

Beautiful Rejection Letters

(Sardis & Pergamum: Dead & Alive)

Last Words to the Church #5

Revelation 2:12-17 & 3:1-6

I. Life Rejects Death!...

A. Death/Decay/Evil Works against the Living & the Dead **(Infection & Absorption)**

B. **Sardis & Pergamum**: Churches Death & Alive…

II. Pergamum: Living Church, Pressure & Deadly Infection

- Jesus' **Command & Promise**: Repent & Receive (the Manna & the White Stone with the New & Deeply Personal *Name*) or *I Will Come with My Sword.*

III. Sardis: Zombie (Dead) Church, Pressure & Destroying Absorption

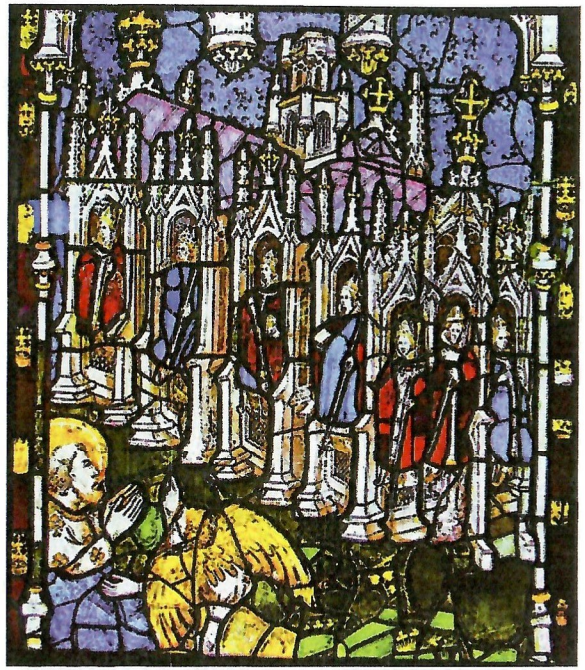
A. Jesus' **Miraculous Instructions** for Church Resurrection / Restoration…

1. **Wake Up** (Keep up your watchfulness)
2. **Strengthen What Remains** (The hidden power of external forms)
3. **Remember** what you have received
4. **Obey** (Keep hanging on to Me by doing what I say)
5. **Repent** (Think again… Change your mind… then behave differently… Turn… Reject Falsehood… Show & Tell the Truth… Reject Death… Embrace Life…)

B. Jesus' Wonderful **Promises**…

1. Or *I Will Come Like a Theif*
2. *White Clothes,* Everlasting Life & Everlasting *Name*

Additional Notes:



***The Seven Churches of Revelation*, York Minster Window**

The church is the place where we come to find out what we are doing that is right; it is a place of affirmation. The church is the place where we come to find out what we are doing that is wrong; it is a place for correction. The church is the place where we come to hear the promises; it is a place of motivation. No Christian community can do without any part of this message. We need affirmation, we need correction, we need motivation... This three-part spiritual direction trains God's people to live a life of confient faith in Christ in a hostile environment... The training takes place in seven areas: we are trained to love (Ephesus), to suffer (Smyrna), to tell the truth (Pergamum), to be holy (Thyatira), to be authentic (Sardis), to be in mission (Philadelphia), and to worship, using things to praise God, receiving gifts to serve God (Laodicea). The church is the community of people who explicitly and consciously submi tthemselves to the direction and training of our Lord the Spirit, so that excellence is pursued in these seven areas.

- Eugene Peterson, Reversed Thunder, p.53

Covenant Presbyterian Church of Reno, Nevada

November 1, 2026

Service for Communion Sunday
November 1, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.
– Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13 & 22

We Gather in the Name of Jesus Christ Whose Word Is Truth

Prelude Nancy Tedford

Welcome and Church Family News

Welcoming New Members to Covenant

Call to Worship **Psalm 19** (hymnal p.790) Gerry Dunlap

We Worship Jesus Christ Who Is Lord of All Creation

***Songs of Praise** Samuel Dueñas & The CPC Praise Team
"All My Boast Is in Jesus" & "King of Kings"
[CCLI License #246069]

***Time of Greeting**

Children's Prayer Time Katie Guerrero

Prayer of Confession, Word of Assurance & Gloria Patri

Time of Offering

Offertory "Amazing Love" – Kendrick Covenant Choir
***Doxology** (#731) & **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We Listen for What the Spirit Says to the Churches

***Hymn of Preparation:** "Rejoice the Lord Is King" #310



Scripture Reading:
Revelation 2:12-17; 3:1-6 (p.1029)
Message: *Beautiful Rejection Letters*
(Last Words to The Church #5)

