



COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

The Lord's Day

November 5, 2023

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

November 5, 2023

Preparation for Worship

Music for Gathering

Announcements

Scripture for Meditation

Isaiah 53:5

He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities;

The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

Silent Prayer of Preparation

God Calls Us Into His Presence

+ Salutation

Pastor: We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

People: **Who made heaven and earth.**

Psalm 124:8

+ Call to Worship

Psalm 98:1-3

We Respond to God's Call

+* Hymn of Praise, No. 30

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Congregational Response: Amen!

+ Prayer of Adoration

God Cleanses Us of Our Sins

Call to Confession

I John 1:8

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

We Confess Our Sins (congregation kneels as able)

All: Almighty, eternal God and Father, we confess and acknowledge unto You that we were conceived in unrighteousness and are full of sin and transgression in all our life. We do not fully believe Your Word nor follow Your holy commandments. Remember Your goodness, we beseech You, and for Your Name's sake be gracious unto us, and forgive us our iniquity which, alas, is great. [Silent prayer of confession] Amen.

+ Assurance of Pardon

I John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We Respond to God's Declaration of Forgiveness

+ The Gloria Patri

(with hands lifted)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.*

†* **Hymn of Praise**

Behold the Lamb (printed in bulletin)

Congregational Response: Amen!

God Consecrates us By His Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 129

Congregational Response

Elder: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

† **Psalm 129**

Tune: AZMON – O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

vv. 1, 2

Greatly have they afflicted me –
Let Is-ra-el now say –
From youth they seek to trample me,
But have not had their way.

vv. 5, 6

Let all who hate Your Church, O Lord,
Turn backward into shame;
Wilt, wither them by Your strong Word;
Cut off their wicked name.

vv. 3, 4

My back they plow with furrows long,
But righteous is the Lord;
He breaks their cords who do me wrong,
And helps me by His Word.

vv. 7, 8

Let not the fruit of wickedness
Prosperity obtain;
Let none the wicked ever bless
In Your all-holy Name.

Congregational Response: Amen!

† **New Testament Reading**

II Corinthians 4:1-12

† **Congregational Response**

James 1:22

Pastor: Be doers of the word,

People: And not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Sermon

“Persecution: The Path to Victory”

We Respond to God’s Instruction

† **Affirmation of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation

came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

**catholic=universal*

† **Prayer of Supplication and Intercession**

† **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 forgive 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**

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

† **Doxology, No. 731**

(with hands lifted)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen*

God Communes with Us at His Table

The Communion

Eucharistic Meditation and Fencing of the Table

Distribution of the Bread and Communion in the Body of Christ

Hymn: Behold the Lamb, verses 1 and 2 (printed in bulletin)

Distribution of the Cup and Communion in the Blood of Christ

Hymn: *Behold the Lamb*, verses 3 and 4 (printed in bulletin)

Prayer

We Respond to God's Gift

† Hymn of Commitment, No. 347
Congregational Response: Amen!

The Church's One Foundation

God Commissions Us to Go Into the World

† Charge
† Benediction

We Respond to God's Charge

† Threefold Amen, No. 740

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) While we encourage children in worship, there is a staffed nursery during the morning worship service.

Sunday Schedule

8:45 a.m.	Pre-Service Prayer
9:30 a.m.	Morning Worship Service
10:35 a.m.	Fellowship Time
11 a.m.	Sunday School
5 p.m.	Evening Service

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.

Behold The Lamb

Words and Music by
Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty
and Stuart Townend

VERSE

G2/B A/C# D Em7 D/F# A D/F# G2

1. Be hold the Lamb who bears our sins a - way, slain for us:
2. The bod - y of our Sav - iour, Je - sus Christ, torn for you:
3. The blood that cleans - es ev - 'ry stain of sin, shed for you:
4. And so with thank - ful - ness and faith we rise to re - spond

D/A A7sus A7 G2/B A/C# D Em7 D/F# A D/F#

And we re - mem - ber the prom - ise made that all who come in faith find for -
Eat and re - mem - ber the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life, paid the
Drink and re - mem - ber He drained death's cup that all may en - ter in to re -
and to re - mem - ber our call to fol - low in the steps of Christ as His

G2 A7sus A7 D D/F# G2 D2/F# Gmaj7 A2 D/F# G2

give - ness at the cross. So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His
price to make us one. So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His
ceive the life of God. So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His
bod - y here on earth. As we share in His suf - fer - ing, we - proclaim: Christ will

12

D2/F# G2 A D/F# G2 D2/F# Gmaj7 A7sus G2/B Gmaj7 A7

sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of peace a - round the ta - ble of the
sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of love a - round the ta - ble of the
sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of grace a - round the ta - ble of the
come a - gain! And we'll join in the feast of heav'n a - round the ta - ble of the

TURNAROUND / OUTRO

D2 D2/G D2 D2/G D2

King.
King.
King.
King.

