

Announcements and Information:

Pastor: Rev. Todd Ruddell
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Elders: Carl Betsch, Tom Dillard

Pastor's email: pastor@christcovenantreformedpc.org

Denomination: Reformed Pres. Church, General Assembly: www.rpcga.org

CCRPC Website: <http://www.christcovenantrpc.org>

Pray with fervency and strength for the following:

- Whitefield Seminary, and other seminaries, and those studying for Church Office: That seminaries would train according to the pure doctrines of Scripture, standing in the stream of our Reformation and Biblical heritage. **Pray** for the presbyteries that have men under care, that they might know their fitness not only doctrinally, but as men of honor and integrity as well. **Pray** that the Lord of the harvest would raise up and send laborers into His field in the next generation.

Officers and Members of Reformed Presbyterian Churches, & of the RPCGA

Pray for reformation! 1) That the Lord would be pleased to raise up many in all places and stations to pray for the reformation of our Churches in doctrine and practice, and that daily, earnest prayer would be offered up to the Lord for this Biblical goal. 2) That those in authority in the Church would be particularly diligent regarding their duty under Christ, to teach, preach, and lead by example according to Scripture, and not according to the spirit of the age, or the vain philosophies of worldly men. 3) That all members of the body of Christ would seek first His kingdom, and putting away selfish desire and worldly pleasure, would live holily and uprightly, doing good to all men, especially those of the household of faith, taking up their cross daily, following Christ.

CCRPC: **Pray for one another!** **Pray for your Pastor and your Elders!** **Pray** for families with young children, that the Lord would give wisdom to the parents of each family regarding how to raise their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. **Pray** for the encouragement of the saints, as we come along side one another to be of assistance to each other in this and other responsibilities, that in each of our families we may glorify the Lord. **Pray** that the children of the Church would take direction from their parents without rebellion, in obedience, as they seek to obey Christ in obeying their parents.

Deaconal/Mercy/Service/Giving Opportunities:

- Rev. Victor Atallah and the ministry of MERF: Prayer, Monetary gifts.
- Rev. Justin Stodghill and the ministry of CRPC San Marcos: Prayer.
- Rockie Simbajon: Prayer, Monetary Gifts for Church work in the Philippines

CHRIST COVENANT REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



But ye are come unto mount Sion... And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant (Hebrews 12.22, 24)

**SCRIPTURE ALONE—GRACE ALONE—FAITH ALONE—BY
CHRIST ALONE—TO GOD ALONE BE GLORY
REFORMED, AND ALWAYS REFORMING**

13 August 2017

Lord's Day Morning Worship: 10:00 A
Afternoon Fellowship Meal (all are welcome) 12.30 P
Lord's Day Early Evening Worship: 2:00 P

Catechism and Memory Class shortly following evening worship.

Open Ended fellowship and Lord's Day conversation afterward. Pastor and Mrs. Ruddell's home is open after services each Lord's Day to all for refreshments, Sabbath Day conversation, and good fellowship. Theological reading class is held every Wednesday evening at the Church. All interested folks are welcome, class begins at 7:30. We also host a monthly men's prayer breakfast at the Church for our men and boys. Speak to one of our men for details. We also gather to sing the Psalms the first Lord's Day of every month at the Church, 4:45 or so.

We are pleased to have you join with us as we worship the Triune God. If you are visiting with us, please allow us to extend our warmest welcome. If you are a member in good standing of a Confessional, Reformed Church, and desire to commune with us at the Lord's Table, please contact the Pastor prior to the morning worship service.

Our Name:

Christ: Our only Surety and Mediator, Sacrifice and Substitute, Righteousness and Sanctification; the Wisdom of God, the Logos of God, triumphing as the Second Adam where the first Adam fell, God, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity

Covenant: The means whereby the Triune God has brought His people into everlasting and gracious communion with Himself, unilaterally, uniting them to Christ, the only Mediator of the Covenant of Grace

Reformed: Teaching the Biblical Doctrines of God's Sovereignty, of Divine Monergism in our redemption, of His initiating and sovereign Grace and Salvation as the only hope of man to escape eternal judgment; the sufficiency of the Scriptures, and the "righteousness of God which is by the faith of Jesus Christ" alone, preached and restored to the Church at large during the Protestant Reformation

Presbyterian: Confessing and practicing the Biblical doctrines of Church government, of a broader authority than that of the local congregation, held in a plurality of elders, and those as distinctively taught in the Westminster Standards, 1647.

