

THE LORD'S DAY



Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, A.D. 2008

United Reformed Church of Nampa, ID
Rev. Nick Smith, Pastor

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MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

9:00 AM

Prelude

Silent Prayer

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Elder Tom Simmonds

Choral Anthem

Psalm 119:169-176

Words in back of bulletin

†Call to Worship

Hebrews 10:19-22

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading and Salutation

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. Revelation 1:4-5

Amen!

God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered; Psalm 68:1-4

and those who hate him shall flee before him!

As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away;

as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God!

But the righteous shall be glad;

they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy!

Sing to God, sing praises to his name;

lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts;

his name is the LORD;

exult before him!

†“Praise the Savior”

Psalter Hymnal #361

Call to Confession Matthew 22:35-40
Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, who is rich in mercy to all those who call upon you; hear us as we come to you humbly confessing our sins, and imploring your mercy and forgiveness. We have broken your holy laws by our deeds and by our words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts. We confess before you our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and willfulness, and all our failures and shortcomings toward you and toward each other. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; and of your great goodness grant that we may hereafter serve and please you in newness of life; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord; Amen.

Assurance of Pardon 1 Peter 2:6-10
†Psalm 145 *Psalter Hymnal #298*

Pastoral Prayer

The Advent Canticle
†Psalm 68 *Psalter Hymnal #124, Stanzas 1,2,4,6*

Old Testament Reading Zephaniah 1
New Testament Reading 2 Peter 3:1-13
Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

2 PETER 3:1-13
WHAT SORT OF PEOPLE OUGHT YOU TO BE?
III. ADVENT 2008

The Advent Hymn
†“Day of Judgment! Day of Wonders!” *Psalter Hymnal #370*

†Confession of Faith The Apostles' Creed
**I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
And 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.
The third day He rose again from the dead;**

**He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit.
I believe a holy catholic Church, the communion of saints;
The forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body;
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion
Psalm 34 *Psalter Hymnal #58*

Offering General Fund

†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) *Psalter Hymnal #493*
- **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

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| EVENING CATECHISM SERVICE | 6:30 PM |
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Prelude
Silent Prayer

†Call to Worship Psalm 149:1-2

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading and Salutation

Our help is in the name of the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth. Psalm 124:8

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen! Ephesians 1:2

†Psalm 48 *Psalter Hymnal #89*

God's Law: The Joyful Life of Gratitude

Oh how I love your law!

Psalm 119:97-112

It is my meditation all the day.

Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,

for it is ever with me.

I have more understanding than all my teachers,

for your testimonies are my meditation.

I understand more than the aged,

for I keep your precepts.

I hold back my feet from every evil way,

in order to keep your word.

I do not turn aside from your rules,

for you have taught me.

How sweet are your words to my taste,

sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Through your precepts I get understanding;

therefore I hate every false way.

Your word is a lamp to my feet

and a light to my path.

I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,

to keep your righteous rules.

I am severely afflicted;

give me life, O LORD, according to your word!

Accept my freewill offerings of praise, O LORD,

and teach me your rules.

I hold my life in my hand continually,

but I do not forget your law.

The wicked have laid a snare for me,

but I do not stray from your precepts.

Your testimonies are my heritage forever,

for they are the joy of my heart.

I incline my heart to perform your statutes

forever, to the end.

I am the LORD your God....

Deuteronomy 5:6-21

†Psalm 19

Psalter Hymnal #29

Pastoral Prayer

†Psalm 103

Psalter Hymnal #204

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 1

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

DIVINE ELECTION

BELGIC CONFESSION, ARTICLE XVI

We believe that, all the posterity of Adam being thus fallen into perdition and ruin by the sin of our first parents, God then did manifest Himself such as He is; that is to say, merciful and just: merciful, since He delivers and preserves from this perdition all whom He in His eternal and unchangeable counsel of mere goodness has elected in Christ Jesus our Lord, without any respect to their works; just, in leaving others in the fall and perdition wherein they have involved themselves.

†“How Vast the Benefits Divine”

Psalter Hymnal #386

Offering

General Fund

†Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen!

†Psalm 72:18-19

Psalter Hymnal #488

Postlude