

# **The Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**March 22, 2015**



**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America*

**Dr. Ron Gonzales, Minister**

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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 in heaven, we pray that you will in mercy look down upon us,  
your family, for whom the Lord Jesus was willing to be betrayed,  
given up into the hands of wicked men, and suffer death on the cross.  
Grant us the desires of our hearts this Lord's Day morning:  
to see you in your majesty and glory,  
to be renewed in our experience of your grace and love,  
and to hear your voice speaking in your Word.  
Help us, by your Spirit,  
to make a genuine and heartfelt offering of our praise,  
our love and ourselves to you.  
Receive pleasure, this day, from your grateful people;  
for we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

### **\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 99:1-5, 9

### **\*Prayer of Adoration**

### **\*Song of Praise to God**

*Hymn No. 457*

*COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING*

## **-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*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Isaiah 53:4-6

### **\*Song of Praise to Christ**

*Hymn No. 295*

*CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS*

### **Prayer for the Church and the World**

## **-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-**

**Scripture Lesson**

1 John 2:12-17

**Sermon**

“Don’t Waste Your Life”  
Elder Chad Leinweber

**\*Song of Response**

*Hymn No. 642*

*BE THOU MY VISION*

**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**

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 Apostle's Creed —

## **\*Song of Thanksgiving**

*Hymn No. 679*

*'TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS*

## **-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-**

### **\*Benediction**

Numbers 6:24-26

### **Postlude and Silent Prayer**

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness,  
and put on the armor of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility;  
that in the last day,  
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal,  
through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

\*Please stand if able

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### **Our Nursery Helpers**

Worship

*Today:* Nicole Miller & Emily Leinweber      *Next Week:* Judie Jud & Olivia Buob

### **Weekly Gatherings**

*Home Fellowship Group* resumes this Wednesday, March 25, at 7:00 PM, at Jack and Pat Lilly's (1607 Evergreen St), for fellowship, prayer, and to study Isaiah 12:1-6.

*Men's Group* resumes its study of Genesis this Thursday, March 26 at 6:00 AM, at Pastor Ron's office.

## **Prayer Concerns**

*Braendleins* – that the family may stay strong and healthy and continue to resist the cold and flus that go around during this season.

*Karl Hedine* continues chemotherapy treatments. Pray for minimal side-effects, that the treatments prove effective in arresting any cancer cells that may still exist, and that Karl and the family know God's strength and presence.

*Del Klicker* is at St. Mary's rehab after injuring his hip. Pray that the pain can be managed and that he is kept in God's peace.

*Elder Chad Leinweber* is preaching today in Pastor Ron's absence. Pray for the congregation as we receive the word Chad has prepared for us – that we will worship God in spirit and truth.

*Tom & Melissa Manning* (Jordan) wrote: giving thanks for the salvation of Amal, a twenty-nine year old woman who fled Sudan after being severely beaten. The Lord led her to Annour, where both her physical and spiritual needs were cared for. Praise God for saving her, and pray that he continues to use the Mannings in the lives of many who are living in darkness.

*Bret Reller* is currently serving in Afghanistan. Pray for his safety and the safety of those serving with him, as well as for the success of their mission. Pray for *Luke Hedine* and *Nick Quarto*, also serving in the military and away from home.

Pray God will soften hearts and spread the gospel light among many who attend church only on Christmas or Easter.

## **Announcements**

### *Birthdays this Week:*

March 26	Renee Hedine
March 26	Lilyan Adamson

*Good Friday Service:* Please join us April 3, from 6:00 to 7:00 PM, as we reflect on the passion and death of Christ in preparation for our celebration of Easter.

*Pastor Ron & Cherry* return from vacation on Tuesday, March 24. Should you have a need before then, please feel free to call one of the elders. They would be happy to help.

*Sunday School* is on break until April 12, but the Coffee Hour continues unabated. Please join us for this time of fellowship each Lord's Day.

*Visitors:* Welcome to Covenant! We are glad you are here and invite you to join us downstairs, following the service, for some refreshments and a time of fellowship

### **Explanation of Cover Symbol**

The anchor is an ancient Christian symbol for hope. It is derived from Hebrews 6.19: "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul..." When combined with a cross it makes plain that Christian hope is in Christ and His redemption. The symbol was frequently used in this sense in the catacombs of ancient Rome.