

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2017



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

Great are you, O Lord, and highly to be praised; great is your power and your wisdom immeasurable. We desire to praise you, human beings carrying the witness of our sin and the knowledge that you resist the proud. Stir us, we pray, to take pleasure in praising you, because you have made us for yourself and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. Amen.

— Adapted from Augustine's *Confessions*

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 105.1-3

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 57

HALLELUJAH, PRAISE JEHOVAH, O MY SOUL

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O Lord, no day of our lives has passed that has not proved us guilty in your sight. Prayers have been uttered from prayerless hearts. Praise has often been praiseless sound. Our best services are filthy rags. All things in us call for our rejection, yet all things in Christ plead our acceptance. Grant us to hear your voice assuring us that by your stripes we are healed; that you were bruised for our iniquities, that you became sin for us that we might become righteous in you. Grant that by resting in your righteousness we may hereafter walk in newness of life and run hard after your commandments; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin

Song of Praise to Christ*Glory to God on High!**

words James Allen, 1761
music Felice de Giardini, 1769

1. Glo - ry to God on high! Let earth and skies re -
 2. Je - sus, our Lord and God, Bore sin's tre - men - dous
 • 3. While they a - round the throne Cheer - ful - ly join in
 4. Join all ye ran - som'd race, Our ho - ly Lord to
 • 5. What though we change our place, Yet we shall nev - er
 6. Then let the hosts a - bove, In realms of end - less

ply load, Praise ye His name: His love and grace a - dore, Who all our
 • one, Praise ye His name: Tell what His arm hath done, What spoils from
 • bless; Prais - ing His name: Those who have felt His blood Seal - ing their
 • cease Prais - ing His name; In Him we will re - joice, And make a
 love, Praise His dear name; To Him our songs we bring, Hail Him our
 To Him a - scribed now be Hon - our and

sor - rows bore, Sing a - loud ev - er - more, Wor - thy the Lambl
 death he won: Sing His great name a - lone: Wor - thy the Lambl
 • peace with God, Sound His dear fame a - broad: Wor - thy the Lambl
 joy - ful noise, Shout - ing with heart and voice, Wor - thy the Lambl
 • gra - cious King, And with - out ceas - ing sing, Wor - thy the Lambl
 maj - es - ty; Through all e - ter - ni - ty: Wor - thy the Lambl

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

Psalm 16.1-11

Sermon

“An Easter Psalm”

Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 663

O GOD ETERNAL, YOU ARE MY GOD!

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

Confession of Faith

How is Christ exalted in His sitting at the right hand of God?

Christ is exalted in His sitting at the right hand of God, in that as God-man He is advanced to the highest favor with God the Father, with all fullness of joy, glory, and power over all things in heaven and earth; and does gather and defend His church, and subdue their enemies; furnishes His ministers and people with gifts and graces, and makes intercession for them.

—The Westminster Larger Catechism, No. 54

-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 Church. By eating the bread and drinking of the cup, you are admitting 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. 308

JESUS PAID IT ALL

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

***Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13.14

Postlude and Silent Prayer

Grant us, O Lord, each day, to hunger for you more than anything else; and in so doing to discover the life for which we were created. Amen.

*Please stand if able

Our Nursery Helpers

Worship

Today: Abigail & Annie Carpenter

Next Week: Hannah Alden

Gatherings

Kids' Quest is a catechism class for children, ages 5 through elementary grades, taught by Pastor Ron. It meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month (September through May), from 3:30 to 4:45 PM, at the church.

The Leinweber Home Fellowship Group, led by Chad, meets at the Leinweber's (60 Cranbrook Ln) on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. They are considering the Bible's teaching on parenting and all (including children) are welcome.

The Martin Home Fellowship Group, led by Pastor Ron, meets at Kathy Martin's (213 Chapra St), the first and third Tuesdays of each month, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. They are studying the Psalms and all are welcome.

The Men's Group meets Wednesdays, from 6:00 to 7:30 AM, at Pastor Ron's office, for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. They are studying Proverbs and all men are invited.

The Women's Group, led by Cherry Gonzales, meets Saturdays, from 9:30 to 11:00 AM, for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. They are studying Romans and all women are invited. Please talk to Cherry for more information.

Prayer Meeting: We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary, to pray for one another, the kingdom, and our world. Please join us.

Sermon Notes: "An Easter Psalm" (Psalm 16.1-11)

1. David's Commitment (vv. 1-3)

2. David's Contentment (vv. 4-8)

3. David's Confidence (vv. 9-11)

Prayer Concerns

Andrew Allen (our church planter in Soldotna, AK) is battling cancer. Pray the treatment he is receiving is effective, and that he and Amy know God's peace during this time.

Brian & Gail Frey (RUF): Pray for Brian as he shares the gospel and disciples students at Boise State University; that God uses him and the ministry of RUF to bring eternal life and spiritual growth to many.

Riley Granberry (Chris's nephew) continues his battle with brain cancer. Pray for peace and strength as he undergoes treatment, as well as for healing.

Announcements

Birthdays this Week:

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|----------|----------------|
| March 26 | Lilyan Adamson |
| March 29 | Jacob Early |
| March 30 | Bob McLean |
| March 31 | Bret Reller |

Directory Update: We will soon update our church directory. If you would like to be in it or if something (e.g., phone number or email address) has changed since its last printing, please let the church office know.

Good Friday Service: Please join us April 14, from 6:00 to 7:00 PM, as we reflect on the passion and death of Christ, in preparation for Easter.

Pot-providence: Please join us downstairs, following this morning's worship service, for a fellowship brunch.

Sunday School is on break this month. Classes for all ages resume next Sunday.

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."