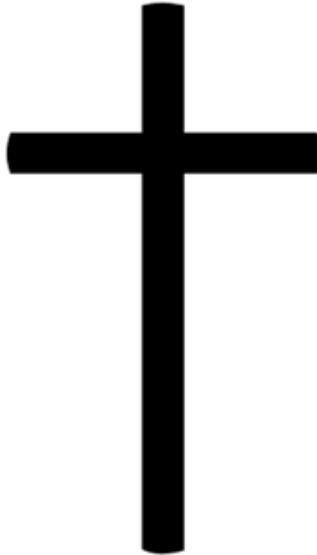


THE LORD'S DAY

March 8, 2026
Third Sunday in Lent



Christ Reformed Church
Rev. Nick Smith, Minister

12693 Orchard Ave. Nampa, ID 83651 • 208-466-4444
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Morning Worship Service: 10:15 AM • Evening Catechism Service: 5:00 PM

Member of:

United Reformed Churches in North America (www.urna.org)
North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (www.naparc.org)
International Council of Reformed Churches (www.icrconline.com)

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
10:15 AM

Prelude and Silent Prayer

(Once the prelude begins, please remain silent as the congregation prepares for worship)

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

God Calls Us to Worship

†Call to Worship Hebrews 10:19-22

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading Rev. 1:4-5; Psa. 72

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

Amen!

Give the king your justice, O God,

And your righteousness to the royal son!

May he have dominion from sea to sea,

And from the River to the ends of the earth!

May all kings fall down before him,

All nations serve him!

May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun!

May people be blessed in him, all nations call him blessed!

†“All Glory Be to Thee, Most High” #208*

God Assures Us of Forgiveness

Call to Confession 1 John 1:5-10

Prayer of Confession (*Book of Common Prayer*, 1549)

Almighty and most merciful Father; we have erred, and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and so we are helpless without you. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare us, as we confess our faults, restore us, as we are penitent, according to your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus our Lord, and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and devout life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Philippians 3:8-11

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

†Psalm 94A

EVENING CATECHISM SERVICE

5:00 PM

Prelude and Silent Prayer

(Once the prelude begins, please remain silent as the congregation prepares for worship)

O LORD, I call upon you; hasten to me! Give ear to my voice when I call to you. Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. (Psalm 141:1-2)

Welcome and Announcements

†Call to Worship Psalm 48:1-3

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King. Within her citadels God has made himself known as a fortress.

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading Psa. 124:8; Eph. 1:2

Our help is in the name of the LORD,

Who made heaven and earth.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen!

†Psalm 46C

†Confession of Faith The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only begotten
Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the
Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary;
suffered under Pontius Pilate; was
crucified, dead, and buried; he
descended into hell;¹ the third day he
rose again from the dead; he ascended**

**into heaven, and sits at the right hand of
God the Father Almighty; from there he
shall come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy
catholic² church; the communion of
saints; the forgiveness of sins; the
resurrection of the body; and the life
everlasting. Amen.**

†Gloria Patri (unannounced) #571*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and
to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the
beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

God's Will for Our Lives Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God,
**and the sky above proclaims his
handiwork.**

Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.

There is no speech,
**nor are there words, whose voice is not
heard.**

Their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

In them he has set a tent for the sun, which
comes out like a bridegroom leaving his
chamber,

**and, like a strong man, runs its course
with joy.**

Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
**and its circuit to the end of them, and
there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the
soul;

**the testimony of the LORD is sure, making
wise the simple;**

the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the
heart;

**the commandment of the LORD is pure,
enlightening the eyes;**

¹ See Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 44; Canons of Dort, 2.4.

² "Catholic" means universal; that is, there is one church across all times, places, and peoples (Belgic Confession, art. 27; Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 54).

the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
**the rules of the LORD are true, and
righteous altogether.**

More to be desired are they than gold, even
much fine gold;

**sweeter also than honey and drippings of
the honeycomb.**

Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can discern his errors?

Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

Keep back your servant also from
presumptuous sins;

let them not have dominion over me!

Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of
great transgression.

**Let the words of my mouth and the
meditation of my heart be acceptable in
your sight, O LORD, my rock and my
redeemer.**

Pastoral Prayer

**Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be
your name. Your kingdom come. Your will
be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread, and forgive us
our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For yours is the kingdom and
the power and the glory, forever. Amen!**

Psalm of the Month

†Psalm 22A; 1-5

Scripture Reading

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Psalm 16

(p. 453)

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Rev. Nick Smith

HE DESCENDED INTO HELL
LORD'S DAY 16, PART 2
THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

40 Q. Why did Christ have to suffer death?

**A. Because God's justice and truth require
it: nothing else could pay for our sins
except the death of the Son of God.**

41 Q. Why was he "buried"?

A. His burial testifies that he really died.

42 Q. Since Christ has died for us, why do we
still have to die?

**A. Our death is not a payment for our sins,
but only a dying to sins and an entering
into eternal life.**

43 Q. What further benefit do we receive from
Christ's sacrifice and death on a cross?

**A. By his power our old man is crucified,
put to death, and buried with him, so that
the evil desires of the flesh may no longer
rule us, but that instead we may offer
ourselves as a sacrifice of thanksgiving to
him.**

44 Q. Why does the creed add, "He descended
into hell"?

**A. To assure me during attacks of deepest
dread and temptation that Christ my
Lord, by suffering unspeakable anguish,
pain, and terror of soul, on the cross but
also earlier, has delivered me from hellish
anguish and torment.**

†Psalm 22A; 6-11

Offering

General Fund

†Benediction

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify
you completely, and may your whole spirit and
soul and body be kept blameless at the coming
of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is
faithful; he will surely do it.

Amen!

†"Abide with Me"

(unannounced)

#159

Postlude

† = please stand, if able

bold = congregational response