Covenant Presbyterian Church

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PERSECUTION^{.ORG}
INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONCERN

I N T E R N A T I O N A L
DAY OF PRAYER
F O R T H E P E R S E C U T E D



India

2.3%

Christian

- Since 2014, Christian persecution has skyrocketed. Modi and the BJP have passed laws and enforced policies targeting Christians and limiting their religious freedom. Attacks on minorities are reported in greater number and greater severity every year.
- Pray for leaders to speak out against attacks led by radical Hindu nationalists. Pray for protection for India's Christian community.



Nigeria

48%

Christian

- Boko Haram, Fulani militants and Conservative Islamic communities have killed, displaced, and assaulted many Christian communities.
- Pray for protection for Nigeria's Christians against terrorist groups. Pray for provision for the millions of people who have been displaced due to the violence. Pray for the safe return of Nigerian women who have been forcefully converted and forcefully married.



North Korea

1-2%

Christian

- Under the reign of the Kim family, North Koreans are taught to revere only their supreme leaders and nothing else. Christianity is seen as the state's enemy, and Christians must be secretive about their faith or else they might be arrested or face execution.
- Pray for the Gospel to spread among North Korea's unreached. Pray for protection for North Korean Christians who practice their faith in secrecy.



Iran

1-2%

Christian

- Decades of violence have decimated Iraq's Christian community. Militias moved into the Christian homeland following their displacement by ISIS. Extortion, harassment, and threats are common. This environment makes it impossible for Christians to rebuild their lives following genocide.
- Pray that Iraq's Christians may have the strength of courage, fortitude, and patience. Pray that they may continue as faithful witnesses of Christ in their homeland.



Afghanistan

0.3%
Christian

- Following the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021, the country's underground Christian community suffered a rapid increase in threats. While some believers escaped to neighboring countries, they continue to face serious threats for their faith and newfound refugee status.
- Pray for those who have stayed behind, risking their lives to maintain a Christian presence in the region.



Egypt

~5%
Christian

- Christian children in Egypt are denied a quality education and their parents suffer constant job discrimination, leaving them stuck in an unending multi-generational cycle of poverty. Those who turn to Christianity from Islam risk losing their jobs, families, and lives.
- Pray for children to gain access to education, allowing them to break generational cycles of persecution. Pray for the safety and strength of Christian converts from Islam.



China

2-7%
Christian

- After China's President Xi Jinping came into power in 2013, religious activities shrunk rapidly, especially for foreign religions, such as Islam and Christianity. Thousands of churches have seen their crosses demolished. Authorities also closely monitor or jail Christian leaders under trumped-up charges.
- Pray for continued growth within China's underground Church. Pray for greater freedom for religious minorities to practice their faith freely in China. Pray for the release of all wrongfully imprisoned church leaders.



Pakistan

1.5%
Christian

- The persecution of Christians in Pakistan is severe and complex. Christians also face many other forms of abuse, including false blasphemy accusations, physical assaults, attacks on places of worship, abductions, and forced conversions to Islam.
- Pray for an end to religiously motivated blasphemy accusations in Pakistan.

REMEMBER THE PRISONERS AS IF CHAINED WITH THEM— THOSE WHO ARE MISTREATED— SINCE YOU YOURSELVES ARE IN THE BODY ALSO. HEBREWS 13:3

Remembering the prisoners as if chained with them is to accept a burden on a daily basis. It's a conscious choice to wear the chains of brotherhood and intercession, to remember your persecuted brothers as vividly as if you suffered side by side. As fellow humans who are "in the body also," and especially as blood brothers in Christ, we are called to stand with the persecuted. We at ICC urge you to pray for prisoners as fervently and constantly as if you were chained together.

Connecting You to the Persecuted

In this past century alone, more Christians were murdered for their faith than any other century in human history, an estimated 200 million. Around the world, believers are economically marginalized, denied education for their children, beaten, tortured, raped, imprisoned, and even murdered for their faith.

International Christian Concern seeks to serve and build the persecuted Church in strength and breadth through effective advocacy, assistance, and awareness. ICC serves as an advocate for the worldwide persecuted Church. We are committed to connecting you with the needs of your suffering brothers and sisters around the world.



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