

Announcements

- ❖ Nursery workers (D3): Amy Reed and Sara Muir. Next Week: Kathy Williams and Katelyn O’Roark
- ❖ Women’s Bible Study (R.C. Sproul’s “Knowing Scripture”): Next meeting: Tuesday, Feb 9th 6:30 PM at the DeMaagd’s. See Daneen.
- ❖ Valentine’s Dinner: Sat. Feb 13th, Garden Pleasures in Milan. \$15 per person. See Keri or Susan.
- ❖ Youth Discussion Group: resumes tonight 6 PM at the DeMaagd’s. “When Grace Transforms,” chapter 3.
- ❖ Men’s Study (Nicene Creed): Wednesday, 7PM, Chiarot house.
- ❖ 2010 Fellowship Meal Sign-up Sheet is on the table.
- ❖ On the table: “In the Splendor of Holiness” (book on worship), By Faith (PCA Magazine), new Covenant Presbyterian Church directories.
- ❖ Prayer Requests: Parks (transition), Lance (job), Mitchell Family (Belle, 2 yo, cancer), Building Committee.
- ❖ Mission works: Westmoreland’s (RUF, UT-Martin), Steere’s (ELI, Africa), Lummi work (MTW, Washington). Chaplin’s and Tigrett’s (MTW, Latvia and Lithuania), Pohls (MTW, Ecuador), Kalen Parks (South Africa).

The Lord’s Service

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 7, 2010



Covenant Presbyterian Church

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The Lord's Table

The **Lord's Supper** is observed every Sunday in response to the Word of God. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and his body, the Church. By eating the bread and wine with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to the elders of this local church that you are in covenant with God as an active member of a congregation in which the Gospel is faithfully confessed, taught, and believed. You also acknowledge that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. If you have any doubt about your participation, please speak to one of the elders or the pastor before or after the service. **Note: The outer ring alone contains grape juice, all others contain wine.**

Next Week's Readings: Ecclesiastes 1:1-3, 1 Cor. 15:12-20, Luke 6:17-26

Heidelberg Catechism #55

Q. What do you understand by *the communion of saints*?

A. First, that believers, all and every one, as members of Christ, are partakers of Him and of all His treasures and gifts; second, that every one must know himself bound to employ his gifts readily and cheerfully for the advantage and salvation of other members.

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Preparation for Worship

***Call to Worship** Romans 12:1

Leader: I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,
to present your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and acceptable to God.

People: This is our spiritual and rational service of worship.

***Invocation**

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

***Hymn of Praise, No. 172** *Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder*

Call to Confession Psalm 51:1

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Private Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin (based on Psalm 25)

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of our youth or our transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember us, for your goodness' sake, O Lord! You are good and upright, O Lord; therefore instruct us sinners in your ways. For your name's sake, O Lord, pardon our guilt, for it is great. Turn to us and be gracious, relieve the troubles of our hearts, and bring us out of our distress. Forgive all of our sins, for the sake of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 51:17

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

***The Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

***The Gloria Patri, No. 735**

The Service of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

O God, by your Spirit tell us what we need to hear, and show us what we ought to do in obedience to Jesus our Savior **Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***Psalm 90, No. 30**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

***The Gospel Lesson**

Luke 18:9-14

Leader: This is the gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Sermon

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Rev. Kevin Chiarot

***Affirmation of Faith p.845**

The Apostles' Creed

Pastoral Prayer

The Service of the Table

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

***Doxology**

***Sursum Corda**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer**

The Communion

Commitment and Commissioning

***Hymn of Departure, No. 489**

Lord, like the Publican I Stand

***Charge and Benediction**

***Threefold Amen, No. 740**

Postlude

**Congregation standing*

Welcome to Covenant!

If you are **visiting** our church today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community!

We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America. www.pcanet.org

Covenant is **catholic**, meaning we adhere to the early creeds of the church concerning the Trinity and the person of Jesus Christ. We are **reformed**, meaning we embrace the Reformation's teaching that Scripture alone is the church's final authority for faith and life and that we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, all for the glory of God! Finally, we are **evangelical**, in that we seek to live by the gospel and apply its implications to all of life.

Covenant's **doctrinal standards** are the Westminster Confession of Faith and Shorter and Larger Catechisms. www.opc.org/confessions.html.

We have **Christian education** classes for all ages which meet after the coffee time.

While we encourage children in the worship service, there is a staffed **nursery** in classroom D3. Out the back left (north) of the sanctuary, make first right.

If you are unfamiliar with our **form of worship**, or have any other concerns, please feel free to speak with Pastor Chiarot.

The Bulletin Front Cover

The Chi-Rho is the oldest known monogram of Jesus Christ. The chi (X) and the rho (P) are the first two letters of the word Christ (Christos) in the Greek language. The "c" on each side of the Chi-Rho allows the rho (P) to do double duty as an English "P," thus yielding cPc, for "Covenant Presbyterian Church." Finally, "Post Tenebras Lux" is a Latin slogan from the 16th Reformation meaning; "After Darkness, Light." The logo expresses our desire to be rooted in the ancient faith and to embrace the attainments of the 16th century Reformation.

The Lord's Service: Our Common Table

The unity of the church is not merely something we claim by faith every week when we sit at the common Table, it is also something we *become* every week as we eat the bread and drink the wine together. When we join our voices together with the gathered assembly in prayer, confession, singing, eating, and drinking we are weekly reconstituted by the Spirit as the Body of Christ; the very visible, even tangible public presence of God's saving activity in the world.

Sadly, we often reduce the Lord's Supper to a means of providing mental stimulus for individual religious meditation. It is thought by many to be just another opportunity to exercise personal, private devotions at church. To some extent, the way we have traditionally practiced the Supper encourages this. Everyone closes their eyes, turns inward, and mediates privately. The corporate, communal dimension of the Sacrament gets smothered beneath what in effect becomes an opportunity for personal quiet time in church. There is, of course, room for silence during the rite of Communion, but there is much more going on than merely private devotions with the visual aids of bread and wine.

What we do at the Lord's Table ought to form us into a particular kind of community—a community of sacrificial love united to one another in Jesus our Savior. The Scriptures, for example, teach the necessity of reconciling any fellow Christians who might be at variance with each other before they could eat the Lord's Supper together. The unity of the church as the Body of Christ, symbolized in the one loaf, must not be violated by personal disputes among the members of the local body or by formal ecclesiastical schisms in the larger communion of the saints.

The Apostle Paul says that we assemble "as the church" and we "come together" precisely to eat the Lord's Supper and that in an openly unified way (1 Cor. 11:18, 20, 33, 34). The more we faithfully *do* the Lord's Supper, the more we will experience the communal dimensions of the Sacrament, indeed, the community-forming nature of the ritual meal. Only then will the concrete oneness that our Lord petitioned the Father for be realized in the Church "in order that the world may believe" (John 17:23).

