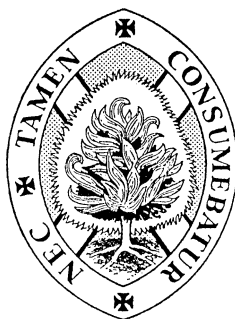


# LORD'S DAY

August 12, 2018



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America*

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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**

O God, who was and is and ever shall be, before whose face the generations rise and pass away: Age after age the living seek you and find that there is no end to your faithfulness. Our fathers walked by your guidance and trusted in your compassion. Continue to be for us the cloud by day and the fire by night. Where but in you have we a shelter from the storm or a shadow from the heat of day? In our temptations, you alone know and are near. In sorrow, your pity revives the fainting soul; in prosperity and ease, it is your Spirit alone that can preserve us in humility. O Unfailing Supply of Peace and Righteousness, take now the veil from our hearts and join us in one communion with the prophets and saints who have trusted in you and were not ashamed; for we ask it in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.

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

Psalm 18.1-3

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

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

*Hymn No. 40*

*GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND OUR STRENGTH*

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

### **Confession of Sin**

Almighty God, to know you is the fulfillment of our deepest longings and the satisfaction of our most fervent desires. Yet foolishly we have sought our pleasures elsewhere. We have put the seeking of idols, which are bound to leave us empty, above seeking you. We have failed to love you with our whole heart, soul, and mind. We have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us our sins for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. And grant that we might from this time forth serve you in newness of life. Amen.

*Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin*

## \*Song of Praise to Christ

## Beautiful Savior (All My Days)

Stuart Townend, 1996 Thankyou Music  
CCLI# 2415226

1. All my days I will sing this song of glad-ness, give my  
 2. I will trust in the cross of my Re-deem-er; I will  
 3. I long to be where the praise is nev-er end-ing; Yearn to  
 praise to the Foun-tain of de-lights; for in my help-less-ness You  
 sing of the blood that nev-er fails, of sins for-giv-en, of  
 dwell where the glo-ry nev-er fades, Where count-less wor-ship-ers will  
 heard my cry, and waves of mer-cy poured down on my life.  
 con-science cleansed, of death de-feat-ed and life with-out end.  
 share one song, and cries of "wor-thy" will hon-or the Lamb!

1. Beau-ti-ful Sav-iour, Won-der-ful Coun-sel-or clothed in maj-es-ty, Lord of  
 2., 3. his-to-ry, You're the Way, the Truth, the Life. Star of the Morn-ing, glo-rious in  
 ho-li-ness, You're the Ris-en One, heav-en's Cham-pi-on, and you reign, You  
 reign o-ver all! (3.1)

## **\*Confession of Faith**

What do justification and sanctification mean?

**Justification means our declared righteousness before God, made possible by Christ's death and resurrection for us. Sanctification means our gradual, growing righteousness, made possible by the Spirit's work in us.<sup>1</sup>**

—The New City Catechism, No. 32

## **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**

2 Timothy 2.14-26

### **Sermon**

"The Thin, Narrow Line"  
Rev. Ron Gonzales

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

*Hymn No. 335*

*GRACIOUS SPIRIT, DWELL WITH ME*

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<sup>1</sup> "To those who are elect exiles...according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you" (1 Pet 1.1-2).

## **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 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.

#### **\*Song of Thanksgiving**

*Hymn No. 523*

*MY HOPE IS IN THE LORD*

## **-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-**

### **\*Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13.14

### **Closing Prayer**

Grant, O Lord, that what has been said with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and that what we believe in our hearts we may practice in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

\*Please stand if able.

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### **Our Nursery Helpers**

#### **Worship**

*Today:* Jenni Early

*Next Week:* Katie and Jack 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 Leinwebers' (60 Cranbrook Ln), on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, at 12:30 PM. For more information, see Chad. All (including children) are welcome.

*The Martin Home Fellowship Group* is taking a break for the summer. It will resume in October.

*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 Exodus and all men are invited.

*Prayer Meeting:* We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, at 5:15 PM in the chapel, to pray for one another, the kingdom, and our world. Please join us.

## Sermon Notes: "The Thin, Narrow Line" (2 Timothy 2.14-26)

1. Three More Metaphors

2. Loving the Truth *and* Loving Others

## Prayer Concerns

*Rev. Andrew Allen* is eligible for but on a wait list to be admitted into an immunotherapy drug trial with the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. Pray that a spot opens up soon. In the meantime, he has begun another chemotherapy regime, hoping it offers some help. Pray that he and Amy and Katherine are kept in God's peace.

*Brian & Gail Frey:* As the Freys gear up for another year of ministry at Boise State, pray for their efforts to befriend and gather new students; that their student leaders continue to grow spiritually and in gifts of service as they carry out their ministries on campus; that the small group Bible studies are places of true community, where lives are shared as students dig into Scripture together; and that the RUF staff (Brian and Gail who are beginning their eighth year, Alex who is beginning her fifth year, and Caleb who is just starting out), are protected and strengthened by God for this very important work.

*Redeemer Presbyterian Church:* Pray for the congregation in Soldotna, AK as they begin their search for a new pastor. May God protect the church, keep it strong, and make it a vital witness on the Kenai Peninsula.

## Announcements

*Birthdays and Anniversaries this Week:*

|           |                       |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| August 13 | Kirk and Kristi Alden |
| August 17 | Anna Curfman          |
| August 18 | Cherry Gonzales       |
| August 18 | Tom Klicker           |

*Church Directory:* The updated directories are finished and available on the literature table. Feel free to take as many as you like.

*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 let them know how they can pray for you.

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

### Explanation of Cover Symbol

Since the time of the Reformation, the burning bush has been a symbol of the Church. The Latin words are taken from Exodus 3.2 and read "...and yet it was not consumed." In one of his letters, Samuel Rutherford reminded his correspondent, "The bush has been burning these five thousand years, and no man yet saw the ashes of that fire."