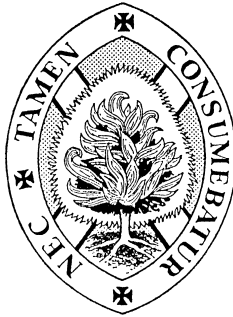


LORD'S DAY

January 4, 2015



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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*Upon entering the sanctuary please maintain silence for
the sake of 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

Father, your mercies have brought us
to the dawn of another Lord's Day.
Vain will be its gift unless we know you,
love you, and admire you more fully.
Allow us to do so, O Lord,
knowing that the ability to worship
is not in us, but in your enabling love.
Lead us and tend us by the hand
of the Good Shepherd himself. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 22.23-24

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 9

ALL YOU THAT FEAR JEHOVAH'S NAME

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O LORD, our God, who brought his people out of Egypt,
Out of the land of slavery and by Christ delivered us from sin:
You have been faithful to keep all the promises of your covenant.
But we, O Lord, have been a stiff-necked people who love unfaithfulness.
We have loved other gods before you and have become their servants.
We have not worshiped you in spirit and truth and so have mocked your glory.
We have used your name in vain and profaned your reputation on earth.
We have desecrated your Sabbath because we have not trusted you to give us rest.
We have not honored our father and mother and so have proved ourselves rebels.
We have hated our neighbors and murdered them in our hearts.
We have made adulterers of ourselves in the lust of our eyes or deeds of our flesh.
We have stolen honor and wealth and privileges that are not ours.
We have lied and falsely accused for we love gossip more than truth.
We have coveted blessings you wisely and righteously gave to others.
O Lord have mercy on us for we have not kept your law.
In Jesus Name. Amen.

—Based on the Ten Commandments

Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 32.1-2, 5

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 164

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

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-

Scripture Lesson

1 Timothy 3.1-7

Sermon

“The Character and Work of Elders”

Rev. Ron Gonzales

*Song of Response

Pour Out Your Spirit

words James Montgomery, 1771-1854
mod. 2012

music Joseph Barnby, 1872



1. Pour out your Spir - it from on high; Dear Lord, your or - dained
2. Wis - dom and zeal and faith im - part, firm - ness with meek - ness,
3. To watch and pray, and nev - er faint; by day and night strict
4. Then when their work is fin - ished here, in hum - ble hope their



serv - ants bless; gra - ces and gifts to each sup - ply, and
from a - bove, to bear your peo - ple on their heart, and
guard to keep; to warn the sin - ner, cheer the saint, nour -
charge re - sign, when the Chief Shep - herd shall ap - pear, then



clothe them with your right - eous - ness. Gra - ces and gifts to
love the souls whom you have loved; to bear your peo - ple
ish your lambs, and feed your sheep; to warn the sin - ner,
may they be with glo - ry crowned. When the Chief Shep - herd



each sup - ply, and clothe them with your right - eous - ness.
on their heart, and love the souls whom you have loved.
cheer the saint, nour - ish your lambs, and feed your sheep.
shall ap - pear, then may they be with glo - ry crowned.

Worship of God with Tithes and Offering

**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

Confession of Faith

How does Christ execute the office of a king?

**Christ executes the office of a king, in calling out of the world a people to himself;
and giving them officers, laws, and censures, by which he visibly governs them;
in bestowing saving grace on his elect,
rewarding their obedience, and correcting them for their sins,
preserving and supporting them under all their temptations and sufferings;
restraining and overcoming all their enemies,
and powerfully ordering all things for his own glory, and their good.**

—The Westminster Larger Catechism, No. 45

-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, though you may commune at any time) and partaking of the bread and the cup. Wine is served in the inner ring of each tray; grape juice in the outer ring. 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. 55

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

***Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13.14

Postlude and Silent Prayer

Eternal God,
who makes all things new, and abides forever the same:
Grant us to begin this new year in your faith,
and to continue it in your favor;
that, being guided in all our doings,
and guarded in all our days,
we may spend our lives in your service,
and finally, by your grace,
attain the glory of everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Please stand if able

Our Nursery Helpers

Worship

Today: Katie Leinweber & Nicole Miller

Next Week: Maggie Buob & Abigail Carpenter

Sunday School:

Today: Sam Schroeder & Alysia Buob

Next Week: Peter Early & Judie Jud

Weekly Gatherings

Home Fellowship Group, is on break for the holidays. It will resume January 14 and meets on all but first Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 PM, at Jack and Pat Lilly's (1607 Evergreen St), for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. All are invited.

Men's Group resumes its study of Genesis this Thursday, at 6:00 AM, at Pastor Ron's office. All men are invited.

Women's Group resumes its study of 1 Peter this Friday, at 1:00 PM, at the church. If you would like to learn more please contact Cherry Gonzales. All women are invited.

Prayer Concerns

The Braendleins: Praise God for sustained health. Pray that the family, and especially the children, continue to be protected during this cold and flu season.

Brian & Gail Frey (RUF) are readying for the start of the spring semester at Boise State. Pray for their leadership of RUF, for Brian's ministry of teaching and discipleship, and that through them and their students many will hear and respond to the gospel.

Dory Milistefr continues to improve, following a recent bout with pneumonia. Pray that she returns to full strength and that she knows God's presence during this time.

Dale Miller (Sandy's brother) is undergoing chemo- and radiation therapy. Pray that the treatments accomplish their purpose and that God sustains and strengthens Dale, physically and spiritually.

Sandy Miller is looking for work. Pray for God's strength, leading, and provision.

Bret Reller is currently in Afghanistan and will deploy to Syria and Iraq later this year. Pray for his safety and the safety of those serving with him, as well as for the success of their mission.

Announcements

Birthdays this Week:

January 6 Adam Little

Daily Bible Reading. Reading through the Bible regularly is a vital part of our spiritual growth. Pastor Ron is doing so again in 2015, using Robert Murray M'Cheyne's daily schedule, which can be found on the literature table. Please consider joining him.

First Wednesday: Join us for our monthly fellowship dinner, this Wednesday at 6:00 PM. If your last name begins with A-K, please bring soup; L-Z, bring a main dish.

Officer Nominations: The Session believes that the church would benefit from additional officers and is therefore inviting members to prayerfully consider nominating other male members to serve as elders or deacons. Nominations can be made by letter between January 11 and February 11.

Sunday School resumes today with classes for all ages.

Explanation of 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."