

*Readings from Matthew chapter 13—June 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

**53** Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished these parables, that He departed from there. **54** And when He had come to His own country, He taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished and said, “Where did this Man get this wisdom and these mighty works? **55** Is this not the carpenter’s son? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas? **56** And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this Man get all these things?” **57** So they were offended at Him. But Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house.” **58** Now He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

*Sunday: What was Jesus’ own country?* **Pray** for the new RP preaching station in Burlington, Iowa. **Please pray** with Westminster, Colo., RPC as they are currently without a pastor; **pray** for continued pulpit supply, for patience, and for wisdom for both the congregation and potential candidates during the search for a new pastor. **Pray** for our Synod, meeting Monday to Thursday.

*Monday: What is a synagogue?* **Pray** for Kasumigaoka RPC (Kobe, Japan), grieving the death of a deacon, Mr. Hamada; **pray** for his widow, that she would come to faith in Christ. **Pray** for Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, that the Lord would bring purity and unity and peace.

*Tuesday: Why were the people astonished by Jesus?* **Pray** with Hetherton RPC (Johannesburg, Mich.) that those who are looking for a job in another location will consider northern Michigan, where there are a lot of openings, especially in the building trades. **Pray** for Birmingham (Ala.) RPC, that it would grow, and that it would soon be able to call a pastor.

*Wednesday: How does v. 55 contradict the Roman Catholic belief that Mary was always a virgin?* **Pray** with the White Lake, N.Y., RPC as they seek new opportunities to interact with families in the community. **Pray** for Treasure Valley RPC in Idaho, as it has this month begun public worship; **pray** for many folks to attend, and to be converted to Jesus; **pray** for Pastor Ryan Hemphill and family, for strength, stamina, and protection.

*Thursday: Are you offended by Jesus, or, do you believe in and submit to Him?* **Give thanks** for the new members of Ottawa, Ont., RPC. **Pray** for our nation.

*Friday: Why would a prophet not be respected in his own country or house?* **Pray** for the leadership of Orlando, Fla., RPC’s elders and new pastor, Dr. Nathan Eshelman. **Pray** for those in our flock who have health and housing needs.

*Saturday: In light of v. 58, is it possible that Jesus does not do mighty works in the midst of a people because of unbelief?* **Pray** for upcoming RP Missions trips being planned for later this summer; **particularly pray** with regard to ever-changing travel policies related to COVID-19 and its variants. **Pray** that many people would attend ARPC tomorrow, and would experience God’s grace.

Atlanta

Reformed

Presbyterian

Church

*The Lord’s Day*

*June 13, 2021*

**Meeting every week at**

**574 Western Avenue**

**(corner of Western and Walnut Street)**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

**Worship at 3:30 PM**

**Pastor Frank J. Smith, Ph.D., D.D.**

***franksmith76@gmail.com***

<https://atlanta-rpc.org>  
(770)241-3946

Proclaiming the Kingship  
of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship

Psalm 115:1-2

\*The Invocation

\*Psalm 92C

“It’s Good to Thank the Lord”

Scripture Reading

John 15

\*Psalm 145A

“I Will Thee Praise, My God, O King”

Pastoral Prayer

\*Psalm 93A “Jehovah Reigns; He’s Clothed with Majesty Most Bright”

Scripture Text

Revelation 1:9-20

The Sermon

“Christ Among the Lampstands” (Part 1)

\*Prayer

\*Psalm 149 [stanzas 1-3]

“O Praise the Lord!”

\*Benediction

\*Psalm 149 [stanza 4]

“On Nations Thus to Take Revenge”

\* Congregation will please stand.

We are so glad that you could join us today! Please be sure to return next week and bring a friend.

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions & Answers

**“Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.”—Ephesians 1:4-5.**

**Q. 24. How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet? A. Christ executeth the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by his word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.**

**Q. 71. What is required in the seventh commandment? A. The seventh commandment requireth the preservation of our own and our neighbor's chastity, in heart, speech and behavior.**

**Q. 72. What is forbidden in the seventh commandment? A. The seventh commandment forbiddeth all unchaste thoughts, words and actions.**

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***For your convenience, a tithe box is located at the back.***

Revelation 1:9-20 “Christ Among the Lampstands” (Part 1)

Theme: John encounters Christ in the midst of the seven lampstands.

I. John Hears (vv. 9-11)

A. Description of John

1. Person

2. Position

a. Patmos—an isle

b. “because of the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus”—i.e., because of his Christian faith

c. “I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day”

(1) In the Spirit—“I became”; a state of prophetic ecstasy

(2) Lord’s Day

(a) The Christian Sabbath

(b) We are to worship on the first day of the week

[1] The 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment is universally binding

[2] All four Gospels record Jesus rose on first day of week

[3] Acts 2—Day of Pentecost; Acts 20:7; I Cor.16:1-2

(c) Connection between Spirit and Sabbath

(d) It's the Lord's Day

[1] Focused on Him, particularly His resurrection

[2] Isaiah 58:13-14—victory (riding on high places)

B. What John hears

1. A voice as great as a trumpet

2. What the voice says

Application

A. Be prepared to suffer persecution

1. Why are we persecuted? Because of hatred and purification

2. This persecution may take various forms

B are you “in the Spirit”?

1. There's a subjective side to this

2. There's also an objective dimension

C. Never forget that to be in the Spirit is to be in Christ

1. These means of grace are tools

2. All of these things are focused on Christ