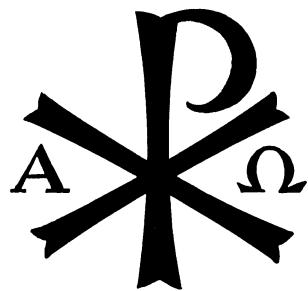


# LORD'S DAY

August 6, 2017



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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*Upon entering, please be sensitive to those preparing for worship,  
and make sure all electronic devices are turned off or set to silent mode.*

## **-DRAWING NEAR TO GOD-**

### **Welcome and Silent Prayer**

Lord God Almighty, King of glory and love eternal, you are worthy at all times to receive adoration, praise, and blessing: Help us to praise you now for sending your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, for whom our hearts wait, and to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, be honor and dominion, now and forever. Amen.

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

Psalm 135.1-3

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

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

*Hymn No. 12*

*EXALT THE LORD, HIS PRAISE PROCLAIM*

## **-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-**

### **Confession of Sin**

O Lord, our soul is like a house, small for you to enter, but we pray that you will enlarge it. It is in ruins, but we ask you to remake it. It contains much that you will not be pleased to see; this we know and do not hide. But to whom can we cry except you? Forgive us, O Lord. Cleanse us from our sins, our secret sins. What wretches we are! In your mercy, tell us what you are to us. "Say to my soul, 'I am your salvation'" (Ps 35.3)! Come, O God, and stir our hearts. Call us back to yourself. Kindle your fire in us and carry us away. Be our fire and our sweetness. Let us love you and hasten to your side; in Jesus' name. Amen.

—Adapted from Augustine's *Confessions*

*Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin*

**\*Song of Praise to Christ**

*Hymn No. 159*

*O SAVIOR, PRECIOUS SAVIOR*

**-WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS-**

**Reception of New Members**

Sandy Cupolillo, and Rick and Vickie Myers

Membership Vows

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope except in His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to strive for its purity and peace?

Prayer

**-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-**

**Gospel Reading**

Matthew 17.1-9

**Scripture Lesson**

2 Peter 1.16-21

**Sermon**

“A More Sure Word”

Rev. Shawn Riley

**\*Song of Response**

*Hymn No. 147*

*O GOD OF LIGHT, YOUR WORD, A LAMP UNFAILING*

**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**

Can true believers be infallibly assured that they are in the estate of grace, and that they shall persevere in it to salvation?

Such as truly believe in Christ, and endeavor to walk in all good conscience before Him, may—without extraordinary revelation, by faith grounded on the truth of God’s promises, and by the Spirit enabling them to discern in themselves those graces to which the promises of life are made, and bearing witness with their spirits that they are the children of God—be infallibly assured that they are in the estate of grace, and shall persevere in it to salvation.

—The Westminster Larger Catechism, No. 80

## **-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. 481*

*TURN YOUR EYES UPON JESUS*

## -GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

**\*Benediction**

Numbers 6.24-26

### **Postlude and Silent Prayer**

O God, who on the holy mount didst reveal to chosen witnesses thy well-beloved Son wonderfully transfigured: Mercifully grant unto us such a vision of his divine majesty, that we, being purified and strengthened by thy grace, may be transformed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*Please stand if able.

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### **Our Nursery Helpers**

Worship

*Today:* Emily and Jackson Leinweber

*Next Week:* Abigail and Annie Carpenter

### **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* is taking a break for the summer. It will resume in September.

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

*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: "A More Sure Word" (2 Peter 1.16-21)**

## Prayer Concerns

*Rev. Andrew Allen* (Soldotna, AK): The medication Andrew has been taking in his battle with cancer has stopped working and his doctors are trying to find another treatment option. Pray they do, and that he and Amy know God's peace as they move forward.

*Robert Fastenow* remains at Park Manor. Pray his rehab is effective, and he is kept in God's peace.

*Riley Granberry* (Chris's nephew) continues his battle with cancer. Pray that he and his family know God's presence and peace.

*Alister & Sarah Torrens* (Ukraine): Pray for the Torrens as they minister in Kiev; that God protects their marriage and family, opens doors for the gospel, and uses Alister's teaching ministry at the seminary to strengthen the church in Ukraine and in Eastern Europe.

## Announcements

*Financial Update:* The June financial statement has been posted to the church website, on the Member Portal page. If you need the password, please let Jacob Schroeder know. He would be happy to give it to you.

*Picnic at the Park:* Please join us at Pioneer Park, following a brief Coffee Hour today, for a picnic and time to learn more about the Riley's new ministry in Northern California. Be sure to bring your lunch and a folding chair.

*Visitors:* Welcome to Covenant! We are glad you are here and would love to have you join us downstairs, following the service, for refreshments and fellowship.

### Explanation of Cover Symbol

The Chi Rho symbol is one of the most ancient Christian symbols. XP, the first two letters of the Greek "Christ," is an abbreviation of the name of the Lord. This symbol is often, as here, accompanied with other symbols, in this case "Alpha" and "Omega," the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. The symbol originates from Revelation 22.13: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End" (cf. Revelation 1.8, 17; 21.6). This particular symbol dates from the first few centuries of the Christian era and is often found on tombs.