

THE LORD'S DAY

June 28, 2026

10 O'clock A.M.

**We gather as God's people to worship the Triune God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
We do so through our Lord Jesus' sin-substitutionary death,
and by the enabling power of the Holy Spirit**

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 95:1-7

**O come, let us sing to Yahweh!
Let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.**

*Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;
Let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!*

**For Yahweh is a great God, and a great King
Above all gods.**

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

Let us kneel before Yahewh, our Maker!

*For He is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,
And the sheep of His hand.*

*HYMN OF ADORATION

Come, Thou Almighty King

#101

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

"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 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.

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 First Missionary Journey

Acts 12:25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had completed their service, bringing with them John, whose other name was Mark...

13:4-6,12 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucid, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the Word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them. When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos... Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

13:13,14 Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perla in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem, but they went on from Perla and came to Antioch in Pisidia.

Approximately 2 years in between 1st & 2nd Missionary Journey

Paul and Barnabas Separate

Acts 15:36-39 And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us return and visit brothers in every city where we proclaimed the Word of the Lord, and see how they are.” Now Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.

Paul commends John-Mark

Colossians 4:10 Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions – if he comes to you, welcome him)

2 Timothy 4:9-11 Do your best to come to me soon. For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica... Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed 325A.D.

We believe in One God the Father Almighty:

Maker of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

We believe in One Lord Jesus Christ:

The only begotten Son of God, begotten of His 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 and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnated 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 is seated at 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.

We 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 gloried; who spoke by the prophets.

We believe in one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church:

*We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
And we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent through Jesus our Savior. Have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your Holy Name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Psalm 32:1,2,10,11

**Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.**

*Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no
iniquity, and in whose spirit is no deceit*

Steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice O righteous!

PASTORAL PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEVOTION

#500

*Rock of Ages
Ushers come forward at this time.*

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Doxology

#731

*READING OF GOD'S WORD

1 Corinthians 10:31
Pew Bible Pg. 1138

PREACHING OF THE WORD

**My Graduation Speech
(I never gave)**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

#498

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

*BENEDICTION

*GLORIA PATRI

#735

**Stand if you are able*

The Graduation Sermon 2026

Proverbs 3:5,6 Trust in the Yahweh [LORD] with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

1 Corinthians 10:31 So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Ecclesiastes 12:1,13,14 Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth...The end of the matter... Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

Romans 10:9,10 If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

The Writer of the Gospel of Mark

Testimony from Church History: Papias, bishop of Hierapolis in Asia Minor, [90-100 AD] says Mark wrote this Gospel, using Peter as primary source. Quoted by Eusebius, Church Historian of 4C. Eusebius also tells us 2C Church Father Irenaeus held same view. All the copies of the Gospel of Mark throughout the world are attributed to him and no one else. (The Apostle Peter describes Mark as "my son" in 1 Peter 5:13.)

A Naked Runaway

Mark 14:43 – 52 And immediately, while Jesus was still speaking Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders...Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled. And they [disciples] all left him and fled.

And a young man followed Jesus, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.