

LORD'S DAY
September 17, 2017



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America
Dr. Ron Gonzales, Minister
Office: 5 W Alder St, Ste 237 Walla Walla, WA 99362
(509) 522-1020 Email: office@covenantwallawalla.org

*Upon entering the sanctuary, please be sensitive
to 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

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts this day such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed our every hope and desire; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***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

Heavenly Father, we come to you as your sons and your servants, grateful for the redemption that is ours in Jesus Christ, yet aware of our continuing need of your grace. We confess that we have sinned against you; we have broken your commandments; we have fallen short of your glory. We have not loved you with all our heart, mind, soul and strength, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We were born in sin and have continued to sin. We acknowledge our guilt and recognize that we rightly fall under your curse and judgment. Blot out our transgressions, wash away our iniquities, forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Have mercy on us, O Lord; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 12.1-2

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 185

MAJESTIC SWEETNESS SITS ENTHRONED

Prayer for the Church and the World

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Scripture Lesson

Galatians 4.21-31

Sermon

"Recovering Your Freedom in Christ"
Rev. Ron Gonzales

*Song of Response

Not What My Hands Have Done

words, Horatius Bonar, 1861;
music, Eileen Davis, 2002

1. Not what my hands have done can save my guilt - y
2. Your work a - lone, O Christ, can ease this weight of
3. Thy grace a - lone, O God, to me can par - don
4. I bless the Christ of God; I rest on love di -
5. I praise the God of grace; I trust his truth and

soul; Not what my toil - ing flesh has borne can make my spir - it
sin; thy blood a - lone, O Lamb of God, can give me peace with -
speak; thy pow'r a - lone, O Son of God, can this sore bond - age
vine; and with un - fal - t'ring lip and heart, I call this Sav - ior
might; he calls me his, I call him mine, my God, my joy, my

whole. Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God; Not
in Thy love to me, O God, not mine, O Lord, to thee, can
break. No oth - er work, save thine, no oth - er blood will do; no
mine. His cross dis - pels each doubt; I bur - y in his tomb each
light. 'Tis he who sav - eth me, and free - ly par - don gives; I

all my prayers and sighs and tears can bear my aw - ful load.
rid me of this dark un - rest, and set my spir - it free.
strength, save that which is di - vine, can bear me safe - ly through.
thought of un - be - lief and fear, each lin - g'ring shade of gloom.
love be - cause he lov - eth me, I live be - cause he lives.

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

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

—The Heidelberg Catechism, No. 1

-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 prayer 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.

***Song of Thanksgiving**

Hymn No. 705

I KNOW WHOM I HAVE BELIEVED

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

***Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13.14

Postlude and Silent Prayer

God of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, and always ready to forgive. Grant us the grace to renounce all evil and to cling to Christ that in every way we may prove to be your loving children, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Please stand if able.

Our Nursery Helpers

Worship

Today: Jenni Early

Next Week: Katie and Jackson Leinweber

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 Eric Carpenter and Steve Davis, meets at Kathy Martin's (213 Chapra St), the first and third Tuesdays of each month, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. They are studying Galatians 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 Ecclesiastes and all 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: "Recovering Your Freedom in Christ" (Galatians 4.21-31)

1. Rely on God's initiative.
2. Rejoice in God's power.
3. Root out whatever enslaves you.

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Andrew Allen (Soldotna, AK) has begun a new regimen of drug therapy in his battle with cancer. Pray they help, and that God directs Andrew and Amy regarding the church.

Robert Fastenow returned home this past week. Pray the transition goes well, that his body continues to heal, and that he is kept in God's peace.

Emmanuel & Abraham Logan (foster sons of Shawn and Jamie Riley) lost all of their belongings in an apartment fire. Pray for their needs as they try to rebuild their lives.

Natural Disasters: Pray for those who were affected by the hurricanes and wildfires; that the relief efforts are effective, and that those risking their lives are kept safe.

Collie Parsons began a new year this week as teaching leader of Bible Study Fellowship. Pray for wisdom and strength as she ministers to the women in our community.

Alister & Sarah Torrens (Kiev): Pray God protects the Torrens family, opens doors for the gospel, and uses Alister's teaching ministry to strengthen the church in Ukraine and in Eastern Europe.

Announcements

Birthdays this Week:

September 18 Luke Hedine

September 20 Vickie Myers

Classical Conversations is looking for volunteers to help in the nursery, Fridays, from 9:15 AM to 12:00 PM. Please contact Nicole Miller if you are interested.

Financial Update: The July financial statement has been posted to the church website, on the Member Portal page. If you need the password, please let Jacob Schroeder know.

Sunday School, with classes for all ages, resumes October 1, from 9:00 to 9:45 AM.

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 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.