

Purify Your Hearts

After his conversion to Jesus Christ, the Christian has as his goal a growing conformity to the image and likeness of his Savior. The Christian is supposed to purify himself, even as Christ is pure. This is the great demand of the Christian life. Every sinful inclination of the heart should be done away, and the heart should be made subject to the Lord.

The Bible tells us clearly what brings about this purification. The Christian is purified as he lives in the hope of the coming of his Redeemer from heaven and as he conforms to his will in loving obedience.

Ever since the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, the believer has been living in the last days. We do not know how long these last days will continue; but the believer lives in the constant expectation of the appearing of his Lord and Savior, who will come from heaven with a shout and with the sound of the trumpet, to judge the nations and to take his own to himself. The Christian lives in the constant hope of the coming of the one who is altogether holy, the spotless Lamb of God, who has taken away the sin of the world. This hope is a great power in the Christian's purification. As the apostle John tells us, "...everyone that has this hope in him purifies himself, even as he is pure" (1 John 3:3).

The Christian's growth, his purification, must not be built on another foundation. Christian growth in grace is not a humanly conceived and directed self-culture, nor is it centered around the Christian himself; it is only by way of fellowship with Christ, in all of his past work, in his presence, and in the hope of his coming. In the love of Christ, patiently looking for his coming, the Christian is to be transformed into Christ's image. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, even as Christ is pure.

*If we walk in the light, as
he is in the light, we
have fellowship with one
another, and the blood of
Jesus, his Son, purifies us
from every sin.*

1 John 1:7

Covenant Presbyterian Church
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THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

Salutation and Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise # 53

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 535

“O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!”

CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE

The Law of God

Exodus 20:1-17

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

Almighty God, we are unworthy to come into your presence, because of our many sins. We do not deserve any grace or mercy from you, if you dealt with us as we deserve. We have sinned against you, O Lord, and we have offended you. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses, so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God, a loving and favorable Father, to all who turn to you. And so we humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your son, to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses. Forgive the sins of our youth, and the sins of our old age. By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our life, but also the words of our mouths, and the smallest thought of our minds, may be guided and governed by you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Assurance of Forgiveness

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1John 1:9)

OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 372

“Praise Waits for Thee in Zion”

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

We extend a cordial welcome to each visitor!

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*Hymn of Preparation # 255

“O Jesus, We Adore Thee”

Sermon Text

Luke 20:41-44

Sermon

THE QUESTION OF SONSHIP

THE LORD'S TABLE

Celebrating the Supper

Hymn of Response # 305

“Arise, My Soul, Arise”

Congregation remains seated as an offering for the Deacons Fund will be received during the singing of this hymn.

THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord)

734

*The Lord's Benediction

Announcements

Today, 10:00am. Sunday School.

Today. We remember the Lord's death in the Communion service during morning worship. Our Communion service is open to those who have been, or are now, communicant members of an evangelical church.

Today. Our quarterly offering for the Deacons Fund will be received during the singing of hymn 305, following the Lord's Supper. Please remain seated for the singing of the hymn and then stand for the singing of the Gloria Patri and pronouncement of the Lord's Benediction.

Today, 12:30pm. A potluck luncheon will be held in the church. All are welcome.

Tuesday, 7:30pm. Weekly Bible Study at the church or via Zoom. Our Bible study at the church begins with dinner at 7:00pm, followed by a time of study at 7:30pm. For information on attending the study via Zoom, please send an email to Pastor Wayne at wforkner86@mac.com.