

# THE LORD'S DAY

September 20, 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)*

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 Micah 4:1-2a

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and it shall be lifted up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, and many nations shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading Rev. 1:4-5; Ps. 118

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!**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,

**That I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.**

This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

**I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.**

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

**This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

This is the day that the LORD has made;

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

†"This Day at Thy Creating Word" #154\*

#### God Assures Us of Forgiveness

Call to Confession Matthew 22:35-40

Confession of Sin

**Almighty God, who is rich in mercy to all those who call upon you; hear us as we come to you humbly confessing our sins, and imploring your mercy and forgiveness. We have broken your holy laws by our deeds and by our words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts. We confess before you our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and willfulness, and all our failures and shortcomings toward you and toward each other. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; and of your great goodness grant that we may hereafter serve and please you in newness of life; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord; Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon Ephesians 2:1-10

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

**But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ**

by grace you have been saved  
**and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ**

**Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.**

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

**For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.**

†Psalm 68A; 1-3; 7

Pastoral Prayer

†Psalm 13

### God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Old Testament Reading Joshua 17  
This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 191)  
**Thanks be to God!**

New Testament Reading 1 Corinthians 10:1-6  
This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 957)  
**Thanks be to God!**

Prayer for Illumination  
Sermon

JOSHUA 16-17  
OMINOUS DARK CLOUDS  
EXPOSITION OF JOSHUA #18  
i. A Reliable Word  
ii. Bold Faith  
iii. Spiritual Stagnation

†“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” #524

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>: 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

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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)*

Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God. (Isaiah 50:10)

### †Call to Worship Psalm 22:25-27

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him. The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

### †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 22C

### †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 catholic<sup>1</sup> 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 James 1:19-27  
Selection #61, p. 1072

### Pastoral Prayer Psalm 76

**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!**

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<sup>1</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).

*Psalm of the Month*

†Psalm 110B

Scripture Reading

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 98

(p. 500)

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

THE RETURN OF CHRIST

ARTICLE 37 (PART 4 OF 4)

THE BELGIC CONFESSION

*TPH* p. 870

Finally, we believe, according to God's Word, that when the time appointed by the Lord is come (which is unknown to all creatures) and the number of the elect is complete, our Lord Jesus Christ will come from heaven, bodily and visibly, as he ascended, with great glory and majesty, to declare himself the judge of the living and the dead. He will burn this old world, in fire and flame, in order to cleanse it. Then all human creatures will appear in person before that great judge -- men, women, and children, who have lived from the beginning until the end of the world. They will be summoned there by the voice of the archangel and by the sound of the divine trumpet. For all those who died before that time will be raised from the earth, their spirits being joined and united with their own bodies in which they lived. And as for those who are still alive, they will not die like the others but will be changed "in the twinkling of an eye" from "corruptible to incorruptible." Then "the books" (that is, the consciences) will be opened, and the dead will be judged according to the things they did in the world, whether good or evil. Indeed, all people will give account of all the idle words they have spoken, which the world regards as only playing games. And then the secrets and hypocrisies of men will be publicly uncovered in the sight of all.

Therefore, with good reason the thought of this judgment is horrible and dreadful to wicked and evil people. But it is very pleasant and a great

comfort to the righteous and elect, since their total redemption will then be accomplished. They will then receive the fruits of their labor and of the trouble they have suffered; their innocence will be openly recognized by all; and they will see the terrible vengeance that God will bring on the evil ones who tyrannized, oppressed, and tormented them in this world. The evil ones will be convicted by the witness of their own consciences, and shall be made immortal -- but only to be tormented in the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

In contrast, the faithful and elect will be crowned with glory and honor. The Son of God will "confess their names" before God his Father and the holy and elect angels; all tears will be "wiped from their eyes"; and their cause -- at present condemned as heretical and evil by many judges and civil officers -- will be acknowledged as the "cause of the Son of God." And as a gracious reward the Lord will make them possess a glory such as the heart of man could never imagine. So we look forward to that great day with longing in order to enjoy fully the promises of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

†"Union with Thee" #448

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!**

†"Worship Christ, the Risen King" #369\*

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