

# LORD'S DAY

August 5, 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**

O God, we joyously come together to worship, realizing we need not summon you into our midst, for you are here. We need not call you into the secret places of our hearts, for you are there. We need our eyes of faith to be opened, that we may see you; our ears to be unstopped, that we may hear you; our minds to be sensitive, that we may know you; our hearts to be tender, that we may receive you. Grant this, O Lord, as each has need. And grant that our worship is a delight to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

Psalm 29.1-2

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

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

*Hymn No. 103*

*HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE YOUR NAME*

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

### **Confession of Sin**

Merciful God, we humble ourselves in your presence, confessing our unworthiness and sinfulness in your sight. We have broken your holy law. We have not sought first your kingdom and righteousness. We have been anxious and troubled about many things, and have often neglected the things that belong to our peace. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves, or done to others as we would have them do to us. Most gracious Father, who has given your Son, Jesus Christ, to save your people from their sins; forgive us, we pray; cleanse us from all unrighteousness, and renew a right spirit within us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin*

**\*Song of Praise to Christ**

*Hymn No. 173*

*PRAISE HIM! PRAISE HIM!*

**\*Confession of Faith**

What do we believe by true faith?

Everything taught to us in the gospel. The Apostles' Creed expresses what we believe in these words: We believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.<sup>1</sup>

—The New City Catechism, No. 31

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<sup>1</sup> "I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3).

## **Celebration of Covenant Baptism**

Benjamin Lorents Halvorson

Explanation and Exhortation

Acts 2.39; Genesis 17.7; Acts 16.31

### **Covenant Vows**

1. Do you acknowledge Benjamin's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises on his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate Benjamin to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?
4. To the Congregation: Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting Matthew and Kristina in the Christian nurture of this child?

Baptism and Prayer of Dedication

## **Prayer for the Church and the World**

### **-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-**

Scripture Lesson

2 Timothy 2.1-13

Sermon

"Semper Fidelis"  
Rev. Ron Gonzales

## **\*Song of Response**

*Hymn No. 571*

STAND UP, STAND UP FOR JESUS

## **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. 252*

*WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS*

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

## **\*Benediction**

Numbers 6.24-26

## **Closing Prayer**

Father in heaven, whose only Son followed the way of faith and duty even to the crown of thorns and the cross: Give us your grace that we may learn the harder lessons of our faith. Help us, by your Spirit, to take up our cross and follow our Savior. Enable us to enter into the fellowship of his sufferings, and to come at last to dwell with him in his eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

\*Please stand if able.

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## **Our Nursery Helpers**

Worship

*Today:* Nicole Miller

*Next Week:* Jenni Early

## **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 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 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: “Semper Fidelis” (2 Timothy 2.1-13)**

1. The Hard Work of Ministry

2. Suffering, a Condition of Blessing

## **Prayer Concerns**

*Rev. Andrew Allen's* cancer has spread to his liver. Pray for wisdom as he and Amy consider whether to try the next level of treatment, and for peace as they trust in God on this journey.

*Oaks Parish:* Pray for Rev. Bryan Buck, our church-planter in southeast Portland, that God strengthens and blesses his labors as he gives himself to the city and to the church he is planting.

*Alister & Sarah Torrens* have returned to Kiev. Pray that God protects their marriage and family, uses Alister's ministry at the seminary to equip leaders for the church in Ukraine and Eastern Europe, and gives direction to the church that Alister will be planting in Kiev.

## **Announcements**

*Birthdays this Week:*

August 5                      Joshua Myers

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

*Coffee Hour Snacks:* Collie Parsons' phone number was not quite accurate last week. It is 522-1072. Call her if you have any questions regarding the snack sign-up.

*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**

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.