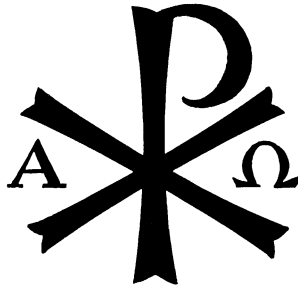


# LORD'S DAY

September 2, 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**

All-knowing and all-caring God, we gather this day drained by another week. We are like a parched desert, empty and in need of replenishment. Visit us with your presence, saturate us with your Spirit, and bathe us in your streams of living water, that our lives might acknowledge and worship you to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ. Amen.

—based on John 4.13-14; 7.37-38

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

Psalm 89.5-8, 14-18

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

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

*Hymn No. 92*

*A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD*

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

### **Confession of Sin**

O Lord, all that we are is laid bare before you. What could be hidden within us, even if we were unwilling to confess it? We would be hiding you from ourselves, not ourselves from you. And we make our confession not in words alone, but with the voice of our soul and in our thoughts which cry aloud to you. When we are evil, making confession to you is simply to be displeased with ourselves. When we are good, it is to make no claim on our own behalf, for without you we can do nothing. And so we confess our many sins of thought, word, and deed. We love you and so we are ashamed of ourselves and, once again, choose you and your will. Forgive us and help us to seek no pleasure for ourselves except that which is also pleasure for you; in Jesus' name. Amen.

—Adapted from Augustine's *Confessions*

*Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin*

## Assurance of Pardon

Ephesians 2.4-7

### **\*Song of Praise to Christ**

*Hymn No. 696*

*I'VE FOUND THE PEARL OF GREATEST PRICE!*

### **\*Confession of Faith**

Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through faith alone, where does this faith come from?

**All the gifts we receive from Christ we receive through the Holy Spirit, including faith itself.<sup>1</sup>**

—The New City Catechism, No. 35

## Prayer for the Church and the World

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

### **Scripture Lesson**

2 Timothy 4.1-8

### **Sermon**

“Felicitas!”

Rev. Ron Gonzales

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

*Hymn No. 585*

*TAKE MY LIFE, AND LET IT BE*

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<sup>1</sup> “But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior” (Tit 3.4-6).

## 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.

#### *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

### How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Words and Music by Stuart Townend 1995  
CCLI# 2415226

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 4/4, with a 6/4 measure appearing in the second and fourth lines of music. The melody is composed of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some measures containing rests. The lyrics are printed below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score concludes with a double bar line.

1. How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how vast be - yond all meas - ure, that  
2. Be - hold the Man up - on a cross, my sin up - on His shoul - ders; a -  
3. I will not boast in an - y - thing, no gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom; but

He should give His on - ly Son to make a wretch His treas - ure. How  
shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call out a - mong the scoff - ers. It  
I will boast in Je - sus Christ, His death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why

great the pain of sear - ing loss; the Fa - ther turns His face a - way, as  
was my sin that held Him there un - til it was ac - com - plished; His  
should I gain from His re - ward? I can - not give an an - swer. But

wounds which mar the Cho - sen One bring man - y sons to glo - ry.  
dy - ing breath has brought me life, I know that it is fin - ished.  
this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ran - som.

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

### **\*Benediction**

Numbers 6.24-26

### **Closing Prayer**

Father, make us willing to give up what we cannot keep, in order to gain what we can never lose; for we ask it in the name of the One who freely gave, and has been given the name above every name, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

\*Please stand if able.

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### **Our Nursery Helpers**

#### **Worship**

*Today:* Sam Schroeder

*Next Week:* Collie Parsons

### **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* is on break until September 26, when it will resume its study of Exodus.

*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: "Felicitas!" (2 Timothy 4.1-8)**

1. The Charge (vv. 1-2)

2. The Reasons (vv. 3-6)

3. The Motivation (vv. 7-8)

## 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 it does, and that he and Amy and Katherine are kept in God's peace.

*Tom & Melissa Manning* learned that the Turkish government is limiting visas for foreign residents to six months, if granting them at all. Therefore, they have been advised to let their current visas expire and return on three-month tourist visas. They will live in Istanbul (ninety days at a time), where they will continue language study, coach other missionaries, and reach out to Syrian refugees. Pray for their safety, their relocation and language study, and for effective ministry.

*Oaks Parish:* Pray for Rev. Bryan Buck, our church-planter in southeast Portland, that God strengthens and uses him as he preaches the gospel in word and deed.

*Sarah Torrens* had an MRI this week, which revealed a slipped disk as well as shrinkage in one of the channels the spinal nerve passes through. She is seeing a doctor daily and showing signs of improvement, though her recovery is going to take a while. Pray for healing, for patience, and for practical help, as both seminary classes and the children's school are about to begin.

## Announcements

*Birthdays this Week:*

September 4	Emily Leinweber
September 5	Steve Davis

*Christian Aid Dinner:* We are serving dinner at the Christian Aid Center on Monday, September 10. If you would like to help, either in preparing or serving the meal, please let Heidi Leinweber know.

*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 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.