

THE LORD'S DAY

September 18, 2022
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Christ Reformed Church
Rev. Nick Smith, Minister

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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)

“To unite one’s heart and one’s voice with believers all around him as songs of praise are sung, prayers are offered up, confession is made, and the Scriptures are read, is indeed an experience which carries the soul beyond the reaches of individual worship and unites it with the Son of God who Himself leads the worship of those who gather in His name.” (Robert G. Rayburn).

Welcome and Announcements

God Calls Us to Worship

†Call to Worship Isaiah 42:10-13
Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise from the end of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that fills it, the coastlands and their inhabitants. Let the desert and its cities lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar inhabits; let the habitants of Sela sing for joy, let them shout from the top of the mountains. Let them give glory to the LORD, and declare his praise in the coastlands. The LORD goes out like a mighty man, like a man of war he stirs up his zeal; he cries out, he shouts aloud, he shows himself mighty against his foes.

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading Rev. 1:4-5; 15:3-4
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!

And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,

Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty!

Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations!

Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name?

For you alone are holy.

All nations will come and worship you,

For your righteous acts have been revealed.

†“Glory Be to God the Father” #213*

God Assures Us of Forgiveness

Prayer of Confession

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.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. (Psa. 51:2-3)

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 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.

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O LORD, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared. (Psa. 130:3-4)

Assurance of Pardon Hebrews 7:23-25

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but he holds his

priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

†Psalm 22D

Pastoral Prayer

†Psalm 46B

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Old Testament Reading Daniel 1
This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 737)
Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading Revelation 2:8-11
This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 1028)
Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination
Sermon

REVELATION 2:8-11
BE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH
EXPOSITION OF REVELATION 1-3 #3

†“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” #244

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: Missions and Mercy 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. Psalms 63:4, 1 Timothy 2:8

EVENING CATECHISM SERVICE

5:00 PM

Prelude and Silent Prayer

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

To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy upon us. (Psalm 123:1-2)

Welcome and Announcements

†Call to Worship Psalm 18:1-3

I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

†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 91B

†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;¹ 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
catholic² church; the communion of
saints; the forgiveness of sins; the
resurrection of the body; and the life
everlasting. 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.**

God's Will for Our Lives

Galatians 5-6 (excerpts)

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh,

But through love serve one another.

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word:

**“You shall love your neighbor as
yourself.”**

I say, walk in the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

**The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness, self-control.**

Against such there is no law.

**And those who belong to Christ Jesus have
crucified the flesh with its passions and
desires.**

If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

**Let us not become conceited, provoking
one another.**

Bear one another's burdens,

And so fulfill the law of Christ.

¹ See Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 44; Canons of Dort, 2.4.

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

And let us not grow weary of doing good.

So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Pastoral Prayer

Psalm 99

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 146

Scripture Reading

Matthew 26:17-29

This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 832)

Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

GOOD REASON FOR THESE WORDS

LORD'S DAY 29

THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

78 Q. Do the bread and wine become the real body and blood of Christ?

A. No. Just as the water of baptism is not changed into Christ's blood and does not itself wash away sins but is simply a divine sign and assurance of these things, so too the holy bread of the Lord's Supper does not become the body of Christ itself, even though it is called the body of Christ in keeping with the nature and language of sacraments.

79 Q. Why then does Christ call the bread his body and the cup his blood, or the new covenant in his blood, and Paul use the words, a participation in Christ's body and blood?

A. Christ has good reason for these words. He wants to teach us that just as bread and wine nourish the temporal life, so too

his crucified body and poured-out blood are the true food and drink of our souls for eternal life. But more important, he wants to assure us, by this visible sign and pledge, that we, through the Holy Spirit's work, share in his true body and blood as surely as our mouths receive these holy signs in his remembrance, and that all of his suffering and obedience are as definitely ours as if we personally had suffered and made satisfaction for our sins.

†“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” #338

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!

†“In Christ Alone”

#265

Postlude

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bold = congregational response

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