treasures given us in Jesus; for the unclouded revelation of him in your Word, where we behold his character, grace and glory, as well as his sufferings, death and resurrection. We come to you in his all-prevailing name, with nothing of our own to plead: no works, no worthiness, no promises. We are often straying, often knowingly opposing your authority, often abusing your goodness. Impress us deeply with a sense of your presence; that you are about our paths, our ways, our lying down, and our end. Subdue in us the love of sin and let us know the need of renewal as well as forgiveness; that we may wholeheartedly serve and enjoy you forever. This we ask in Christ's name. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 130.3-7

*Song of Praise to Christ

Hymn No. 170

FAIREST LORD JESUS

Confession of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

—The Apostles' Creed¹

¹ Although not written by the apostles, the Apostles' Creed is a concise summary of their teachings. It originated as a baptismal confession, probably in the second century, and developed into its present form by the sixth or seventh century.

Prayer for the Church and the World

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Sermon

“Groans, Glory, and God’s Unchangeable Love”

Romans 8.18-39

Rev. Ron Gonzales

*Song of Response

Hymn No. 701

REDEEMED, HOW I LOVE TO PROCLAIM IT!

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 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.

***Song of Thanksgiving**

A Debtor to Mercy Alone

words Augustus M Toplady, 1740-1778 mOD.
music Eileen Davis 2000



1. A debt - or to mer - cy a - lone, of cov - e - nant mer - cy I sing; nor
2. The work which his - good - ness be - gan, the arm of his strength will - com - plete; his
3. My name from the palms of his hands e - ter - ni - ty will not e - raise; im -



fear with your righ - teous - ness on, my per - son and of - f'ring to bring. The
prom - ise is yea and a - men, and nev - er was for - feit - ed yet. Things
pressed on his heart it re - mains, in marks of in - del - i - ble grace. Yes,



ter - rors of law and of God with me can have noth - ing to do; my
fu - ture, nor things that are now, nor all things be - low or - a - bove, can
I to the end shall en - dure, as sure as the ear - nest is giv'n; more



Sav - ior's o - be - dience and blood hide all my trans - gres - sions from view.
make him his pur - pose for - go, or sev - er my soul from his love.
hap - py, but not more se - cure, the glo - ri - fied spir - its in heav'n.

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

Benediction

Numbers 6.24-26

Gatherings

Covenant Women: Continuing with their small group model, the women are reading through Ezra and Nehemiah this winter. If you are interested in doing so as well, grab a study from the literature table, and let Jenni Early or Chris McBean know if you are looking for a partner or a group.

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: "Groans, Glory, and God's Unchangeable Love" (Romans 8.18-39)

Prayer Concerns

Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church: Rev. Craig Harris is planting a church in Yakima. Pray for God's blessing as he gives himself to this work, and that the Lord leads him to many who are hungry to hear and respond to the gospel.

Rev. 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 Be With You: The LORD said to Israel, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you" (Is 43.1-2). In addition to strength and healing, pray that this week *Paul Carmichael, Sandy Cupolillo, Mike Givens, Nancy Hoeft, Judie Jud, Tom Manning, Rick & Vickie Myers* and *Dani Parker* know the comforting presence of the LORD.

The Persecuted Church: There are only 23,000 Christians out of 11.7 million people in *Tunisia*, an Islamic country in north Africa where, because of their faith, many Christians suffer job loss, family abandonment, and abuse. As a result, most converts choose to hide their faith from others. Pray that these believers know God's presence in their daily lives as they navigate Islamic society. Pray for Christian converts to grow spiritually. And pray that God raises up godly men to plant churches and to help strengthen believers in the truth.

Turkey & Syria: Pray for those affected by the devastating earthquakes that struck southeastern Turkey this week. Pray for comfort, protection, and provision. And pray for the rescue efforts that extend to the surrounding region.

Announcements

Visitors: Welcome to Covenant! We are glad you are here and would love to have you join us for some refreshments and fellowship following the service.

Explanation of 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.