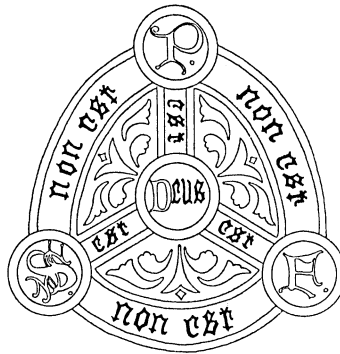


LORD'S DAY

May 21, 2023



COVENANT

— PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH —

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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-DRAWING NEAR TO GOD-

Welcome and Silent Prayer

O God, teach me to seek you, and reveal yourself to me when I do, for I cannot seek you unless you first teach me, nor find you unless you first reveal yourself to me. Let me seek you in longing, and long for you in seeking. Let me find you in love, and love you in finding.

—Ambrose of Milan, AD 339-397

***Call to Worship**

1 Chronicles 29.10-13

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 38

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 100

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!

-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**

Hymn No. 176

HAIL, THOU ONCE DISPISED 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.

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

“Honoring a Fellow Servant”

Romans 14.1-23

Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 356

HOW BEAUTIFUL THE SIGHT

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 SACRAMENT-

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. 523

MY HOPE IS IN THE LORD

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13.14

Gatherings

Covenant Women will meet monthly this summer for a Book Club. On June 21 they will discuss *Popes and Feminists: How the Reformation Frees Women from Feminism*; on July 26 they will discuss *The Screwtape Letters*; and on August 23 they will discuss *Nine Day Queen of England: Lady Jane Grey*. They will meet at the church from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, and there are two copies of each book in the church library if you want to borrow one.

Home Fellowship Group, which meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, is beginning a study of Galatians in June, led by Chad Leinweber and Paul Carmichael. The group meets from 6:00 to 7:30 PM, at the Leinwebers', and all are 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 coffee hour room, to pray for one another, for the kingdom, and the world. Please join us.

Sermon Notes: "Honoring a Fellow Servant" (Romans 14.1-23)

Prayer Concerns

Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church: Pray for Rev. Craig Harris, our church planter in Yakima, that the Lord strengthens and uses him as he reaches out with Christ's love 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.

The Persecuted Church: There are 15 million Christians out of 25 million people living in *Cameroon*. Though a majority Christian nation, the country is divided, with parts of it dominated by Islam. In these regions, converting to Christianity carries significant risk of violence or ostracism from family and community. And northern Cameroon is subject to attacks by Boko Haram, the Islamic extremist group that target Christians. Pray for those facing such threats because of their faith, and especially for those believed to be opposing the government; they are often tortured and killed.

A Shield & Great Reward: When Abram was tempted to doubt, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "Do not be afraid Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward" (Gen 15.1). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Sandy Cupolillo, Nancy Hoeft, Judie Jud, Tom Manning, Rick & Vickie Myers* and *Dani Parker* might know the LORD as their protector and the great satisfier of their souls.

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 Shield of the Holy Trinity is frequently found in stained glass windows of medieval churches. This emblem expresses the Christian doctrine of the triunity of Almighty God, a truth taught in Scripture and affirmed by the Council of Constantinople in AD 381.