LORD'S DAY January 14, 2018



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America Dr. Ron Gonzales, Minister

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Upon entering the sanctuary, please be sensitive to the congregation's preparation for worship, and please make sure all electronic devises are turned off or set to silent mode.

-DRAWING NEAR TO GOD-

Welcome and Silent Prayer

Lord of all power and might, author and Giver of all good things: as we gather in your presence, graft in our hearts the love of your Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and by your great mercy keep us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Call to Worship

Psalm 33.1-9

Prayer of Adoration

*Song of Praise to God

Hymn No. 30

OUR GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

Almighty God, we acknowledge our unworthiness of your grace and salvation. So little have we truly believed our Savior's conquest of sin and death for us! How often we forget that the Lord Jesus is sitting at your right hand, ruling over all things for the church, interceding for us, and will one day return to bring salvation to all who are waiting for him. How often we are weak or discouraged because we have forgotten that since Christ is in heaven we who belong to him are as much as seated with him there. How wrong of us that so great a Savior and so great a salvation should not produce in us greater love and firmer hope. Forgive us for such little faith, restore to us the joy of our salvation, and help us to walk worthy of it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon Micah 7.18-19

*Song of Praise to Christ

Hymn No. 156

O LORD, HOW SHALL I MEET YOU

Confession of Faith

What is God?

God is the creator and sustainer of everyone and everything. He is eternal, infinite, and unchangeable in his power and perfections, goodness and glory, wisdom, justice, and truth. Nothing happens except through him and by his will.¹

-The New City Catechism, No. 2

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

Song of Songs 1.2-4

Sermon

"Longing for the King" Rev. Ron Gonzales

¹ "There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God... But you, O lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness" (Ps 86.8-10, 15).



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

-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. 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. 642 BE THOU MY VISION

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

*Benediction Numbers 6.24-26

Postlude and Silent Prayer

Grant, O Lord, that the words we have heard this day, may, through your grace, be so grafted into our hearts, that they bring forth in us faith, hope, and especially love, to the honor and praise of your Name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Please stand if able.

Our Nursery Helpers

Sunday School

Today: TBA Next Week: TBA

Worship

Today: TBA Next Week: TBA

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 is on break until March or April.

The Martin Home Fellowship Group, led by Eric Carpenter and Steve Davis, meets at Kathy Martin's (213 Chapra St), the first and third Thursdays of the each month, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. They are studying the Song of Songs 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 currently studying Ecclesiastes and all are invited.

Prayer Meeting: We meet the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary, to pray for one another, the kingdom and our world. Please join us.

Sermon Notes: "Longing for the King" (Song of Songs 1.2-4)
1. For the enjoyment of His Love
2. For the excellence of His Name
3. For the Intimacy of His Company

Prayer Concerns

Andrew Allen: Pray for Andrew's battle with cancer and for his time with Amy and Katherine.

Christ Central Presbyterian Church: Pray for the Rev. Greg Joines, our church-planter in Corvallis; that God strengthens him and blesses the ministry of the Word, as he gives himself to the city and to the church he is planting.

Tom and Melissa Manning move to Turkey this week. Pray for their settling in, for the building of relationships, and for direction regarding the best way to reach out to the Syrian refugees around whom they will be living.

Bret Reller has been redeployed to the Middle East and will be there for six months. Pray for safety for him and his team, and for the success of their mission.

Announcements

Birthdays this Week:

January 14 Veronica Klicker January 16 Elijah Klicker January 18 Del Klicker

Session Meeting: The elders are meeting this Thursday, at 5:30 PM, at Pastor Ron's office, to pray for and conduct the business of the church. Pray for them as they do, and please be sure to let them know how they can pray for you.

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

Explanation of Cover Symbol

In the Greek language of the early Christian era abbreviations were typically the first and last letters of words, often with a superscription to indicate the missing letters. IC is a standard abbreviation of IHCOYC, the Greek "Jesus," XC the abbreviation of XPICTOC, "Christ"; and NIKA means "He conquers." The symbol then reads, "Jesus Christ Conquers by the Cross" or "Jesus Christ, Victor."