

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

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.



Covenant Presbyterian Church
1623 University Avenue, Berkeley, California 94703
www.berkeleyopc.org

THE LORD'S DAY

July 26, 2026

Covenant Presbyterian Church

MORNING WORSHIP – 11:00 A.M.

THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

Salutation and Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise # 1 “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 178 “There Is No Name So Sweet on Earth”

CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE

The Law of God Matthew 22:37-40

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalm 103:8 The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Psalm 103:10 He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

Psalm 103:11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

Psalm 103:12 as far as the east is from the west,
 so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 642 *“Be Thou My Vision”*

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

Wayne K. Forkner, Minister

510-928-8024

*Hymn of Preparation # 147“O God of Light, Your Word, a Lamp Unfailing”

Sermon Text Isaiah 51:1-6, pew Bible p. 611

Sermon LISTEN, YOU WHO PURSUE RIGHTEOUSNESS

*Hymn of Response # 162 *“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”*

THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord) # 734

*The Lord's Benediction

Announcements

Today, 10:00am. Prayer Meeting. Church doors will open at 10:00am for gathering and sharing prayer requests. Prayer will begin at 10:15am. Children are welcome to attend. If you have questions or would like to be added to the prayer request email list, please see Jessica Verby.

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 Joshua. 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.

Sunday, August 2. 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. But those who are not communicant members of our Church are asked to meet with the elders of the Church before partaking of the Lord's Supper. It is required that they meet with the elders only once.