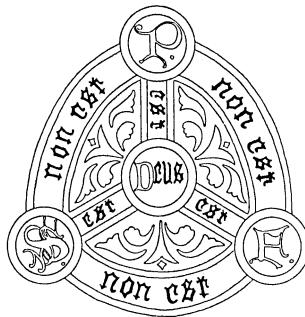


# LORD'S DAY

April 12, 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**

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 96.1-4

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

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

*Hymn No. 53*

*PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY*

## -HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

### **Confession of Sin**

Heavenly Father, what could move hearts like ours,  
which have your Son, yet still lack confidence?  
Would another sacrifice convince the guilty of your grace?  
Would health convince the ailing of your care?  
Would more money convince the struggling of your kindness?  
Would a miracle convince the doubter that you hear prayers?  
O God, our sin is ever before you.  
You gave your own Son, yet we still doubt you.  
He is our consolation, but trouble makes us question your care;  
our shield, but persecution makes us slow to speak your name;  
our provision, but hunger makes us neglect your kingdom;  
our atonement, but death makes us fear your judgment.  
What more could be given to a people?  
What more could be done?  
Forgive us our folly; forgive us our sins  
and give us confidence in the gift of your Son,  
in whose name we pray. Amen.

*Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Romans 8.31-32

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

*Hymn No. 159*

*O SAVIOR, PRECIOUS SAVIOR*

## **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 13.1-14.27

### **Sermon**

“The Whisper of Ultimacy”

Rev. Ron Gonzales

### **\*Song of Response**

*Hymn No. 75*

*O FATHER, YOU ARE SOVEREIGN*

## 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

What shall be done to the righteous at the day of judgment?

At the day of judgment,  
the righteous, being caught up to Christ in the clouds,  
shall be set on his right hand, and, there openly acknowledged and acquitted,  
shall join with him in the judging of wicked angels and men;  
and shall be received into heaven,  
where they shall be fully and forever freed from all sin and misery;  
filled with inconceivable joy;  
made perfectly holy and happy both in body and soul,  
in the company of innumerable saints and angels,  
but especially in the immediate vision and fruition of God the Father,  
of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit, to all eternity.  
And this is the perfect and full communion that the members of the invisible  
church shall enjoy with Christ in glory, at the resurrection and day of judgment.

— The Westminster Larger Catechism, No. 90

## -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 church. By eating the bread and drinking 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. 691*

*IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL*

## **-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:* Renee Hedine & Olivia Buob

*Next Week:* Nicole Miller & Annie Carpenter

#### **Sunday School**

*Today:* Eileen Davis & Sam Schroeder

*Next Week:* Peter & Jenni Early

### **Financial Update**

#### March General Fund

Congregational Giving	\$ 9,173
Outside Giving	<u>715</u>
Total Income	\$ 9,888

#### Year-to-Date<sup>1</sup> General Fund

Congregational Giving	\$87,797
Outside Giving	<u>8,405</u>
Total Income	\$96,202

Budgeted Expenses	\$ 8,283
Actual Expenses	\$ 8,178

Budgeted Expenses	\$91,113
Actual Expenses	\$91,131

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<sup>1</sup> Our fiscal year runs May 1 through April 30.

## Prayer Concerns

*John Dooley (Pastor Ron's cousin's husband) began chemotherapy this week for stage four cancer. Pray that the treatments are effective in arresting the cancer and that God uses this battle to draw John and Debbie to himself.*

*Karl Hedine: Pray that the chemotherapy is successful in arresting any cancer cells that remain, that Karl's body is able to handle the treatments, and that he and Renee are kept in God's peace.*

*Del Klicker continues to recover at home from his recent fall. Pray that his hip heals properly and that he navigates life on crutches safely during his convalescence.*

*Alister & Sarah Torrens (Ukraine): Pray for the Torrens as they continue their work in Kiev; that God uses them to strengthen the church both there, and through Alister's ministry at the seminary, throughout eastern Europe.*

## Weekly Gatherings

*Home Fellowship Group* meets on all but first Wednesdays, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, at Jack and Pat Lilly's (1607 Evergreen St), for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. This week the group will be studying Isaiah 14.24-16.14. All are invited.

*Men's Group* is studying Genesis on Thursdays, at 6:00 AM, at Pastor Ron's office. All men are welcome.

## Announcements

### *Birthdays this Week:*

April 18 Kirk Alden

*Session Meeting:* The elders are meeting this Thursday, at 6:30 PM at Pastor Ron's office, to pray for and conduct the business of the church. Pray for them as they do, and be sure to let them know how they can pray for you.

*Sunday School* resumes today, following the Coffee Hour, with classes for all ages. Please join us.

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

## 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.