

# THE LORD'S DAY

January 26, 2020



**United Reformed Church of Nampa**  
**Rev. Nick Smith, Pastor**

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Morning Worship Service: 10:15 AM • Evening Catechism Service: 5:00 PM

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## MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

10:15 AM

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### Prelude and Silent Prayer

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

“Christian worship is essentially *eucharistia*, thanksgiving, to the God who has given us full and final redemption and in the same act restored to us our broken relationship with all His creation, whose praise we are called to make articulate. We worship because we have seen the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”  
(William Nicholls)

### Welcome and Announcements

#### God Calls Us to Worship

†Call to Worship                      Psalm 76:8-12

From the heavens you uttered judgment; the earth feared and was still, when God arose to establish judgment, to save all the humble of the earth. Surely the wrath of man shall praise you; the remnant of wrath you will put on like a belt. Make your vows to the LORD your God and perform them; let all around him bring gifts to him who is to be feared, who cuts off the spirit of princes, who is to be feared by the kings of the earth.

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading              Rev. 1:4-5; Psa. 30

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!**

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up

**And have not let my foes rejoice over me.**  
O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,  
**And you have healed me.**

O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;

**You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints,  
**And give thanks to his holy name.**

†“Sing, Choirs of New Jerusalem”              #358\*

#### God Assures Us of Forgiveness

Call to Confession

Joel 2:10-13

Confession of Sin

**Our Father, we are sinful and you are holy. Your word has shown us how often we have offended you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. There is nothing in us that gives us reason for hope. Our hearts are filled with the love of the world; our minds are dark and are assailed by doubts; our wills are too often given to selfishness and our bodies to laziness and unrighteousness. By sinning against our neighbors, we have also sinned against you, in whose image they were created. Our Father, although you are a holy God who cannot look upon sin, look upon Christ our Savior and forgive us for the sake of his blood and righteousness. We ask also that you would give us an increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, so that we may walk in your ways, for your glory and the good of our neighbor; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Malachi 3:16-4:2

Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name. “They shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the

wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him. “For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

†Psalm 27B; 1-5

Pastoral Prayer

†Psalm 67B

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Old Testament Reading Joshua 2  
This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 178)  
**Thanks be to God!**

New Testament Reading Hebrews 11:1-3, 29-31  
This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 1007)  
**Thanks be to God!**

Prayer for Illumination  
Sermon

JOSHUA 2  
RAHAB AND THE SPIES  
EXPOSITION OF JOSHUA #3  
i. God’s Ordinary Providence  
ii. God’s Dramatic Protection  
iii. God’s Gracious Purpose

†“All Authority and Power” #424

God Communes with Us  
in the Lord’s Supper

Preparation and Prayer of Consecration

By the promise of God this bread and wine are for us the body and blood of Christ. Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them up to the Lord!**

Distribution of the Bread and Wine  
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offering 1<sup>st</sup>: General Fund  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Word and Deed

God Blesses Us and  
Sends Us to Be a Blessing

†Benediction Numbers 6:24-26  
The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.  
**Amen!**

†Doxology (unannounced, #568)\*  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Postlude

† = please stand, if able  
**bold** = congregational response  
\* = the congregation is invited to lift hands (during last stanza); cf. Ps. 63:4, 1 Tim. 2:8

Invitation to the Lord’s Supper

We invite you to participate in the Lord’s Supper with us if you are a professing member in good standing of a Christian church. This means that:

1. you have been baptized;
2. you have made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ;
3. and you desire to live a godly life in fellowship with his church.

Do you know your place in Christ? Are you known as faithful to Christ by his church? Then you too are welcome at his table.

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## EVENING CATECHISM SERVICE

5:00 PM

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### Prelude and Silent Prayer

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

O LORD, be gracious to us; we wait for you. Be our arm every morning, our salvation in the time of trouble. The LORD is exalted, for he dwells on high; he will fill Zion with justice and righteousness, and he will be the stability of your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is Zion's treasure. (Isaiah 33:2, 5-6)

### †Call to Worship Psalm 27:4

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

### †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 27B; 6-10

### †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;<sup>1</sup> 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  
catholic<sup>2</sup> church; the communion of  
saints; the forgiveness of sins; the  
resurrection of the body; and the life  
everlasting. Amen.**

†“Come, Thou Almighty King” #212; 4\*

**To the great One in Three eternal praises  
be, hence evermore. His sovereign  
majesty may we in glory see, and to  
eternity love and adore.**

### The Life of Gratitude

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me.

**Against you, you only, have I sinned and  
done what is evil in your sight. (Ps. 51:4)**

You shall not make for yourself a carved image... You shall not bow down to them or serve them.

**Come, let us worship and bow down; let us  
kneel before the LORD, our Maker! (Ps.  
95:6)**

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

**O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will  
declare your praise. (Ps. 51:15)**

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

**How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD  
of hosts! ... For a day in your courts is  
better than a thousand elsewhere. (Ps.  
84:1, 10)**

Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

**Remember not the sins of my youth or my  
transgressions; according to your steadfast**

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<sup>1</sup> See Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 44; Canons of Dort, 2.4.

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

**love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD! (Ps.25:7)**

You shall not murder.

**Search me, O God, and know my heart!  
Teach me and know my thoughts! And see  
if there be any grievous way in me, and  
lead me in the way everlasting! (Ps.  
139:23-24)**

You shall not commit adultery.

**You have set our iniquities before you, our  
secret sins in the light of your presence.  
(Ps. 90:8)**

You shall not steal.

**Have mercy on me, O God, according to  
your steadfast love; according to your  
abundant mercy blot out my  
transgressions. (Ps. 51:1)**

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

**Put false ways far from me and graciously  
teach me your law! (Ps. 119:29)**

You shall not covet ... anything that is your neighbor's.

**Incline my heart to your testimonies, and  
not to selfish gain! (Ps. 119:36)**

Pastoral Prayer

1 Samuel 2:1-10

**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 8A

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 976)

**Thanks be to God!**

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

ELECTION IN CHRIST

ARTICLE 16

THE BELGIC CONFESSION

**We believe that -- all Adam's descendants  
having thus fallen into perdition and ruin  
by the sin of the first man -- God showed  
himself to be as he is: merciful and just.  
He is merciful in withdrawing and saving  
from this perdition those whom he, in his  
eternal and unchangeable counsel, has  
elected and chosen in Jesus Christ our  
Lord by his pure goodness, without any  
consideration of their works. He is just in  
leaving the others in their ruin and fall  
into which they plunged themselves.**

†“How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place” #425

Offering

General Fund

†Benediction

Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

**Amen!**

†“Nearer, Still Nearer”

#531

Postlude

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**bold** = congregational response

\* = the congregation is invited to lift hands (during last stanza); cf. Ps. 63:4, 1 Tim. 2:8