

# THE LORD'S DAY

September 24, 2023

10 O'clock A.M.

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PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REFLECTION

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalms 100

**Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!**

Serve the LORD with gladness!

**Know that the LORD, He is God!**

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!

**Give thanks to Him, bless His name!**

For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever.

\*HYMN OF ADORATION

#310

*Rejoice, the Lord is King*

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

From the quotation above, Calvin goes on to say that simply seeing the bread, knowing it is there, does not give nourishment to the body. We must eat the bread before we are nourished. He speaks of knowledge and there is certainly knowledge of what the sign is, and what it signifies, but there is more. The Holy Spirit quickens believers who take Communion in faith in a very real way. Through this work of the Spirit, in a way filled with mystery, we are confirmed in the covenant and strengthened again by His grace. We feel no electrical surge in this, no physical or even emotional difference, but we are comforted, confirmed, and strengthened.

As we consider receiving this grace in Communion, we begin to long for it more and more. We may not wake up on Sunday morning thinking of this longing but when the hour comes, we are satisfied through the physical elements, the bread and the wine, taken in faith, and this satisfaction is spiritual—we have participated in the body and blood of Christ as He proclaimed that evening two thousand years ago when the Supper was instituted. Our spiritual satisfaction becomes deeper each time we partake, for we need grace. We need it ever more desperately, and the Lord has wonderfully made it available to us in worship and in a special way, through Holy Communion. We can never have enough.

*The Lord's Supper  
Preparation  
October 1, 2023*

**"This is For You"**

**Forty Reflections on the Sacrament of Communion**

"Our Need" Jimmy Hopper

"There are some who define in a word, that to eat the flesh of Christ and to drink His blood, is no other than to believe in Christ Himself. But I conceive that in that remarkable discourse in which Christ recommends us to feed upon His body, He intended to teach us something more striking and sublime; namely that we are quickened by a real participation of Him, which He designates by the terms eating and drinking, and no person might suppose the life which we receive from Him to consist in simple knowledge." —John Calvin, from *The Institutes of Christian Religion*

The Reformed Church has believed for centuries that Holy Communion is more than just a commemoration of the sacrifice of Christ, more than just a remembrance or some bit of sentimentality regarding the Lord and His love for His people. The Church believes that it is a means of grace and that we are very truly fed spiritually when we participate in the sacrament.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

**A Westminster Creed**

**I believe there is but one true and living God.**

I believe there are three persons in the one true and living God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

**I believe in God the Father who has foreordained all things.**

I believe the Father made all things of nothing, by His powerful Word, in the space of six days, and all very good. The Father, by His providence, preserves and governs all His creatures and all their actions.

**I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Redeemer of God's elect.**

I believe that our Lord Jesus endured the miseries of this life, the wrath of God for us, the cursed death of the cross, and burial. He rose again from the dead on the third day, and ascended into heaven. He now sits at the right hand of God the Father and will come to judge the world on the last day.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit who effectually applies the redemption of Christ to His elect.**

I believe by the Holy Spirit's sovereign grace we are effectually called, justified, and sanctified, and gathered into the visible church, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation.

CONFESSION OF SIN

**based on Psalms 130**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD! – O Lord, hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy! If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared. Put your hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption. And He will redeem us from all our iniquities through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

1 Peter 1:18-21

**Knowing that you were ransomed**

Not with perishable things such as silver or gold

**But with the precious blood of Christ**

Like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

**We are believers in God, who raised Jesus from the dead and gave Him glory.**

So that your faith and hope are in God.

\*HYMN OF DEVOTION

#521

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less  
Ushers come forward at this time.*

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Doxology

\*READING OF GOD'S WORD

Mark 10:13-16  
Pew Bible Pg,1006

PASTORAL PRAYER

PREACHING OF THE WORD

**Kingdom Kids**

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE

#253

*There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood*

\*BENEDICTION

\*GLORIA PATRI

#735

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\*Stand if you are able

**Evening Service 6PM: Catechism Question Q. 85**

**What does God require from us to escape His anger and curse?**

To escape God's anger and curse, which we deserve for our sin, God requires from us faith in Jesus Christ and repentance unto life along with diligent involvement in all the external ways Christ uses to bring us the benefits of redemption.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 10:13-16

**13** And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. **14** But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. **15** Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." **16** And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

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**Sermon Outline**

**The Righteous Anger of Jesus**

His Anger is usually for Pharisees  
But NOW it is for Disciples

**The Kingdom Belongs to These Children**

Are Covenant Children Special?  
What about Pagan Children?  
Jesus' Blessing

**Receiving the Kingdom as a Child?**

Are YOU in the Kingdom?  
Warning & Encouragement