LORD'S DAY

August 4, 2019



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 makes Thyself known in the stillness: Make me to know Thy presence in this sacred place; make me to be of the company of brave saints who have worshiped here in spirit and in truth. Through the voices of men and the instruments of praise lift my heart to Thee and so purify my life that, going forth, I may go in Thy strength and love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Call to Worship

Psalm 103.1-5, 15-22

*Prayer of Adoration

*Song of Praise to God

Hymn No. 53

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

Eternal and Almighty Father, we acknowledge and confess before your holy majesty that we are poor sinners, prone to evil, who transgress without end your holy law, and have therefore drawn upon ourselves condemnation and death. But, O Lord, we repent and deplore our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways. Have compassion on us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. And in removing our guilt, grant us the daily increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, so that acknowledging our unrighteousness, we may be touched with the sorrow that works true repentance, and that your Spirit, putting to death sin, may produce in us the fruits of holiness, which are well pleasing in your sight. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silently Add Your Own Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon 1 John 2.1-2

*Song of Praise to Christ

Hymn No. 299

LOOK, YE SAINTS, THE SIGHT IS GLORIOUS

*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.¹

-The New City Catechism, No. 31

Prayer for the Church and the World

¹ "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).

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Scripture Lesson Luke 16.1-18

Sermon "Living as Sons of Light" Rev. Ron Gonzales

*Song of Response

Hymn No. 565 ALL 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.

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. 691

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

*Benediction 2 Corinthians 13.14

Postlude and Silent Prayer

Almighty and most merciful Father: Grant us a heart to love you more faithfully, and enable us to show our thankfulness by giving up ourselves 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

Worship

Today: Kristina Halvorson Next Week: Collie Parsons

Gatherings

A Children's Catechism Class, taught by Pastoral Intern Ronnie Curfman and Pastor Ron, meets twice a month (generally the first and third 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, is meeting this summer at the Curfman's (1123 Olive 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 studying Revelation 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 resumes next Sunday, at 6:30 PM, at the Schroeder's (55 Buttonquail Ln). All ages and voices are invited.

The Women's Study is on break for the summer.

Sermon Notes: "Living as Sons of Light" (Luke 16.1-18)
1. Serve God Rather than Money (vv. 1-13)
2. Obey God Rather than Self (vv. 14-18)

Prayer Concerns

Chris & Mary Granberry (White Swan): Pray for the Granberrys and the Sacred Road team as they share the gospel with the Yakama people. May their words and deeds bring hope and healing to many on the reservation.

The Clint Miller Family: Pray for comfort as the family grieves the loss of Clint's son. May God's peace sustain them through this time of sorrow.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church (Soldotna, AK): Pray for the congregation as they await the arrival of their new pastor, Rev. Jeff Glover, who is completing his chaplaincy duties in the US Army. May they be ready to receive him and his family, and may he and his family quickly feel a part of the church.

Announcements

Birthdays this Week:

August 5 Joshua Myers

The Children's Catechism Class is moving to the first and third Thursdays of the month this school year, and will begin September 19. Please mark your calendars!

Nursery Help Needed: We are looking for a few more adults who are willing to help in the nursery on a rotating basis during worship and, if need be, our Sunday school hour. If you are willing, please let Nicole Miller know.

Women of Covenant: Do you need encouragement? Do you need vision for persevering through challenges? You are invited to a study this fall, co-led by Christina McBean and Cherry Gonzales, through the Epistle of James. Using an inductive study method, we will discover the letter's message of encouragement for the challenges of life and the times in which we live. The study will meet Thursdays, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM, in the chapel, beginning in October, and childcare will be provided. For more information, please talk to Christina or Cherry.

Explanation of the Cover Symbol

In the Greek language of the early Christian era abbreviations were typically the first and last letters of words, often with a superscription to indicate the missing letters. IC is a standard abbreviation of IHCOYC, the Greek "Jesus," XC the abbreviation of XPICTOC, "Christ"; and NIKA means "He conquers." The symbol then reads, "Jesus Christ Conquers by the Cross" or "Jesus Christ, Victor."