

Covenant Reformed Church

Sunday, July 7th, 2024

Call to Worship (preaching elder)

Psalm 134

"Behold, bless Yahweh, all you slaves of Yahweh, Who stand in the house of Yahweh by night! Lift up your hands to the sanctuary and bless Yahweh. May Yahweh bless you from Zion, Who made heaven and earth."

Elder: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you!

Congregation: And also with you!

Song of Praise (stand) Psalm 134 - #269

Congregation: AMEN

Collect Prayer (assisting elder) Elder:

- An address to God;
- An acknowledgment of some aspect of God's nature or character;
- The petition itself;
- The aspiration;
- The memorial pleading.

Cleansing from Sin

Oh, Praise the Lord! Oh, Thank the Lord! (Psalm 106:1-16) - #200a

(Alternate recording: No. 3. The Song of Deborah: Sing praises Israel to the Lord (youtube.com))

Congregation: AMEN

Confession of sin

Q. 82. Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?

A. No mere man since the fall is able in this life perfectly to keep the commandments of God, but doth daily break them in thought, word, and deed.

Q. 84. What doth every sin deserve?

A. Every sin deserveth God's wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come.

Q. 85. What doth God require of us, that we may escape his wrath and curse, due to us for sin?

A. To escape the wrath and curse of God, due to us for sin, God requireth of us faith in Jesus Christ, repentance unto life, with the diligent use of all the outward means whereby Christ communicateth to us the benefits of redemption.

<u>Agnus Dei - #727</u>

Elder: (you may sit or kneel) *moment of silence* Let us confess our sins together:

Congregation:

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own heart. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from Your grace, there is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may now live godly, righteous, and sober lives, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen

Cleansing of the Gospel

Elder: Arise and hear good news! **(rise)** To all who rest upon Jesus Christ alone for their salvation I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the son, and of the Holy Ghost!

Congregation: AMEN

Elder: Our sins are forgiven through Christ!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Gloria Patri - #736

Consecration

Ascent to God's Throne

Elder: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Elder: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is proper and right so to do.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise - #337

Congregation: AMEN

Reading of the Law of God (sit)

Elder: Hear the Law of God (congregation to respond with the answer).

Q. 39. What is the duty which God requireth of man?

A. The duty which God requireth of man, is obedience to his revealed will.

Q. 53. Which is the third commandment?

A. The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Q. 54. What is required in the third commandment?

A. The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God's names, titles, attributes, ordinances, word, and works.

Q. 55. What is forbidden in the third commandment?

A. The third commandment forbiddeth all profaning or abusing of anything whereby God maketh himself known.

Q. 56. What is the reason annexed to the third commandment?

A. The reason annexed to the third commandment is, that however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.

Congregation: AMEN

Statement of Faith

Elder: Let us now affirm what we believe.

The Nicene Creed (Pg. 819 at the back of the Cantus Christi to read)

Congregation: AMEN

Reading of the Scripture

Elder: Hear the Word of the Lord (congregation to respond with the bold).

Ezekiel 37:15-28

The word of Yahweh came again to me saying, "Now as for you, son of man, take for yourself one stick and write on it, 'For Judah and for the sons of Israel, his companions'; then take another stick and write

on it, 'For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim and all the house of Israel, his companions.' "Then draw them together for yourself one to another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand.

"And when the sons of your people speak to you saying, 'Will you not declare to us what you mean by these?' say to them, 'Thus says Lord Yahweh, "Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will put them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand." "And the sticks on which you write will be in your hand before their eyes.

"And speak to them, 'Thus says Lord Yahweh, "Behold, I will take the sons of Israel from among the nations where they have gone, and I will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land; and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king will be king for all of them; and they will no longer be two nations and no longer be divided into two kingdoms.

"They also will no longer defile themselves with their idols or with their detestable things or with any of their transgressions; but I will save them from all their places of habitation in which they have sinned, and I will cleanse them. And they will be My people, and I will be their God. "And My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd; and they will walk in My judgments and keep My statutes and do them. "They will inhabit the land that I gave to Jacob My servant, which your fathers inhabited; and they will inhabit it, they, and their sons and their sons' sons, forever; and David My servant will be their prince forever.

"And I will cut a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will give them the land and multiply them and will set My sanctuary in their midst forever. "My dwelling place also will be with them; and I will be their God, and they will be My people. "And the nations will know that I am Yahweh who sanctifies Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forever."

Congregation: AMEN

Preaching of the Word (preaching elder) Acts 1:15-26 - The Scripture had to be Fulfilled (Part 2)

Prayer of Response Elder: Pastoral prayer (colloquy prayer)

Song of Response (stand) Doxology - #734

Thanksgiving (assisting elder)

Elder: Let us give thanks to God together.

Congregation:

Almighty God. Father of all mercies, We your unworthy servants, do give you our most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all people. We bless you for our creation and preservation and for all the blessings of this life. But above all, we thank you for your inestimable love and the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ. We also thank you for the means of grace and for the hope of glory. We beseech you now to give us that due sense of all your mercies, that our hearts may be truly thankful, and that we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all, honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Offerings

Elder: We will now bring our offerings as we sing.

Let Israel Now Say in Thankfulness (Psalm 124) - #239

Congregation: AMEN

Communion (preaching elder)

Elder: You may be seated. The words of institution & prayer

Elders to serve the table

My God, My God, O Why Have You (Psalm 22:1-8) - #41a

Elder: Let us pray to God together

Congregation:

"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 also have forgiven our debtors. 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. 'For Yours is the kingdom, power, and glory forever. Amen." (Matthew 6:9-13)

Elder:

"For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions." (Matthew 6:14-15)

Commissioning

Elder: Rise

"And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to keep all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)

Congregation: AMEN

Elder: Go now with God's blessing

"Yahweh bless you, and keep you; Yahweh make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you; Yahweh lift up His face on you, And give you peace." (Numbers 6:24-26)

Congregation: AMEN, AMEN, AMEN!