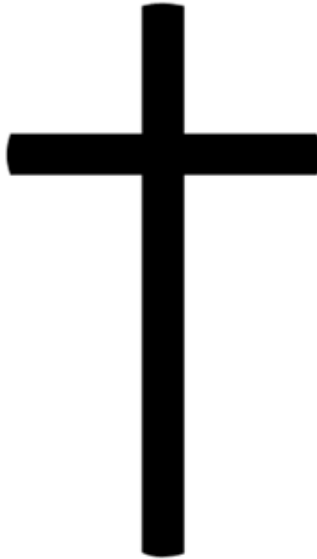


THE LORD'S DAY

March 26, 2023
Fifth Sunday in Lent



Christ Reformed Church
Rev. Nick Smith, Minister

12693 Orchard Ave. Nampa, ID 83651 • 208-466-4444
christreformednampa.org • office@christreformednampa.org
Morning Worship Service: 10:15 AM • Evening Catechism Service: 5:00 PM

Member of:

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

Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth. (Hosea 6:1-3)

Welcome and Announcements

God Calls Us to Worship

†Call to Worship 1 Chronicles 16:8-13

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice! Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually! Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles and the judgments he uttered, O offspring of Israel his servant, children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading Rev. 1:4-5; Psa. 89

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!

Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?

Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,

a God greatly to be feared in the council of the holy ones,

and awesome above all who are around him?

O LORD God of hosts,

who is mighty as you are, O LORD, with your faithfulness all around you?

†“Come, Thou Almighty King”

#212*

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

John 3:16-17

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should

not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

†Psalm 91B

Pastoral Prayer

†Psalm 111B

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Old Testament Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34
This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 660)
Thanks be to God!

New Testament Reading John 1:15-18
This is the Word of the Lord. (p. 887)
Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination
Sermon

JOHN 1:15-18
A CEASELESS STREAM OF GRACE
EXPOSITION OF JOHN 1-2 #4

†“O God beyond All Praising” #241

Offering 1st: General Fund
 2nd: Missions & 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)

O LORD, I call upon you; hasten to me! Give ear to my voice when I call to you. Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. (Psalm 141:1-2)

Welcome and Announcements

†Call to Worship Psalm 34:1-3

I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

†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 138A

†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 1 Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude.

It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;

It does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.

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).

For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Pastoral Prayer

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 130B

Scripture Reading

Luke 11:1-13

This is the Word of the Lord.

(p. 869)

Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

THE CHIEF EXERCISE OF FAITH

LORD'S DAY 45

THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

116 Q. Why do Christians need to pray?

A. Because prayer is the most important part of the thankfulness God requires of us. And also because God will give his grace and Holy Spirit only to those who continually and with heartfelt longing ask God for these gifts and thank him for them.

117 Q. How does God want us to pray so that he will listen to us?

A. First, we must pray from the heart to no other than the one true God, who has revealed himself to us in his Word, asking for everything he has commanded us to ask of him. Second, we must fully recognize our need and misery, so that we

humble ourselves in God's majestic presence. Third, we must rest on this unshakable foundation: even though we do not deserve it, God will surely listen to our prayer because of Christ our Lord, as he has promised us in his Word.

118 Q. What has God commanded us to ask of him?

A. Everything we need, spiritually and physically, as embraced in the prayer Christ our Lord himself taught us.

119 Q. What is this prayer?

A. 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.

†“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

#520

Offering

General Fund

†Benediction

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

Amen!

†“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

#245

Postlude

† = please stand, if able

bold = congregational response

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