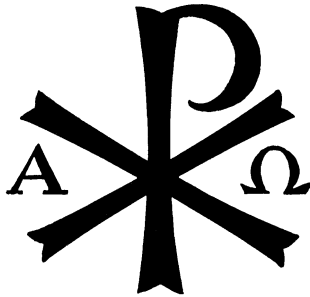


LORD'S DAY

January 28, 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 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 99.1-3

Prayer of Adoration

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 100

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed; not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires that we are unable to understand, but which are all known to you. We, therefore, flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we can delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 43.14a, 25

*Song of Praise to Christ

Hymn No. 324

CHRIST IS COMING!

Confession of Faith

How and why did God create us?

God created us male and female in his own image to know him, love him, live with him, and glorify him. And it is right that we who were created by God should live to his glory.¹

—The New City Catechism, No. 4

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.

¹ “So God created man in in own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he create them” (Gen. 1.27).

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Scripture Lesson

Song of Songs 2.8-17

Sermon

“The Coming of Spring”
Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 703

LOVED WITH EVERLASTING LOVE

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. 481

TURN YOUR EYES UPON JESUS

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

***Benediction**

Numbers 6.24-26

Postlude and Silent Prayer

Almighty and gracious Father, grant us a heart to love you, and enable us to show our thankfulness by giving ourselves up to your service, and delighting in all things to do your will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Please stand if able.

Our Nursery Helpers

Sunday School

Today: Peter Early & Anna Oliver

Next Week: Peter Early & Anna Oliver

Worship

Today: Jenni Early

Next Week: Katie & 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 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 each month, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. They are studying the Song of Songs and all are welcome.

The Men's Group resumes its study of Ecclesiastes this Wednesday, at 6:00 AM, at Pastor Ron's office. All men 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: "The coming of Spring" (Song of Songs 2.8-17)

1. Another Vignette of Love

2. Its Message for You and Me

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Andrew Allen has begun a new course of chemotherapy that has shown some positive signs. His energy is returning and he is gaining weight. Pray that it has an arresting effect on the cancer, and that God continues to shower his peace on this family.

Chris & Mary Granberry (White Swan): Pray for the Granberrys and the Sacred Road team, as they reach out to those on the reservation. May their labors of love be met with open hearts, and may they see much fruit as God builds his church among the Yakama People.

Vickie Myers had surgery on Monday. Pray for relief from the post-surgical pain she is experiencing, that she soon sees the benefits of the procedure, and that God sustains her with his strength and grace.

Oaks Parish: Pray for Rev. Bryan Buck, our church-planter in Portland, that God strengthens him and blesses the proclamation of the gospel, in word and deed, as he gives himself to the city and to the church he is planting.

Bret Reller is serving with Special Forces in the Middle East. Pray for his safety and the safety of his team, as well as for the success of their mission.

Announcements

Birthdays and Anniversaries this Week:

| | |
|------------|------------------------|
| February 1 | Janice Vander Griend |
| February 2 | Kevin and Laura Chabre |

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 a time of 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.