

# LORD'S DAY

May 10, 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**

Father in heaven, we pray that you will in mercy look down upon us, your family, for whom the Lord Jesus was willing to be betrayed, given up into the hands of wicked men, and suffer death on the cross. Grant us the desires of our hearts this Lord's Day morning: to see you in your majesty and glory, to be renewed in our experience of your grace and love, and to hear your voice speaking in your Word. Help us, by your Spirit, to make a genuine and heartfelt offering of our praise, our love, and ourselves to you. Receive pleasure, this day, from your grateful people; for we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

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

Psalm 89.5-8, 14-18

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

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

*Hymn No. 38*

*IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE*

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

### **Confession of Sin**

Merciful God, we humble ourselves in your presence, confessing our unworthiness and sinfulness in your sight. We have broken your holy law. We have not sought first your kingdom and righteousness. We have been anxious and troubled about many things and have often neglected the things that belong to our peace. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves or done to others as we would have them do to us. Most gracious Father, who has given your Son, Jesus Christ, to save your people from their sins; forgive us, we pray; cleanse us from all unrighteousness and renew a right spirit within us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Silently add your own confession of sin.*

## Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 32.1-2, 5

## \*Song of Praise to Christ

*Hymn No. 166*

WONDROUS KING, ALL-GLORIOUS

## \*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' Creed<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 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**

“Shepherds and Thieves”  
John 10.1-10  
Rev. Ron Gonzales

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

*Hymn No. 181*

*WE COME, O CHRIST, TO YOU!*

#### **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) and partaking of the bread and the cup. Wine is served in the clear cups, grape juice in colored the cups. 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. 455*

*AND CAN IT BE THAT I SHOULD GAIN*

## -GOING FORTH TO SERVE-

**\*Benediction**

2 Corinthians 13.14

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### **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. They are studying the Gospel of John in tandem with the Sunday sermon series. All are welcome!

*A Men's & High School Boys' Bible & Catechism Study* meets Mondays, at 6:30 PM, at the church. 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.

*The Women of Covenant* are warmly invited to join the 3rd Annual Summer Book Club, which begins May 20, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, with a discussion of C. S. Lewis', *That Hideous Strength*. That will be followed on June 17 with a discussion of two short books: *A Call to Prayer*, by J. C. Ryle, and *Praying the Bible*, by Donald S. Whitney. On July 15, they will discuss John Bunyan's, *Pilgrim's Progress*. And on August 12, the discussion will be of *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley. There are copies of all the books in the church library, if you would like to borrow one.

**Sermon Notes: "Shepherds and Thieves" (John 10.1-10)**

## **Prayer Concerns**

*The Christian Aid Center* cares for the hurting and needy in our community. Pray that God uses their staff and volunteers to convey his love and grace to those they serve; and pray for those from Covenant who will serve there tomorrow night, that they too will be ministers of his love and grace.

*The Nearness of God:* David prayed, "The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth" (Ps 145.18). In addition to strength and healing, pray that *Kirk & Kristi Alden, Paul Carmichael, Sandy Cupolillo, Juliana Hallowell, Judie Jud, Bryce Krueger, Theresa Krumbah, Patton McBean, Rick Myers, and Doreen Teall* know the nearness of God this week as they call upon him.

*The Persecuted Church:* Christians are a small minority in *Niger*, where 99 percent of the 23 million people are Muslims. Some are free to worship peacefully, but most, being converts from Islam, face extreme pressure from family and community and are often targeted by radical Muslim clerics. Pray that they know God's presence and strength. Pray that God uses their testimony in the lives of others. And pray that, despite the opposition, God builds and uses his church for his glory.

## **Announcements**

*Congratulations to Anton & Crystal Bushkovshiy* on the birth of Luca Antonovich, born May 4. Luca weighed 6 lb. 9 oz. and was 19.75 inches long. Both he and Crystal are doing great.

*Congregational Meeting:* 17 members were nominated and are willing to serve on the Pastor Search Committee. We will meet after the service, next Sunday, to choose 6 of them. Please be in prayer about this. The nominees are Seth Alden, Paul Carmichael, Eric Carpenter, Eileen Davis, Jenni Early, Paul Green, Levi Harri, Jordan Hostetter, Lori Jameson, Jason Lynch, Barb Martin, Chris McBean, Nicole Miller, Cami Panther, Dave Panther, Rich Parker, and Karen Sippert.

*Summer Choir:* We are gauging interest in a summer choir for adults and kids 10+. Weekly practice would begin the first week of June. If you are interested or would like more information, please let Jacob Schroeder know by next Sunday, May 17.