Church: The Visible people of God, Called out of the world as His people, under Christ's government, discipline, and instruction; administered by Elders, called as saints to serve Him together with their children regardless of age; and testifying to His invisible Church, the whole number of the elect that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one under Christ the Head.

Question #99: What rule hath God given for our direction in prayer. **Answer:** The whole Word of God is of use to direct us in prayer;^a but the special rule of direction is that form of prayer which Christ taught his disciples, commonly called The Lord's prayer.^b **a.** 1 John 5:14. **b.** Matt. 6:9–13; Luke 11:2–4.

Thomas Vincent: QUESTION 1: What is generally useful for our direction in prayer? **ANSWER:** The whole Word of God is generally useful for our direction, as it contains plenty of matter for prayer, guides us to the manner of it, and abounds with variety of expressions which most filthy may be used in it.

QUESTION 2: What is the special rule for our direction in prayer? **ANSWER:** The special rule for our direction in prayer is that form of prayer which Christ taught his disciples, commonly called 'The Lord's Prayer.' "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, etc." (Luke 11:4, 5).

QUESTION 3: How many parts are there in the Lord's prayer? **ANSWER:** There are three parts in the Lord's prayer; the preface, the petitions, and the conclusion.¹

Thomas Ridgley: 1. We are to pray for the whole church of Christ on earth. By this church we are to understand all those who profess the faith of the gospel, especially those whose practice is agreeable to their profession; and, in particular, all those religious societies who consent to walk in those ordinances whereby they testify their subjection to Christ as King of saints. The particular members of which these societies consist, are, for the most part, unknown to us; so that we cannot pray for them by name, or as being acquainted with the condition and circumstances in which they are; yet they are not to be wholly disregarded, or excluded from the benefit of our prayers. Thus the apostle speaks of 'the great conflict he had,' not only 'for them at Laodicea, but for as many as had not seen his face in the flesh.'^e

Prayer for all Christians is a peculiar branch of the communion of saints; and it is accompanied with earnest desires that God may be glorified in them and by them, as well as in and by ourselves. In particular, we are to pray that they may be united together in love to God and to one another;^f and that their union may be attended with all those other graces and comforts which are an evidence of their interest in Christ. We are to pray that they may have the special presence of God with them in all his ordinances; which will be a visible testimony of his regard to them, and an honour put on his own institutions, as well as an accomplishment of what he promised to his apostles just before he ascended into heaven, that he would 'be with them always, even unto the end of the world.'^g We are to pray that they may be supported under the burdens, difficulties, and persecutions which they meet with, either from the powers of darkness, or from wicked men, for Christ's sake; that so

the promise may be made good to them, that 'the gates of hell shall not prevail against them.'^h We are to pray that many may be added to particular churches out of the world, such as shall be saved; which will be an evidence of the success of the gospel. And when we pray that God would magnify his grace in bringing sinners home to himself, we are to pray for the accomplishment of those promises which respect the conversion of the Jews. Thus the apostle says, 'Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.'^k We are to pray also that there may be a greater spread of the gospel throughout the most remote and dark parts of the earth, among whom Christ is at present unknown. This diffusion of the gospel the apostle calls 'The fulness of the Gentiles coming in;'^l and it is agreeable to the prediction in the sixtieth chapter of Isaiah, which seems not as yet to have had its full accomplishment. Again, we are to pray that the life of faith and holiness may be daily promoted in all the faithful members of the church of Christ, that they may be enabled more and more to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour, and be abundantly satisfied and delighted with the fruits and effects of his redeeming love. We are to pray that God would accept those sacrifices of prayer and praise which are daily offered to him by faith in the blood of Christ, in every worshipping assembly, and which will redound to the advantage of all the servants of Christ, of whom they think themselves obliged to make mention, as well as to the glory of God, which is owned and advanced by them. We are to pray that the children of believers, who are devoted to God, may be under his special care and protection, that they may follow the footsteps of the flock, and fill up the places of those who are called off the stage of this world; that so there may be a constant supply of those who shall bear a testimony to Christ and his gospel in the rising generation. Finally, we are to pray that the members of every particular church of Christ may so acquit themselves that they may honour him in the eyes of the world; that they may be supported and carried safely through this waste howling wilderness, till they arrive at that better country for which they are bound; and that they may not be foiled or overcome while they are in their militant state, till they shall be joined with the church triumphant in heaven.

