

THE LORD'S DAY

March 15, 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

Member of:

United Reformed Churches in North America (www.urcna.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)

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

†Opening Prayer

[†]Responsive Reading Rev. 1:4-5; Ps. 47:6-9
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!

For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence.

For my hope is from him.

He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress:

I shall not be shaken.

On God rests my salvation and my glory;

My mighty rock, my refuge is God.

God is a refuge for us.

†“Holy, Holy, Holy!” #230*

God Assures Us of Forgiveness

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 Psalm 34:17-18

When the righteous cry for help, the LORD
hears and delivers them out of all their
troubles. The LORD is near to the
brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

[†]Psalm 145B; 1-2, 5-8

Pastoral Prayer

†Psalm 46C

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Old Testament Reading 1 Samuel 17:38-47

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading Ephesians 6:10-24

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

- EPHESIANS 6:10-11
- EQUIPPED FOR BATTLE
 - i. Our Enemy
 - ii. Our Armor
 - iii. Our Weapons

†“The Battle Is the Lord’s” #545

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

1st: General Fund
2nd: Building Fund

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.

EVENING CATECHISM SERVICE 5:00 PM

Prelude and Silent Prayer

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

O LORD, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child is my soul within me. O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. (Psalm 131)

†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 99A

†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

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.

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

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.

Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
Honor your father and your mother, as the
LORD your God commanded you, that your
days may be long, and that it may go well with

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).

you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

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

Pastoral Prayer

Psalm 71

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 71; 5-8

Scripture Reading John 14:1-4, 18-20; 16:4-15
This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

BECAUSE HE LIVES
LORD'S DAY 18
THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

46 Q. What do you mean by saying, "He ascended to heaven"?

A. That Christ, while his disciples watched, was taken up from the earth into heaven and remains there on our behalf until he comes again to judge the living and the dead.

47 Q. But isn't Christ with us until the end of the world as he promised us?

A. Christ is true man and true God. In his human nature Christ is not now on earth;

but in his divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit he is never absent from us.

48 Q. If his humanity is not present wherever his divinity is, then aren't the two natures of Christ separated from each other?

A. Certainly not. Since divinity is not limited and is present everywhere, it is evident that Christ's divinity is surely beyond the bounds of the humanity that has been taken on, but at the same time his divinity is in and remains personally united to his humanity.

49 Q. How does Christ's ascension to heaven benefit us?

A. First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father. Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself. Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge. By the Spirit's power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.

†“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” #370

Offering General Fund

†Benediction 2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen!

†“Jerusalem the Golden” #468

Postlude

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