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THE LORD'S DAY

July 23, 2023 WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE CALL TO WORSHIP & "Am STRIKING THE HOUR WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEM *†* INTROIT "We Wors *† Please stand as you are able.* $(\Lambda$ † Hymn "When Morn (Vers **†** PRAYER OF THE DAY AND T **†**ANTHEM "Glo "My Sa Hymn (Verses 1,4) WE PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER AND

RECITE GOD'S COVENANT PROMISES

"Psalm 143"

(Verses 1,3)

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSORIAL

Psalter 143^C (Sung to the tune of "Fairest Lord Jesus")

RESPONSIVE READING: "The Heidelberg Catechism"

WE RETURN OUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE UNTO THE LORD

RECEIVING THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS † DOXOLOGY AND OFFERTORY PRAYER

WE LIFT OUR **VOICES IN PRAISE**

Piano/Chancel Organ		ΗΥΜΝ	"Oh, Jesus Have Promised" (Verses 1,3,4)	Page 676	• Th
nazing Grace" The Carillon Bells			Special Music		• Go be ins
		EXPOSITION OF THE WORD AND CONFESSION OF FAITH			fai • Th
ship and Adore You" Verse 1)	Page 194	Or	THE SERMON "Jesus Teaching on Divorce ", What's Love Got to Do with It?" Matthew 5:27-20		• Th an res or
ning Gilds the Skies" ses 1,2,4)	Page 215	† The Apostles' Creed		• Th siv	
HE LORD'S PRAYER	D	† Closing Hymn	" <i>I'll Fly Away"</i> (All Verses)	Page 779	• Go
ria Patri" avior's Love"	Page 813 Page 348	† Benediction † Anthem	"The Family of God"	Page 419	gu ra

DEPART IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

If you are visiting with us today, we're glad you're here. We are ordinary people on an extraordinary journey, learning to love and serve like Jesus. Come with Us!



In this constantly changing world, our goal is to reflect and recapture the historic and classical worship of Almighty God. Central to our service is the proclamation of the Word and a biblical understanding of the Sacraments in the tradition of the Evangelical and Reformed faith.

OUR MISSION TO PRESENT CHRIST TO EVERYONE. EVERYWHERE, AT EVERY AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY.



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THE LESSONS FOR USE ON THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~ YEAR A Isaiah 44:6-8 • Psalm 86:11-17 Romans 8:12-25 • Gospel Focus: Matthew

WE AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING:

he Holy Trinity of God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

od has revealed Himself fully and decisively in Holy Scripture. We elieve the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the spired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God and our guide for ith and life.

here is only one way to Salvation - through Jesus Christ.

he sanctity of human life based on our creation in the image of God nd our election by God for service in His Kingdom. This leads us to spectfully affirm the sanctity of life at every stage, from conception to dinary death.

he Biblical principles of immutable gender and sexuality: The excluve union of one man and one woman in marriage; and fidelity to its ows. And, chastity outside of marriage for the sake of the Kingdom.

od made all people from one man and although people can be distinished by different ethnicities and nationalities, we are all one human ce and absolute equals before God in creation, the need for repentnce, and the offer of redemption.

That the mission of the Church is to spread the Good News of the Gospel in every word and deed. Proclaiming to the world the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and seeking to bring every person into a life of faith, discipleship, and submission to Him.

Week Ending July 16, 20 \$2,524	023
\$2,524	
Sunday General Giving	1,876
Online General Giving	203
Total General Gifts	2,079
Less 3% to Building	-62
Less 10% to Missions	-208
Net General	1,808
Designated Giving	
Building Maintenance	337
Flowers	25
Gals	45
Missions	308
Total Designated Giving	716
Net General	1,808
Designated Giving	716
Total Receipts	\$2,524
	Total General Gifts Less 3% to Building Less 10% to Missions Net General Designated Giving Building Maintenance Flowers Gals Missions Total Designated Giving Net General Designated Giving

WHAT GOD'S WORD SAYS ABOUT LOVE AND MARRIAGE.

I recently heard of a couple who, on their wedding day, promised to stay together:"...as long as love lasts." How sad. But that is what our culture has reduced marriage to. This world has turned 'holy matrimony' into a lease program. When the love-lease is over, you get to walk away. It has become too common in today's marriages. If it doesn't work, divorce. That's usually the solution, often forgetting why we got married in the first place. When two become one, it should mean exactly that- a union between two people who are in love and want to spend the rest of their lives together, for better or worse, sickness and health, good times and bad.

