

Readings from Matthew chapter 12—March 14th-20th, 2021

¹⁵ But when Jesus knew *it*, He withdrew from there. And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all. ¹⁶ Yet He warned them not to make Him known, ¹⁷ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: ¹⁸ “Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased! I will put My Spirit upon Him, And He will declare justice to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ He will not quarrel nor cry out, Nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets. ²⁰ A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench, Till He sends forth justice to victory; ²¹ And in His name Gentiles will trust.”

Sunday: **What does Jesus do for the multitudes?** **Pray** for the efforts of the session and outreach team of the Terre Haute (Ind.) RPC as they look for ways to spread the gospel, especially as plans have been complicated by the pandemic. **Pray** for Pastor James Coates of Edmonton, Alberta, who has been jailed for holding worship services; **pray** for his swift release and for legal vindication; **pray** that the tyrants persecuting him and others in Canada would be completely stopped.

Monday: **Why did Jesus tell the people not to make Him known?** **Give thanks to God** for the regular teaching and preaching that the Lord has sent the Ridgefield Park (N.J.) RPC during this time without a pastor; **pray** that the Word of God would take root in the heart of unbelievers and draw them to Christ.

Tuesday: **If Jesus is Lord, why is He called God’s Servant?** **Give thanks** for the recent election of three deacons at Bloomington (Ind.) RPC; **pray** that God would continue to bless the congregation through its diaconal ministry. **Pray** for Ridgefield Park (N.J.) RPC, that the pastor it called will soon be able to immigrate to the U.S.

Wednesday: **Where else does God refer to Jesus as His Beloved?** [See Matthew 3:13-17; 17:1-5.] **Give thanks** for the communion with brothers and sisters at Russell (Ont.) RPC throughout this pandemic. **Pray** for President Biden.

Thursday: **What do we learn about Jesus from the quotation of Isaiah 42:1-4?** **Pray** that White Lake (N.Y.) RPC would use obstacles created by the pandemic as stepping stones to minister more effectively to families with children, seniors, and those in need in the community. **Pray** for tomorrow’s congregational meeting of Immanuel RPC, West Lafayette, Ind., that there would be calm and peace. **Pray** for the raising up of more ministers in our nation, and for an abundant harvest of souls.

Friday: **What is meant by His not breaking a bruised reed nor quenching a smoking flax?** **Pray** for Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary student Aaron Murray his wife, Mary, and their children. **Pray** for Claudia Gonzalez and her health, as she faces surgery in about a week.

Saturday: **How will it come about that the Gentiles [i.e., the nations] will trust Him?** [See Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8.] **Pray** for the many recent visitors to Hetherton (Mich.) RPC to settle in the area near the church. **Pray** for the RP work

in The Gambia, that it would grow and prosper. **Pray** for tomorrow’s service at ARPC, for many to attend, and that the word would be preached with power.

Atlanta

Reformed

Presbyterian

Church

The Lord’s Day
March 21, 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.

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Proclaiming the Kingship
of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements
Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions
The Call to Worship Habakkuk 2:18-20

*The Invocation
*Psalm 135B “Hallelujah! Praise the Lord’s Name!”

Scripture Reading Exodus 9:13-21
*Psalm 74A “Why, God, Forever Cast Us Off?”

Pastoral Prayer
*Psalm 65B “Thy Might Has Built the Mountains”
Scripture Text II Corinthians 1:12-22

The Sermon “Covenant Signs”
*Prayer
*Psalm 87 “Upon the Holy Hills”

*Benediction
*Psalm 68E “O All Ye Kingdoms of the Earth”

* 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

“Remove not the ancient landmark which your fathers have set.”—Proverbs 22:28. “And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them and said, ‘Take, eat; this is My body.’”—Mark 14:22.

Q. 63. Which is the fifth commandment? A. The fifth commandment is, Honor thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Q. 91. How do the sacraments become effectual means of salvation? A. The sacraments become effectual means of salvation, not from any virtue in them, or in him that doth administer them; but only by the blessing of Christ, and the working of his Spirit in them that by faith receive them.

Q. 92. What is a sacrament? A. A sacrament is a holy ordinance instituted by Christ; wherein, by sensible signs, Christ, and the benefits of the new covenant, are represented, sealed, and applied to believers.

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

We are pleased to welcome to our pulpit this afternoon the Rev. J. Bruce Martin. The son and brother of ministers, Pastor Martin grew up in the Reformed Presbyterian Church and has had a long and distinguished career within her. He has pastored in Nebraska, Kansas, and New Jersey, and retired in 2019 from the active ministry. In addition to service in congregations, he has served the broader church, having been Clerk of Atlantic Presbytery, Clerk of the Synod of the RPCNA for twenty-six years, and twice Moderator of the Synod.

Covenant Signs

**God has given us signs of His covenant
that assure us of His promise.**

Introduction

God gave us signs; some were historical; others perpetual.

I. The signs assure you of God’s promise.

- A. He promises to be our God and to accept us as His people.
- B. He has often demonstrated the God/people relationship with us.
- C. He has set His seal on us and has given us His Spirit.

II. Four signs continue to testify to His promise.

- A. The Sabbath signifies the rest God has promised you. [Ex. 31:12-17]
- B. The rainbow signifies God's mercy to us. [Gen. 9:8-17]
- C. Baptism signifies that we are God's

people. WSC #94

D. In the Lord's Supper we are made partakers of Christ. WSC #96.

III. Benefit from Christ.

- A. The sacraments are not magical acts.
- B. Use the signs to improve your walk with Christ.

Conclusion

These signs are real. They seal the authenticity of God's covenant love. Move ahead with confidence in Him.