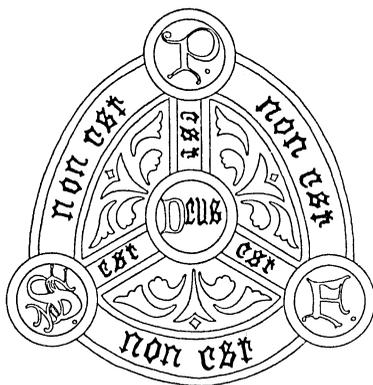


Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026



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, 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 107.1-3, 8-9

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 4

ALL PRAISE TO GOD, WHO REIGNS ABOVE

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

Almighty God, we confess that we are unworthy of your mercy and grace. We have not loved you as we ought, nor have we loved or forgiven others as you, for Christ's sake, have loved and forgiven us. Too often we have lived in selfishness and pride, receiving the good gifts you have given, but failing to use them to bless and relieve the burdens of others. Pardon our offenses, we pray. Grant us the grace to feel and lament our share in the evil that made it necessary for Jesus to suffer and die for our salvation. Give us a true longing to be free from sin, through the deliverance wrought by our Lord and only Redeemer. Amen.

Silently add your own confession of sin.

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 172

LET US LOVE AND SING AND WONDER

***Confession of Faith**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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.

I 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. Amen.

—The Apostles' Creed¹

¹ Although not written by the apostles, the Apostles' Creed is a concise summary of their teachings. It originated as a baptismal confession, probably in the second century, and developed into its present form by the sixth or seventh century.

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-

Sermon

“Crossing the Rubicon”

John 6.60-71

Rev. Ron Gonzales

***Song of Response**

Hymn No. 493

WE HAVE KNOWN THEE AS WE OUGHT

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.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

-OBSERVING THE SACRAMENT-

The Lord's Supper

We celebrate the Lord's Supper by coming forward (generally from the back of the sanctuary to the front, though you may commune at any time) 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 body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking of the cup, you are acknowledging 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. 642

BE THOU MY VISION

-GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

*Benediction

Numbers 6.24-26

Gatherings

Home Fellowship Group, led by Pastor Ron, meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at Chad and Heidi Leinwebers', from 6:00 to 7:30 PM, for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. This year they will be studying the Gospel of John, in tandem with the Sunday sermon series. All are welcome!

Men's & High School Boys' Bible & Catechism Study meets Mondays, at 6:30 PM, at the church, and runs through March 30. The study is intended to teach the core tenets of the faith and equip the believer to challenge the cultural narratives of our day, especially concerning where we find meaning and purpose. For more information, talk to Chad Leinweber.

A Men's Leadership Bible Study, led by Kirk Alden, meets Fridays, 6:00-7:00 AM, in the Coffee Hour room. They are going through a series entitled, "Leadership by the Book," in which 52 leadership principles related to personal development, relationships, and life skills are studied from a biblical perspective. All men and older sons are invited.

A Men's Leadership Bible Study, led by Kirk Alden, meets at Tate's Umapine Mercantile on Thursdays, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. All men are invited. For more information, talk to Kirk.

Prayer Meeting: We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, at 5:00 PM, in the Coffee Hour room, to pray for one another, for the kingdom, and the world. Please join us.

Women's Study & Fellowship: Women and teen girls (middle and high school) are invited to an allergy-friendly dinner and Bible study each Monday, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, through March 30. The women will study Daniel 1-6; the girls will study the book of James. All are welcome.

Sermon Notes: "Crossing the Rubicon" (John 6.60-71)

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Tom & Melissa Manning's ministry of helping team leaders on the field through online coaching, counseling, and leadership development continues, as well as discipling younger men and women at Frontiers' headquarters, who are preparing to go to the Middle East. Pray for them as they carry out this important work of discipleship. And continue praying for Tom's ongoing recovery from cancer.

The Persecuted Church: There are 3 million Christians out of 32 million people in *Malaysia*, where every ethnic Malay is expected to be Muslim. Those who are not are viewed as going against the constitution. Evangelicals in particular are targeted since they are outspoken about their faith. Pray for them, that they are strengthened in their commitment to Christ. Pray for new believers who are often expelled from their homes and sent to re-education camps to dissuade them from the faith. And pray for political stability that will lead to religious freedom.

Our Strength & Shield: David prayed, "The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him" (Ps 28.7). In addition to healing, pray that *Kirk & Kristi Alden, Sandy Cupolillo, Judie Jud, Theresa Krumbah, Patton McBean, Rick Myers, and Doreen Teall* find strength, protection, and help in the LORD as they look to him this week.

Valley Chapel: Pray for Rev. Paul Proctor, our church planter in Spokane Valley, that he leads the congregation well, that they grow in grace and truth, and that together they are used to touch and bless the lives of those around them with the good news of the gospel.

Announcements

Congregational Meeting: There will be a congregational meeting after church, on March 22, at which the elders will share with the body the path forward in calling our next pastor and our role in it. There will be plenty of time for Q&A, as well as prayer. Please plan to attend.

Men & Boys: Join us downstairs this coming Saturday at 8:00 AM for our monthly fellowship breakfast, and be sure to bring a friend!

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