2. We are to pray for magistrates. Not only is this duty included in the general exhortation given us to 'pray for all men;' but it is particularly mentioned by the apostle, and is intimated to be 'good and acceptable in the sight of God, our Saviour.'^m Besides, magistracy is God's ordinance;ⁿ and whatever ordinance is stamped with the divine authority, though it may principally respect civil affairs, we are to pray that God would bless and prosper it, that it may answer the

¹ Thomas Vincent, *A Family Instructional Guide*, electronic edition based on the first Banner of Truth ed., 1980. (Simpsonville, SC: Christian Classics Foundation, 1996), 271.

^e Col. 2:1.

^f John 17:21.

^g Matt. 28:20.

^h Chap. 16:18.

ⁱ Acts 2:47.

^k Rom. 10:1.

^l Chap. 11:25.

^m 1 Tim. 2:1–3.

ⁿ Rom. 13:1, 2.

valuable ends for which it was appointed.

Now, there are several things which we are to pray for in behalf of magistrates. We are to pray that they may approve themselves rulers after God's own heart, to 'fulfil all his will,'^o as was said of David; that their counsels and conduct may be ordered for his glory, and the good of his church; that they may be 'a terror,' not to 'good works,' that is, to persons who perform them, but 'to the evil,' and so 'may not bear the sword in vain.'^p We are to pray that they may be a public blessing to all their subjects, and so that promise be fulfilled, 'Kings shall be thy nursing-fathers, and their queens thy nursing-mothers;'^q and, as an instance of this, that under them 'we may lead a quiet and peaceable life, in all godliness and honesty.'^r As to their subjects, we are to pray that they may not, on the one hand, abuse and trample on their authority, and take occasion to offend with impunity; nor, on the other hand, have cause to dread that authority as grievous, in instances of injustice and oppression.

3. We are to pray for ministers. This is a necessary duty, inasmuch as their work is exceedingly great and difficult; so that the apostle might well say, 'Who is sufficient for these things?'^s Indeed, besides the difficulties which attend the work itself, there are others which they meet with, from the unstable temper of professed friends, who sometimes, as the apostle says, 'become their enemies for telling them the truth;'^t or from the restless malice and violent opposition of open enemies, which evidently takes its rise from the inveterate hatred which they bear to Christ and his gospel. Moreover, as they have difficulties in the discharge of the work they are called to, so they must give an account to God for their faithfulness in it; and it is of the highest importance that they do this 'with joy, and not with grief.'^u So the apostle remarks; and immediately he entreats the church's prayers, as what was necessary in order to his giving such an account.²

Larger Catechism 187: Question: How is the Lord's Prayer to Be Used? Answer:

The Lord's prayer is not only for direction, as a pattern, according to which we are to make other prayers; but may also be used as a prayer, so that it be done with understanding, faith, reverence, and other graces necessary to the right performance of the duty of prayer.

Prayer Requests-08/07/2017

If you have a matter for prayer during the second service, please make that request known to the Pastor.

- **Pray** for Kristine Schempp, and Anna Allie, expecting..
- **Pray** for the Larsons, for wisdom toward Gabriel's long term care. **Praise** for their safe move into their new home. **Pray** for them as they settle in.
- **Pray** for Mr. Rocky Simbajon, & family, and for the work in the Philippines, and for the completion of the ancillary Church building in Loreto.
- **Pray** for Mrs. Lyla Ruddell, and Mr. "Sonny" Dillard, for Greg Schempp's father, Nick Wehlau's grandfather, and for Nick and Eric's grandmother, for health.
- **Pray** for our Church in San Marcos, that the new venue, and direction from Presbytery will be conducive to growth.
- **Pray** for our Elder Visitations, that the Lord would grant growth in grace, and good fellowship.
- **Pray** for Rev. Stephen Welch, and Rev. George Lacy as they search for new ministerial calls.
- **Pray** for Rev. Jeff Donnan, as he battles cancer.
- **Pray** for Lyla's nurse Cindy, as she continues to battle post-surgical infections.
- **Pray** for Jonathan and Marissa, as they plan their wedding and lives together, and prepare themselves for marriage.
- **Pray** for the Aruldas family home repair/remodel
- **Pray** for Rev. Stodghill's mother, as she recovers from surgery to repair her broken hip.
- **Pray** for the Rooney's as they prepare to move into their new home, and that the Lord would grant many hands to assist them.

^o Acts 13:22.

^p Rom. 13:3, 4.

^q Isa. 49:23.

^r 1 Tim. 2:2.

^s 2 Cor. 2:16.

^t Gal. 4:16.

^u Heb. 13:17, 18.

² Thomas Ridgley, *A Body of Divinity*, vol. 2 (New York: Robert Carter & Brothers, 1855), 568-569.