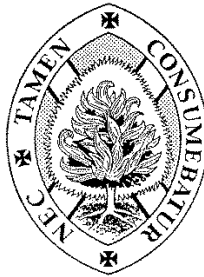


LORD'S DAY
January 24, 2016



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

All-knowing and all-caring God,
we gather this day drained by another week.
We are like a parched desert, empty and in need of replenishment.
Visit us with your presence, saturate us with your Spirit,
and bathe us in your streams of living water,
that our lives might acknowledge and worship you
to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ. Amen.

—based on John 4.13-14; 7.37-38

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 93.1-5

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 75

O FATHER, YOU ARE SOVEREIGN

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

Eternal and Almighty Father,
we acknowledge and confess before your holy majesty
that we are poor sinners, prone to evil,
who transgress without end your holy law,
and have therefore drawn upon ourselves condemnation and death.

But, O Lord, we repent and deplore our offenses.
We condemn ourselves and our evil ways.
Have compassion on us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ.
And in removing our guilt,
grant us the daily increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit,
so that acknowledging our unrighteousness,
we may be touched with the sorrow that works true repentance,
and that your Spirit, putting to death sin,
may produce in us the fruits of holiness,
which are well pleasing in your sight.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 1.21-22

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 299

LOOK, YE SAINTS, THE SIGHT IS GLORIOUS

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

Isaiah 63.15-64.12

Sermon

“The Descent of God, Our Only Hope”

Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 497

I NEED THEE, PRECIOUS JESUS

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

For what do we pray in the second petition?

**In the second petition, which is, “Thy kingdom come,”
we pray that Satan’s kingdom may be destroyed,
and that the kingdom of grace may be advanced,
ourselves and others brought into it, and kept in it,
and that the kingdom of glory may be hastened.**

—The Westminster Shorter Catechism, No. 102

—OBSERVING THE SACRAMENT—

The Lord's Supper

We celebrate the Lord's Supper by coming forward 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.

*Song of Thanksgiving

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Words and Music by Stuart Townend 1995
CCLI# 2415226

1. How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how vast be - yond all meas - ure, that
2. Be - hold the Man up - on a cross, my sin up - on His shoul - ders; a -
3. I will not boast in an - y - thing, no gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom; but

He should give His on - ly Son to make a wretch His treas - ure. How
shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call out a - mong the scoff - ers. It
I will boast in Je - sus Christ, His death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why

great the pain of sear - ing loss; the Fa - ther turns His face a - way, as
was my sin that held Him there un - til it was ac - com - plished; His
should I gain from His re - ward? I can - not give an an - swer. But

wounds which mar the Cho - sen One bring man - y sons to glo - ry.
dy - ing breath has brought me life, I know that it is fin - ished.
this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ran - som.

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

***Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13.14

Postlude and Silent Prayer

God of love,
as in Jesus Christ you gave yourself to us,
so may we give ourselves to you,
living according to your holy will.
Keep our feet firmly in the way
where Christ leads us;
help our lips speak the truth
that Christ teaches us;
fill our bodies with the life
that is Christ within us.
In his holy name we pray. Amen.

*Please stand if able

Our Nursery Helpers

Worship

Today: TBA

Next Week: TBA

Sunday School

Today: Peter & Jenni Early

Next Week: Peter & Jenni Early

Sermon Notes: "The Descent of God, Our Only Hope" (Isaiah 63.15-64.12)

1. Longing: the love of God (63.15-16)
2. Lamentation: our hardened hearts (63.17-19)
3. Longing: the presence of God (64.1-5a)
4. Lamentation: our long-standing sins (64.5b-7)
5. Longing: the touch of God (64.8-9)
6. Appeal: the unrestrained God (64.10-12)

Prayer Concerns

Foster Child: Pastor Ron and Cherry's nephew and his wife have foster-parented an infant this past year that they are trying to adopt. This week they learned that the baby's aunt is also trying to gain custody of him. Pray that the courts do what is best for the child, and that God holds close those whose hearts might so easily be broken.

The Pacific Northwest Presbytery meets this Thursday and Friday in Bellingham. Pray for the ministers and elders attending, that God will grant wisdom, strength, and refreshment as they seek him on behalf of our churches.

Bret Reller arrived in Afghanistan this week, and is expected to be there for six months. 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:

Eric Carpenter January 27

Financial Update: The December financial report has been posted to the church website under "Member Portal." If you would like to see it and need the password, please let Jacob Schroeder know. He would be happy to give it to you.

A Ladies Winter Bible Study will be discussing Ecclesiastes, which is a combination of wisdom and folly "under the sun." The group meets Saturdays, from 9:30 to 11:00 AM, at the church, and all are welcome. For more information, see Cherry Gonzales.

Visitors: Welcome to Covenant! We are glad you are here and invite you to join us downstairs, following the service, for refreshments, fellowship and, if your schedule permits, our Sunday School hour.

Weekly Gatherings

The Leinweber's Home Fellowship Group meets at their home on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Dinner is provided, children are welcome, and the group is a lot of fun!

The Men's Group is not meeting this week but will resume February 4. The group meets on Thursdays, from 6:00 to 7:30 AM, at Pastor Ron's office, for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. The men are currently studying Genesis and all are welcome.

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."