

Covenant Reformed Church

Sunday, September 8th, 2024

Call to Worship (preaching elder)

Psalm 8:1-2

"O Yahweh, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth, Who displays Your splendor above the heavens! From the mouth of infants and nursing babies You have established strength Because of Your adversaries, To make the enemy and the revengeful cease."

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)
LORD, Our Lord, in All the Earth – Psalm 8 (#16)

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

O Lord, How Many Are My Foes - Psalm 3 (#5)

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.

Agnus Dei - #727

Elder: We will now take a few moments to individually confess our sins to God. You may sit or kneel. *moment of silence* Let us now 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.

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven – Psalm 103 (#195)

Congregation: AMEN

Reading of the Law of God (sit)

Elder: You may be seated. 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. 45. Which is the first commandment?

A. The first commandment is, Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Q. 46. What is required in the first commandment?

A. The first commandment requireth us to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God, and our God, and to worship and glorify Him accordingly.

Q. 47. What is forbidden in the first commandment?

A. The first commandment forbiddeth the denying, or not worshipping and glorifying, the true God as God, and our God; and the giving of that worship and glory to any other, which is due to Him alone.

Q. 48. What are we specially taught by these words, before me," in the first commandment?

A. These words, before me," in the first commandment teach us, that God, who seeth all things, taketh notice of, and is much displeased with, the sin of having any other God.

Congregation: AMEN

Statement of Faith

Elder: Let us now affirm what we believe.

The Athanasian Creed - Part 1 (pg. 820, the first four paragraphs)

Congregation:

That we worship one God in trinity and the trinity in unity, neither blending their persons nor dividing their essence. For the person of the Father is a distinct person, the person of the Son is another, and that of the Holy Spirit still another. But the divinity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one, their glory equal, their majesty coeternal.

What quality the Father has, the Son has, and the Holy Spirit has. The Father is uncreated, the Son is uncreated, the Holy Spirit is uncreated. The Father is immeasurable, the Son is immeasurable, the Holy Spirit is immeasurable. The Father is eternal, the Son is eternal, the Holy Spirit is eternal. And yet there are not three eternal beings; there is but one eternal being.

So too there are not three uncreated or immeasurable beings; there is but one uncreated and immeasurable being. Similarly, the Father is almighty, the Son is almighty, the Holy Spirit is almighty. Yet there are not three almighty beings; there is but one almighty being. Thus the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God. Yet there are not three gods; there is but one God.

Thus the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord. Yet there are not three lords; there is but one Lord. Just as Christian truth compels us to confess each person individually as both God and Lord, so catholic religion forbids us to say that there are three gods or lords.

Congregation: AMEN

Reading of the Scripture

Elder: Hear the Word of the Lord.

Exodus 3:1-6 (Legacy Standard Bible)

"Now Moses was pasturing the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of Yahweh appeared to him in a blazing fire from the midst of the bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed. So Moses said, "I must turn aside now and see this marvelous sight. Why is the bush not burned up?" And Yahweh saw that he turned aside to look, so God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then He said, "Do not come near here. Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said also, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Then Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God."

Congregation: AMEN

Preaching of the Word (preaching elder)

Joshua 5:13-15 - Are you for us or for our adversaries?

Prayer of Response

Elder: Pastoral prayer (colloquy prayer)

Song of Response (stand)

Please stand as we sing the doxology.

Doxology - #702 - Verse 4

Congregation: AMEN

Thanksqiving

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.

The Lord's My Shepherd – Psalm 23 (#45)

Congregation: AMEN

Communion (assisting elder)

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

Elders to serve the table

And Can It Be That I Should Gain? – (#447)

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 (preaching elder)

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

St. Patrick's Breastplate - (#518) - Verse 9

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!