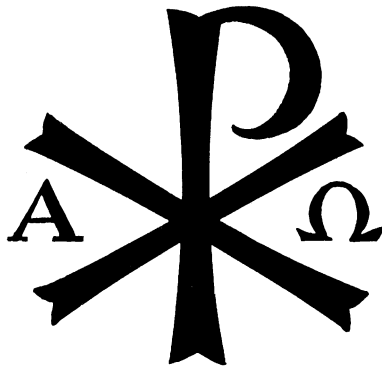


LORD'S DAY

April 19, 2026



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

Father, your mercies have brought us to the dawn of another Lord's Day. Vain will be its gift unless we know you, love you, and admire you more fully. Allow us to do so, O Lord, knowing that the ability to worship is not in us, but in your enabling love. Lead us and tend us by the hand of the Good Shepherd himself. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 92.1-4

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Song of Praise to God**

Hymn No. 97

WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD, OUR REDEEMER, CREATOR

-HAVING OUR HEARTS CLEANSED-

Confession of Sin

O Lord, eternity is yours, so you cannot be ignorant of what we tell you. By confessing our miserable state to you and acknowledging your mercy towards us, we open our hearts to you, so that you may free us wholly, as you have begun to do, so that we may cease to be wretched in ourselves and may find our happiness in you. Therefore, we acknowledge our sin; for you have called us to be poor in spirit, meek, hungry and thirsting for righteousness, merciful, pure in heart, and peacemakers. Forgive us for every failure to be what you have called us to be; forgive us for every failure to be what the Lord Jesus saved us to be; forgive us for every failure to be what we ourselves want to be for your sake. Forgive us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Adapted from Augustine's *Confessions*

Silently add your own confession of sin.

***Song of Praise to Christ**

Hymn No. 302

COME, CHRISTIANS, JOIN TO SING

***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.

Prayer for the Church and the World

-ATTENDING TO THE WORD-

Sermon

“The Truth That Liberates”

John 8.31-47

Rev. Ron Gonzales

*Song of Response

Hymn No. 140

O WORD OF GOD INCARNATE

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. 523

MY HOPE IS IN THE LORD

- 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!

The Men's & High School Boys' Bible & Catechism Study is on break this month. It will resume Monday, May 4.

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.

Sermon Notes: "The Truth That Liberates" (John 8.31-47)

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Drew & Jessica Burdette (Boise): Pray for the Burdettes and the RUF staff as they reach out to Boise State University students with the gospel, and as they seek to disciple those who know and are eager to grow in Christ.

The Persecuted Church: There are a little over 1 million Christians out of 10 million people in the *United Arab Emirates (UAE)*. Christian expatriates are free to worship privately but are not permitted to talk about their faith with others. Family and community members often try to persuade converts to recant their Christian faith. As a result, many hide their conversion out of fear of suffering. Pray for the leaders of the UAE, that they would have greater tolerance of those who become Christians. Pray the government succeeds in keeping the country safe from terrorist groups. And pray for Christian women who by converting from Islam often lose custody of their children.

The Protective Hand of God: The Lord said to Israel, “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior” (Is 43.2-3). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Kirk & Kristi Alden, Sandy Cupolillo, Juliana Hallowell, Judie Jud, Bryce Krueger, Theresa Krumbah, Patton McBean, Rick Myers, and Doreen Teall* are comforted this week by the protective hand of God.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church (Soldotna, AK): Pray for Rev. Nathan Boldt, Redeemer’s new pastor/church planter. Pray that he and his family are settling in well on the Kenai peninsula, that God is blessing his ministry among the flock, and that the church is growing both in number and in Christlikeness to the glory of God.

Announcements

Nominations Close Today: Today is the last day to nominate members to serve on the Pastor Search Committee (PSC). Please give your nominations to Pastor Ron. The elders will talk to each nominee to make sure they are willing and able serve. Those who are, will be announced May 3, with a Congregational Meeting to elect the PSC to follow May 17.

The Women of Covenant are warmly invited to join the 3rd Annual Summer Book Club. They will begin on May 20, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, with a discussion of C. S. Lewis’, *That Hideous Strength*. Additional dates and book titles will be announced.