

New Hope Reformed Church: Service of the Lord's Supper
The Lord's Day, October 8, 2023

*leader: plain text; *congregation/all: bold, italic text*

standing

Call To Worship:

O magnify the Lord with me;
and let us exalt His name together.

Song 1: "My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less"

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.**

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.

Prayer of Adoration

O God, You Who are infinite, eternal, and unchangeable; glorious in holiness; full of love and compassion, and abundant in grace and truth: all Your works praise You throughout all your created dominion, and Your glory is fully revealed in Jesus Christ Your Son. Therefore we praise You-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One God, blessed forever. ***Amen.***

Reading responsively, let us confess the Law of our God.

Reading of the Law:

A lawyer [of the Pharisees] asked [Jesus] a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"
Jesus said to him,

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind'. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself'. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

kneeling

Confession of Sin

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 hearts. 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 there is no health in us. But You, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are repentant according to Your promises that You have declared to mankind through Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Our Lord Jesus Christ has bestowed power and commandment to his ministers, to declare and pronounce to those who are truly repentant, His absolution and remission of their sin. Therefore, may Jesus Christ absolve you of your sins, as you also remember His admonishment, to "go and sin no more". In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

Psalter: Psalm 110, tune: "Blest Be The Tie That Binds"

The LORD said to my Lord:
"Sit here at my right hand,
Until I make Your foes a stool
On which Your feet may stand."

The LORD will make Your reign
Extend from Zion's hill;
With royal power You'll rule among
Those who oppose Your will.

When You display Your power,
Your people flock to You;
At dawn, arrayed in holiness,
Your youth will come like dew.

Unchangeably the LORD
With solemn purpose swore:
"Just like Melchizedek You are
A priest for evermore."

The Lord's at Your right hand;
There He will ever stay.
He on His day of wrath will crush
The kings who bar His way.

The nations He will judge;
The dead in heaps will lie.
The might of the earth He'll crush—
All who His rule defy.

A brook beside the way
His thirst will satisfy;
And, thus refreshed, He will with joy
Lift up his head.

being seated

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 4:1-11

Sermon

Catechism Recitation

Confession of Faith, Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 38

Q. What is God's will for us in the fourth commandment?

A. First, that the gospel ministry and education for it be maintained, and that, especially on the festive day of rest, I regularly attend the assembly of God's people to learn what God's Word teaches, to participate in the sacraments, to pray to God publicly, and to bring Christian offerings for the poor.

Second, that every day of my life I rest from my evil ways, let the Lord work in me through the Spirit, and so begin in this life the eternal Sabbath.

Pastoral and Lord's Prayer

Our Father 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 forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Gathering of Tithes and Offerings

O Lord, although You have no need for gifts, we pray that You accept these offered by Your followers here present, and count us all worthy of Your continued blessings. ***Amen.***

The Lord's Supper

Hear the words of the Holy Gospel, taken from Saint Matthew: "As they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body". Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins". Now, in Christ's Name, I take these elements, the bread and the wine, to be set apart by prayer and thanksgiving to the holy use for which He has appointed them. Let us pray:

O God, You have, by the blood of Your dear Son, set apart for us a new and a way into the Holiest of All. Cleanse our minds, we implore You by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit that, drawing near unto You with a pure heart and undefiled conscience, we may receive these, Your gifts, without sin, and worthily magnify Your holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The bread, which we break is, by faith, a participation in the Body of Christ.

In just like manner, the cup that we bless is, by faith, a participation in the Blood of Christ.

Closing Prayer

Most merciful God, we bless Your holy Name for all Your servants who have kept the faith, and, having accomplished their warfare, are at rest with You. We pray that You will enable us to follow their good example. May we, with them, finally be partakers of Your heavenly kingdom. May we at the glorious appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, behold Him with unveiled face, being changed into His likeness when He will present us, with all His Church, faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. Hear us, O heavenly Father, for His sake to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, glory is given forever and ever. *Amen.*

standing

Song 2: Psalm 101, tune: "While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks"

I'll praise your love and justice, LORD;
I'll praise you cheerfully.
I'll strive to lead a blameless life—
When will you come to me?
When will you come to me?

Within my home the life I lead
Will show a blameless heart.
My eyes will view no worthless thing;
From sin I will depart.
From sin I will depart.

I hate what faithless people do;
It shall not cling to me.
All wicked people I'll avoid;
From evil I'll stay free.
From evil I'll stay free.

I'll put to silence everyone
Who slanders secretly;
I will not tolerate the proud
Who act so haughtily.
Who act so haughtily.

My eyes are on the faithful ones,
That they may dwell with me;
Whoever lives a blameless life

Will serve me constantly.
Will serve me constantly.

No one who practices deceit
Will dwell within my home;
Nor will the one whose words are false
Before me ever come.
Before me ever come.

Each morning I will silence all
Who wicked deeds have done;
I'll cleanse the city of the LORD
Of every evil one.
Of every evil one.

Benediction

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord. May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.
Amen.

Doxology: Psalm 91, tune: "Jesus, What a Friend For Sinners"

Who with God Most High finds shelter
In th'Almighty's shadow hides.
To the Lord I'll say, "My Refuge!"
In my God my trust abides.
From the fowler's snare He'll save you,
From the deadly pestilence;
Cover you with outspread pinions,
Make His wings your confidence.

God's own truth, your shield and buckler;
You will fear no ill by night,
Nor the shafts in daylight flying,
Nor disease that shuns the light,
Nor the plague that wastes at noonday.
At your side ten thousand fall;
You will only see this judgment
Which rewards the wicked all.

You have made the Lord your refuge,
God Most High your dwelling-place;
Nothing evil shall befall you;
In Your tent no scourge you'll face.
He will angels charge to keep you,
Guard you well in all your ways.
In their hands they will uphold you
Lest your foot a stone should graze.

You shall trample serpents, lions,
Tread on all your deadly foes.
For his love to Me I'll save him,
Keep him, for My name he knows;
When he calls Me, I will answer,
Save and honor him will I.
I will show him My salvation,
With long life will satisfy.