God's good plan for marriage is a lifelong, sacred commitment between a man and a woman (Gen. 1:27; 2:24; Mal. 2:14; Matt. 19:3-6). However, in two situations, the Bible seems to allow for the option of divorce. One situation is when a spouse is sexually unfaithful. Jesus taught that while divorce is a grievous violation of a sacred covenant relationship, it is permissible if one spouse is guilty of "sexual immorality" (Matt. 5:32; 19:9). The second situation in which divorce is legitimized is if one spouse deserts the marriage. In such an instance, the non-deserting

spouse cannot fulfill their marital responsibilities (1 Cor. 7:12-15). While divorce may be permissible in such tragic circumstances, it must always be viewed only as a last resort because of the sacred nature of marriage. All efforts at reconciliation must be exhausted before divorce is pursued. However, divorce is permissible if such measures are unfruitful, and then the one who has been betraved, either sexually or by desertion, may freely remarry with God's approval.

IMPLICATIONS FOR MARRIAGE AND SEXUAL MORALITY Several implications arise from the Bible's teaching on marriage:

1. Marriage and sexuality are good gifts from God.

The fall distorted what marriage should be, but the institution itself was already in place. Marriage is good.

2. Marriage is between one man and one woman.

The reason for this is rooted in the very creation of man and woman. God created man and woman to bear his image together, each uniquely and in a complementary way representing God here on earth.

3. Sexual relations are sacred and designed to occur only within the bounds of the marriage covenant.

Once more, this is rooted in the creation account. The man and the woman are to be utterly faithful to one another because they have "become one flesh" (Gen. 2:24). To break this bond through adultery or other kinds of sexual immorality is therefore not only a breach of faith with one's spouse but also, more deeply, a breach of faith with one's Creator.

4. Marriage reflects Christ's relationship with the church.

Ephesians chapter 5 clarifies that Christ's love for the church is the pattern for a husband's love for his wife. Likewise, the church's glad submission to Christ is the pattern for the wife's willing submission to her husband. As head of the wife, the husband gladly sanctifies her, loves her, and gives his life for her; the wife, in turn, gladly submits to and honors her husband.



The Chancel Flowers Are Placed by:



Carol Beal in loving memory of her father Murrell Beherrel Doris Turner in honor of her daughter Connie's Birthday Shirley Finefrock in honor of her son Jonathan's Birthday

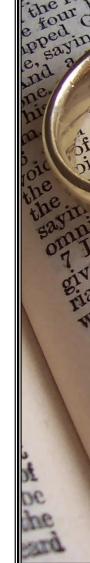
MARK YOUR 🗹 CALENDAR

AUGUST 2023				
Guy's Lunch	Thursday August 3 rd at 11:00 a.m.			
~~~ Guy's Prayer Group	Thursday, August 3 rd at 10:30 a.m.			
GAL's Meeting	Monday August 7 th at 12:00 p.m.			
Board Meeting	Tuesday August 8th at 6:00 p.m.			
GAL's Meeting	Monday August 7 th at 12:00 p.m.			

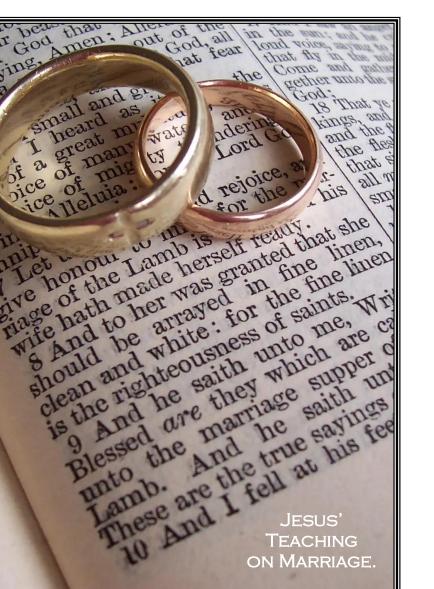


To contact Board President John Vosteen, please call: 813-731-2803 To contact the Pastor, please call: 813-323-0802, or Vickie's cell: 863-409-8850





Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing, but Encourage one another as the Day of the Lord draws near. Hebrews 10:25



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