

THE LORD'S DAY

October 4, 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.urchna.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)

Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and my mind. For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness. I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD, proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds. O LORD, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells. My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the LORD (Psalm 26:2-3, 6-8, 12).

Welcome and Announcements

God Calls Us to Worship

†Call to Worship Revelation 21:1-4

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading Rev. 1:4-5; Ps. 145

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, my God and King,

And bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you

And praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,

And his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall commend your works to another,

And shall declare your mighty acts.

†"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" #196*

God Assures Us of Forgiveness

Call to Confession Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek the Lord while he may be found;

call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake his way,

and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful Lord, we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in you there is the fullness of righteousness and abundance of mercy. We are spiritually poor, but you are rich and in Jesus Christ came to be merciful to the poor.

Strengthen our faith and our trust in you, and accomplish your sanctifying work in us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

Assurance of Pardon Isaiah 55:8-13

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for

which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the Lord, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

†Psalm 95A

Public Profession of Faith

Pastoral Prayer

†Psalm 103E

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Old Testament Reading Joshua 20-21
This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 194)
Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading Revelation 11:15-19
This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 1034)
Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination
Sermon

JOSHUA 20-21
GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS
EXPOSITION OF JOSHUA #20
i. Cities of Refuge
ii. The Levites' Cities
iii. No Falling Words

†“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” #245

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: Love INC

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, 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 54:6

With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.

†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 51C; 1-5

†The Apostles' Creed #560

Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 1

1 Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has delivered me from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit,

also assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

God's Will for Our Lives Deuteronomy 5:6-21

Pastoral Prayer *(The Worship Sourcebook, based on Heidelberg Catechism Q. & A. 122-129)*

Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Help us to truly know you, to honor, glorify, and praise you for all your works and for all that shines forth from them: your almighty power, wisdom, kindness, justice, mercy, and truth. Help us to direct all our living—what we think, say, and do—so that your name will never be blasphemed because of us but always honored and praised.

Your kingdom come.

Rule us by your Word and Spirit in such a way that more and more we submit to you. Preserve and increase your church. Destroy the devil's work; destroy every force which revolts against you and every conspiracy against your holy Word. Do all this until your kingdom fully comes, when you will be all in all.

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Help us and all people to renounce our own wills and without any back talk to obey your will, for it alone is good. Help everyone carry out his office and calling, as willingly and faithfully as the angels in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Provide for all our physical needs so that we may recognize that you are the only source of everything good, and that neither our care and work nor your gifts can do us any good without your blessing. Therefore may we withdraw our trust from all creatures and place it in you alone.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Because of Christ's blood, do not impute to us, poor sinners that we are, any of the transgressions we do or the evil that constantly clings to us. Forgive us just as we are fully

determined, as evidence of your grace in us, wholeheartedly to forgive our neighbors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

We are so weak that we cannot stand on our own for a moment, and our sworn enemies—the devil, the world, and our own flesh—never stop attacking us. And so, Lord, uphold us and make us strong by the power of your Holy Spirit, so that we may not be defeated in this spiritual fight, but may firmly resist our enemies until we finally win the complete victory.

For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

We have made all these petitions of you because, as our all-powerful king, you are both willing and able to give us all that is good; and because your holy name, and not we ourselves, should receive all the praise, forever. For it is much more certain that God has heard my prayer than I feel in my heart that I desire such things from him.

Amen!

Psalm of the Month

†Psalm 133A

Scripture Reading

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Proverbs 1

(p. 527)

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

PROVERBS 1

HEAR, MY SON,

YOUR FATHER'S INSTRUCTION

EXPOSITION OF PROVERBS

†“O Word of God Incarnate” #171

Offering General Fund

†Benediction 1 Peter 5:10-11

And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever.

Amen!

†“Not What My Hands Have Done” #435

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