With God's People Everywhere, We Join in Holy Communion

***Unison Affirmation** The Apostles' Creed (Hymnal p.845)

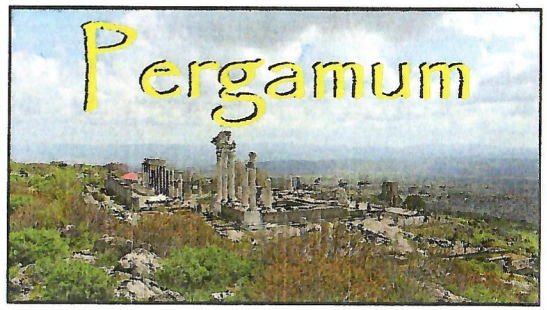
Words of Institution and Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** #347
"The Church's One Foundation" (vv.1, 4-6)

We Go Forth with Jesus Christ Who Brings New Life

***Charge & Benediction**
***Postlude**



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* indicates to stand if you are able

Weekly Events

Sundays

8:00 am Men's Bible St.
9:30 am Prayer
10:00 am Worship
11:15 am Fellowship

Wednesday

9:00 am Women's Bible St.
1:30 pm XL-ENT Teens
2:30 pm Kids Club
6:30 pm Bible Study
7:00 pm Praise Band Prac.

Thursdays

1 pm All Church Bible St.
7 pm Choir Rehearsal

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Nov 1 Congregational Meeting to elect Elders and Deacons
2 Fellowship MTM 2:00 pm
7 Elder/Deacon Training 8-Noon
10 Evangelism MTM 5:00 pm
Christian Ed MTM 6:00 pm
Worship MTM 6:00 pm
Deacons MTM 6:00 pm
Mission MTM 7:00 pm
11 **Veterans Day– Office Closed**
13 Christmas Market (13th-15th)
Nov 16 MomCo 5:30-7:30 pm
17 Admin 3:30 pm
21 Deacons Thanksgiving Dinner 4 p
24 Session 6:30 pm
26 **Thanksgiving Day Office Closed**
Dec 4 Gingerbread House Assembly/ Fellowship MTM 10:00 am-2:00 pm
5 Volunteer Day
6 Gingerbread House Decorating 2:00-4:00 pm

News & Reminders

Giving Envelopes are in the Narthex

Envelope boxes can be picked up in the narthex. If you would like to still sign up, we have more available. Please let a staff member know.

New Evening Bible Study

Pastor Jay is leading a Wednesday study of the Book of Revelation in Room 110 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

Christmas Child Shoebox Return

Return filled shoeboxes to the narthex on Sunday, Nov 1, 8, and 15.

Short Congregational Meeting on November 1

We'll stay after worship to elect new Elders and Deacons in time for an elder/deacon training on Nov. 7.

It's Time to Fall Back on November 1

Remember to move your clocks back one hour (you gain an hour of sleep). 2:00 am becomes 1:00 am.

Share a Photo of You or a Loved One Who Served in the Military

Email your photo to Cindy Duncan at cindy@covenant-reno.org by Nov. 4. She'll create a slide show we can all enjoy on Sunday, Nov. 8.

Opportunities to Serve

Kids Club Needs Volunteers

Can you help with sign-in and sign-out from 2:00-5:30 pm on Wednesdays? See Marti Lipovsky for details (775-224-1931)

Nursery Needs Volunteers

Can you spare one hour a month or be an on-call substitute? See Debbie Barackman for details (203-648-6008)

Fellowship Hour Needs Volunteers

This one is simple. We need people to make coffee and provide cookies. See Fran Stockert for details (937-602-7042).

PRAYERS & PRAISES

For the Church

Pray for God and our churches to raise up new pastoral leadership for our churches, as the EPC continues to shine as our Lord's "Lampstand" into the future.

Pray for the Choir Director Search Committee as they pray and search for a follower of Jesus who has choir conducting experience.

Prayer Requests

Nancy Tedford Healing
Sharleen Phillips Healing
An online atheist who is reading the Gospels. Understanding and Salvation (submitted by Gavin Doyle)
Sunny Armstrong Special needs child facing surgery (submitted by Brent Ford)
Abby Defrates Healing (submitted by Gerry and Janet Dunlap)
Howard Coffey Healing
Joyce Prosser Hospice Care (Joanne Dickson & Jim Prosser's mother)
Kaley & Chayce Healing from motorcycle accident. Chayce is still In the hospital. (Submitted by Carole Faeth)

Bereavement

Friends and family of **Bettye Morgan** (Patti Hemsley's mother)
Friends and family of **Cathy Harper** (friend of Jim and Jeanette Prosser)

Our New Neighbors

Pray for the new neighbors who have moved in

On Active Military Tour of Duty

Noah Arias, Terran Billharz, Cody Carr, Matthew Cunningham, Westin Hart, Chase Lemon, Levi Sanchez, Gary Hogman, Maille Mathieu, Brian Zordell, Margaret Guthrie, Benjamin Guthrie, Chandler Bryant, Caleb Mize & Jacob Simpkins

Prayer Requests

Name of Person to pray for: _____

Concern or Update_____

Submitted by _____

Date _____

☐ For Church-wide prayer ☐ For Pastor/Staff Prayer
☐ Post on the Realm

Prayer submissions will be listed for 4 weeks; if an extension is desired, please request with an update. Put your request in the offering plate or in the prayer request box located on the table at the back of the Sanctuary.