

God, Our Help

Who is it that trains us in the Christian life? It is not we ourselves primarily, for the Bible vehemently declares that we can do no good thing in ourselves. Paul prayed for the Thessalonians, “The very God of peace sanctify you wholly...” It is God who sanctifies the believer—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. God the Father has ordained from eternity that his people should walk in holiness. The Son has purchased our righteousness with his own blood. The Holy Spirit, through whom Father and Son work, gives us grace to withstand temptation.

Satan would have us take our eyes from God and turn them upon ourselves. But our help is not in ourselves; it is in God.

The apostle Peter wanted to do something for Christ. He even took up a sword in a mistaken effort to protect his Lord. But Christ prophesied that before the crowing of the cock the following morning Peter would have denied him three times. Peter was shocked at this suggestion. His sense of loyalty was injured, and he replied, “Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you.” Nevertheless, as Christ stood before the judgment hall, Peter forgot these words and his promise. As he was questioned by a serving girl, he denied his Lord. And as others took up the questioning, he denied again and yet again—the last time with an oath.

Peter’s fall was not permanent. He met the gaze of Christ and he wept bitterly because of his sin. But he did not persevere in his own strength. Christ said, “Simon, Simon, Satan has desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat; but I have prayed for you, that your faith will not fail.”

Looking to ourselves and our abilities, we fall. Looking to God, we receive our aid from him who is the author and finisher of our faith.

...Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and do what pleases him. (Philippians 2:12, 13)

*Looking to Jesus,
the founder and
perfecter of our
faith...*

Hebrews 12:2

Covenant Presbyterian Church
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We extend a cordial welcome to each visitor! We would like to keep in touch with you. Please use the QR code to tell us about yourself.



MORNING WORSHIP – 11:00 A.M.

THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

Salutation and Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise # 368 *“The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear”*

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 716 *“Sing to the Lord of Harvest”*

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 # 351 *“Built on the Rock the Church Doth Stand”*

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

Wayne K. Forkner, Minister

510-928-8024

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*Hymn of Preparation # 72 *“Amid the Fears that Oppress Our Day”*

Sermon Text Isaiah 41:1-7, pew Bible p. 601

Sermon LISTEN IN SILENCE

THE LORD'S TABLE

*Hymn of Preparation # 420 *“At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing”*

Celebrating the Supper

*Hymn of Response # 31 *“Have You Not Known, Have You Not Heard”*

THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord) # 734

*The Lord's Benediction

Announcements

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, 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. We are studying the book of Deuteronomy. 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.

Sundays, November 16 and 23. Thank Offering 2025-*Make Known His Deeds Among the Peoples*. Each year the General Assembly of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church sets a Worldwide Outreach budget for the following year which represents the denomination's commitment to missionary and educational work. Each year the denomination has a Thank Offering to help meet that budget. If you wish to designate your gift for the Thank Offering, you may simply mark your check “Thank Offering.”