

THE LORD'S DAY

April 21, AD 2019
Easter Sunday



United Reformed Church of Nampa
Rev. Nick Smith, Pastor

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www.urnampa.org • office@urnampa.org • www.urnampa.org/sermons
Morning Worship Service: 10:15 AM • Evening Catechism Service: 6:00 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

(Upon entering the sanctuary, please remain silent as the congregation prepares for worship)

Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth. (Hosea 6:1-3)

Welcome and Announcements

Anthem: “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” (#363)

God Calls Us to Worship

†Call to Worship Revelation 19:6-9

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.”

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading Rev. 1:4-5

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!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Death is swallowed up in victory!

O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?

Thanks be to God!

Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

†“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” #360; 1, 4-6

God Assures Us of Forgiveness

Call to Confession Matthew 22:35-40
Confession of Sin

(From the reformed liturgy of John Knox, 1560)

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. We have sinned against you, 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 lives, but also the words of our mouths, and the smallest thoughts 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. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Ephesians 2:11-13, 19

Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the

EVENING CATECHISM SERVICE

6:00 PM

Prelude and Silent Prayer

(Upon entering the sanctuary, please remain silent as the congregation prepares for worship)

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.” You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. (Psalm 16:1-2, 11)

†Call to Worship Psalm 47:5-7

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!

†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 99B

†Confession of Faith The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was

incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic¹ and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

†Gloria Patri #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.

The Life of Gratitude Romans 12:9-21

Pastoral Prayer Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,

A very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,

Though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

Though its waters roar and foam,

Though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

The holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;

God will help her when morning dawns.

¹ “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 nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
He utters his voice, the earth melts.
The LORD of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our fortress.
Come, behold the works of the LORD,
How he has brought desolations on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
**He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.**
“Be still, and know that I am God.
**I will be exalted among the nations, I will
be exalted in the earth!”**
The LORD of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our fortress.
We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to
pray, saying:
**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 103C, Stanzas 1-4

Scripture Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12
This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 987)
Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination
Sermon

NEVER STOP STRIVING!
LORD’S DAY 44B
THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

113 Q. What is God’s will for you in the tenth
commandment?
**A. That not even the slightest desire or
thought contrary to any one of God’s
commandments should ever arise in our
hearts. Rather, with all our hearts we**

**should always hate sin and delight in all
righteousness.**

114 Q. But can those converted to God keep
these commandments perfectly?

**A. No. In this life even the holiest have
only a small beginning of this obedience.
Nevertheless, with all seriousness of
purpose, they do begin to live according to
all, not only some, of God’s
commandments.**

115 Q. Since no one in this life can keep the
Ten Commandments perfectly, why does God
want them preached so pointedly?

**A. First, so that all our life long we may
more and more come to know our sinful
nature and thus more eagerly seek the
forgiveness of sins and righteousness in
Christ. Second, so that we may never stop
striving and never stop praying to God for
the grace of the Holy Spirit, so that we
may be renewed more and more after
God’s image, until after this life we reach
our goal: perfection.**

†Psalm 112

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!

†“Be Still, My Soul”

#532

Postlude

† = please stand, if able

bold = congregational response