The Third Sunday in Lent March 24, 2019



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America
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-DRAWING NEAR TO GOD-

Welcome and Silent Prayer

Lord, what a change within us one short hour Spent in Thy presence will prevail to make! What heavy burdens from our bosoms take, What parched grounds refresh, as with a shower! We kneel, and all around us seems to lower; We rise, and all the distant and the near, Stands forth in sunny outline, brave and clear; We kneel, how weak!—we rise, how full of power! Why, therefore, should we do ourselves this wrong Or others, that we are not always strong, That we are ever overborne with care, That we should ever weak or heartless be, Anxious or troubled, when with us is prayer, And joy, and strength, and courage are with Thee!

— Archbishop Richard Chenevix Trench, AD 1807-1886

*Call to Worship

Psalm 8.1-4, 9

*Prayer of Adoration

*Song of Praise to God

Hymn No. 44

HOW GREAT THOU ART

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O Lord God, the heavens declare your glory, the earth your riches. We thank you for the treasures given us in Jesus; for the unclouded revelation of him in your Word, where we behold his character, grace and glory, as well as his sufferings, death and resurrection. We come to you in his all-prevailing name, with nothing of our own to plead: no works,

no worthiness, no promises. We are often straying, often knowingly opposing your authority, often abusing your goodness. Impress us deeply with a sense of your presence; that you are about our paths, our ways, our lying down, and our end. Subdue in us the love of sin, and let us know the need of renewal as well as forgiveness; that we may wholeheartedly serve and enjoy you forever. This we ask in Christ's name. Amen.

Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

Titus 3.4-7

*Song of Praise to Christ



*Confession of Faith

What does God require in the ninth and tenth commandments?

Ninth, that we do not lie or deceive, but speak the truth in love. Tenth, that we are content, not envying anyone or resenting what God has given them or us.¹

-The New City Catechism, No. 12

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 Luke 9.18-36

Sermon "The Turning Point"

Rev. Ron Gonzales

*Song of Response

Hymn No. 703 LOVED WITH EVERLASTING LOVE

¹ If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well (Jas 2.8).

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

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

*Benediction Numbers 6.24-26

Postlude and Silent Prayer

O God, before the passion of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Please stand if able.

Our Nursery Helpers

Worship

Today: Jenni Early

Next Week: Abigail and Annie Carpenter

Gatherings

A Children's Catechism Class, taught by Pastor Ron and Pastoral Intern Ronnie Curfman, meets twice a month (generally the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, during the school year), from 3:30 to 5:00 PM, at the church.

The Martin Home Fellowship Group led by Eric Carpenter and Ronnie Curfman, meets at Kathy Martin's (213 Chapra St), the first and third Tuesdays of each month, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. They are studying the Gospel of Luke and all are welcome.

The Men's Group meets Wednesdays, from 6:00 to 7:30 AM in the chapel, for Bible study, fellowship and prayer. 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.

Psalm Sing meets Sunday evenings at 6:30, at the Schroeder's (55 Buttonquail Ln). All ages and voices are invited.

The Women's Study: A study of the Book of Acts, led by Cherry Gonzales, meets Thursdays, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM at the Church (childcare is provided), and all are welcome.

Sermon Notes: "The Turning Point" (Luke 9.18-36)
1. Peter's Confession (vv. 18-22)

2. Jesus' Call (vv. 23-27)

3. The Father's Encouragement (vv. 28-36)

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Andrew Allen learned this week that the fluid that was drained from his heart and pleura was a malignant effusion that will return and in time compress the heart. There is no way to stop it. He is at home and receiving hospice care. Pray that God continues to sustain him and Amy with his grace.

Chris & Mary Granberry (White Swan): Pray for the Granberrys and the sacred Road team, that their words and deeds bring hope and healing to many on the reservation.

Aria Krulish (the pastor's wife of our church in Vancouver) had a tumor removed from her abdomen last week. Pray for wisdom regarding a course of treatment, for her ultimate healing, and for the entire family as they trust the Lord amidst all the unknowns.

Barb McLean's recovery continues to go well following knee replacement surgery. Pray that she soon is pain free and able to resume her normal activities.

Vickie Myers continues to recover from her recent surgery. Pray that she soon returns to full strength and is kept from further incidents.

Oaks Parish: Pray for Rev. Bryan Buck, our church planter in southeast Portland, that God strengthens and uses him as he preaches the gospel and builds relationships in the community.

Announcements

Birthdays this Week:

March 26 Lilyan Adamson March 29 Jacob Early

March 30 Bob McLean

The Choir is practicing again today after the Coffee Hour. They will be singing on Palm Sunday.

A New LAMP Class on the Gospels and the Life of Christ begins next Monday, April 1, and runs six consecutive Monday nights, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. It is open to all, whether you are interested in taking it for credit or simply auditing the course. If you would like to learn more, see Pastor Ron.

Sunday School, with classes for all ages, resumes April 7.

Explanation of the 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."