

The Ordinary Church
Matthew 28:18-20

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The Westminster Larger Catechism

What doth every sin deserve at the hands of God?

Every sin, even the least, being against the sovereignty, goodness, and holiness of God, and against his righteous law, deserves his wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come; and cannot be expiated but by the blood of Christ. #152

What doth God require of us, that we may escape his wrath and curse due to us by reason of the transgression of the law?

That we may escape the wrath and curse of God due to us by reason of the transgression of the law, he requires of us repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ, and the diligent use of the outward means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of his mediation. #153

What are the outward means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of his mediation?

The outward and ordinary means whereby Christ communicates to his church the benefits of his mediation, are all his ordinances; especially the word, sacraments, and prayer; all which are made effectual to the elect for their salvation. #154

Welcome To Fifth Street Presbyterian Church

Our purpose for meeting together today is to meet with our Lord as a body of believers. We meet that we might hear Him speak in the reading and preaching of His Word. And, we meet to respond to His voice in our songs, prayers, and affirmations. In the ordinary worship of God we find extraordinary grace, encouragement and reason to hope. This corporate worship of God is the most important thing that happens upon the earth and we are delighted to have you with us as we approach the Father in Christ's name by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This week at a glance:

Sunday	9:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 12:30 P.M. 5:00 P.M.	Sunday School Worship Service Choir Practice Evening Service
Tuesday	6:00 P.M.	Men at TGI Fridays
Wednesday	7:00 A.M. 6:30 P.M.	Reading Calvin Officer Training

Visitors: *We would appreciate a record of your visit, which you can provide by filling out one of the visitor's cards that you will find in the pew. Please place the card in the offering plate. Thank you!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are pleased to announce that the position of Office Administrator has been filled. Gayle McDonald began her employment this past Friday and will be responsible for secretarial duties, bookkeeping, and eventually the day to day care of the website will be shifted to her care. She will be working in the mornings, Tuesdays through Friday for the month of April and then will begin Monday through Friday in May.

Nathaniel Adawonu of New Harvest Missions International will be with us for our evening service on May 24th. You are encouraged to be with us for an update on the work we support as well as an opportunity to catch up with Nathaniel. Our church has always had a close connection to Nathaniel and we are glad to have this opportunity to spend some time with him. There will be a meal following the service.

Join us for worship this evening at 5:00 p.m. We will sing hymns, pray, and hear God's Word. We meet in the Fellowship Hall so please come in the back doors.

Men, you are invited to join us this Tuesday at TGI Fridays at 6:00 p.m. We meet as men to encourage the practice of talking about things that matter most - we seek to cultivate a fellowship where talking about the things of God is the norm. The discussion this week will be on the subject of the ordinary means of grace with attention given to what the church ought to look like if we really believe this. A room is reserved and you are welcome to order a meal, a snack, or just a beverage. Friday's provides the room at no cost and you eat and drink at your own expense.

Reading Calvin is a Wednesday morning men's group that meets to discuss sections of Calvin's institutes, slowly making our way through the four books. We meet at Drake Reality at 7:00 a.m. and you are invited to join us as we discuss good theology. Coffee will be ready.

Please take a look at the literature rack in the narthex. We have added a number of new booklets for your use personally or as outreach literature.

As you prepare for the baptism today, it is important that the baptism is not only a time for the child and the parents but that our confession also reminds us that we are to participate in the baptism with a desire to be improved by being a part of the service. The Larger Catechism puts it this way:

“The needful but much neglected duty of improving our baptism, is to be performed by us all our life long, especially in the time of temptation, and when we are present at the administration of it to others; by serious and thankful consideration of the nature of it, and of the ends for which Christ instituted it, the privileges and benefits conferred and sealed thereby, and our solemn vow made therein; by being humbled for our sinful defilement, our falling short of, and walking contrary to, the grace of baptism, and our engagements; by growing up to assurance of pardon of sin, and of all other blessings sealed to us in that sacrament; by drawing strength from the death and resurrection of Christ, into whom we are baptized, for the mortifying of sin, and quickening of grace; and by endeavoring to live by faith, to have our conversation in holiness and righteousness, as those that have therein given up their names to Christ; and to walk in brotherly love, as being baptized by the same Spirit into one body.” WLC 167

We continue to have an ongoing ministry to the inmates in the Powledge Unit in Palestine and your continued prayers for that work are much appreciated. Pastor Simmons will be teaching this Monday. Also, in connection to this ministry, from time to time we have an inmate who would like to correspond with someone on the outside that would be willing to mentor him in the faith. This is not a complicated thing and if you have been in the Faith for a couple of years you would be of more help than you can imagine. If you are interested please speak to pastor Simmons.

Church membership classes are held periodically for those interested in finding out more about our church and ministry. If you are interested in membership here or just want to know more about us please speak with the pastor. The three week class meets during the Sunday School hour. We are planning to begin a class this month.