

July 30, 2023



The ARC Ministry Staff

Lead Pastor – Kevin Van Wyk

Equipping Youth Director – Jessa Wedel

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We Approach God

Welcome & Announcements

Baptism – Nylah Kaye, daughter of DeQuincy & Amber Gordon

Praise Singing

“The Lord’s Prayer”

“Death Was Arrested”

Congregational Prayer

We Hear God’s Word

Message – Debts, Trespasses, or Sins? And Other Tough Questions (Key #6)

Scripture – Luke 11:4

We Respond to God

Prayer

Communion

“Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone”

“At the Cross”

Benediction

Communion Statement:

Regarding whom may and should participate in Communion... “We welcome all those who are displeased with themselves because of their sins, but who nevertheless trust that their sins are pardoned and that their remaining weakness is covered by the suffering and death of Christ, and who also desire more and more to strengthen their faith and to lead a better life. Hypocrites and those who are unrepentant, however, eat and drink judgment on themselves.” (Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 81; 1 Cor. 10:19-22; 11:26-32)

Paul challenges believers to participate in communion in a manner that is sincere and authentic. He writes to the church in Corinth...

“Eat the bread or drink the cup of the Lord in the right way. Don’t do it in a way that isn’t worthy of him. If you do, you will be guilty. You’ll be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Everyone should take a careful look at themselves before they eat the bread and drink from the cup.” (1 Corinthians 11:27-28 NIRV)

So, we welcome any who are trusting in Jesus for the forgiveness of sins to participate in the Lord’s supper. If your child understands the above statement, they too are welcome to the table. As well, we want to urge those who trust Jesus to join with us in ministry as Covenant Partners.

If you are newer to Alto Reformed Church, we invite you to fill out a Connection Card, located at the entrance to the sanctuary, and turn it in at the Fellowship Kitchen for a small gift.

Summer of Seeking

A Practical Look into the Lord's Prayer



Debts, Trespasses, or Sins? And Other Tough Questions (Key #6)

THREE TOUGH FORGIVENESS QUESTIONS

#1 Should we use debts, trespasses or sins when praying the Lord's prayer?

Trespasses (Matthew 6:14–15; Rom. 5:15:21)

= to _____ a boundary

Debts (Luke 11:4b; Matthew 6:12; 18:21–35)

= to _____ payment

Sins (Luke 11:4a, 39ff; 5:20-24, 31; 7:47-50; Mark 7:20-23)

= to do _____

CONCLUSION

#2 If I have repented (confessed my sin and believe I am forgiven because Jesus died for my sins), why should I keep asking for forgiveness? Aren't I forgiven?

Monetary debt vs. _____ debt (Romans 6:23; Luke 12:2-5)

J _____ Forgiveness (2 Cor. 5:21; Rom. 8:1, 3:22–25; Ps. 103:12)

P _____ Forgiveness (Phil. 3; 1 John 1:8-9; John 13:5–10)

#3 Must I always forgive?

Yes, we must _____. (Mat. 18:21; 6:14-15)

But, we must _____ and discipline those who do not _____ and change.
(Luke 17:3–4; Matthew 18:15–17)

APPLICATION: Live Forgiveness

I will...

F _____ others, especially when they apologize.

C _____ my sins to God.

T_____ God for his mercy.

RESOURCES

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/forgive-us-our-what>

R. C. Sproul, *The Prayer of the Lord* (Lake Mary, FL: Reformation Trust Publishing, 2009), 74.
John F. MacArthur Jr., *Alone with God*, MacArthur Study Series (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1995), 100.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Should we use debts, trespasses or sins when praying the Lord's prayer? Why?
2. Do you really believe you should confess your sins regularly? Why do people/you avoid this?
3. Is there someone you need to forgive or apologize to? Will you?

FAMILY DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK

For links to the Bible verses see <https://www.crcna.org/welcome/beliefs/confessions/heidelberg-catechism#toc-part-i-misery>.

THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM:

Lord's Day 1

Q & A 2

Q. What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

A. Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are;1 second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery;2 third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.3

1 [Rom. 3:9-10](#); [1 John 1:10](#)

2 [John 17:3](#); [Acts 4:12](#); [10:43](#)

3 [Matt. 5:16](#); [Rom. 6:13](#); [Eph. 5:8-10](#); [2 Tim. 2:15](#); [1 Pet. 2:9-10](#)

Lord's Day 2

Q & A 3

Q. How do you come to know your misery [sin]?

A. The law of God tells me.1

1 [Rom. 3:20](#); [7:7-25](#)

Q & A 4

Q. What does God's law require of us?

A. Christ teaches us this in summary in [Matthew 22:37-40](#): "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'1 This is the greatest and first commandment. "And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'2 "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

1 [Deut. 6:5](#)

2 [Lev. 19:18](#)

Q & A 5

Q. Can you live up to all this perfectly?

A. No.1 I have a natural tendency to hate God and my neighbor.2

1 [Rom. 3:9-20, 23](#); [1 John 1:8, 10](#)

2 [Gen. 6:5](#); [Jer. 17:9](#); [Rom. 7:23-24](#); [8:7](#); [Eph. 2:1-3](#); [Titus 3:3](#)

Lord's Day 3

Q & A 6

Q. Did God create people so wicked and perverse?

A. No. God created them good¹ and in his own image,² that is, in true righteousness and holiness,³ so that they might truly know God their creator,⁴ love him with all their heart, and live with God in eternal happiness, to praise and glorify him.⁵

1 [Gen. 1:31](#)

2 [Gen. 1:26-27](#)

3 [Eph. 4:24](#)

4 [Col. 3:10](#)

5 [Ps. 8](#)

Q & A 7

Q. Then where does this corrupt human nature come from?

A. The fall and disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, in Paradise.¹ This fall has so poisoned our nature² that we are all conceived and born in a sinful condition.³

1 [Gen. 3](#)

2 [Rom. 5:12, 18-19](#)

3 [Ps. 51:5](#)

Q & A 8

Q. But are we so corrupt that we are totally unable to do any good and inclined toward all evil?

A. Yes,¹ unless we are born again by the Spirit of God.²

1 [Gen. 6:5](#); [8:21](#); [Job 14:4](#); [Isa. 53:6](#)

2 [John 3:3-5](#)

Lord's Day 4

Q & A 9

Q. But doesn't God do us an injustice by requiring in his law what we are unable to do?

A. No, God created human beings with the ability to keep the law.¹ They, however, provoked by the devil,² in willful disobedience,³ robbed themselves and all their descendants of these gifts.⁴

1 [Gen. 1:31](#); [Eph. 4:24](#)

2 [Gen. 3:13](#); [John 8:44](#)

3 [Gen. 3:6](#)

4 [Rom. 5:12, 18, 19](#)

Q & A 10

Q. Does God permit such disobedience and rebellion to go unpunished?

A. Certainly not. God is terribly angry with the sin we are born with as well as the sins we personally commit. As a just judge, God will punish them both now and in eternity,¹ having declared: "Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the things written in the book of the law."²

1 [Ex. 34:7](#); [Ps. 5:4-6](#); [Nah. 1:2](#); [Rom. 1:18](#); [Eph. 5:6](#); [Heb. 9:27](#)

2 [Gal. 3:10](#); [Deut. 27:26](#)

Q & A 11

Q. But isn't God also merciful?

A. God is certainly merciful,¹ but also just.² God's justice demands that sin, committed against his supreme majesty, be punished with the supreme penalty—eternal punishment of body and soul.³

- 1 [Ex. 34:6-7](#); [Ps. 103:8-9](#)
2 [Ex. 34:7](#); [Deut. 7:9-11](#); [Ps. 5:4-6](#); [Heb. 10:30-31](#)
3 [Matt. 25:35-46](#)

Part II: Deliverance Lord's Day 5

Q & A 12

Q. According to God's righteous judgment we deserve punishment both now and in eternity: how then can we escape this punishment and return to God's favor?

A. God requires that his justice be satisfied.¹ Therefore the claims of this justice must be paid in full, either by ourselves or by another.²

1 [Ex. 23:7](#); [Rom. 2:1-11](#)

2 [Isa. 53:11](#); [Rom. 8:3-4](#)

Q & A 13

Q. Can we make this payment ourselves?

A. Certainly not. Actually, we increase our debt every day.¹

1 [Matt. 6:12](#); [Rom. 2:4-5](#)

Q & A 14

Q. Can another creature—any at all—pay this debt for us?

A. No. To begin with, God will not punish any other creature for what a human is guilty of.¹

Furthermore, no mere creature can bear the weight of God's eternal wrath against sin and deliver others from it.²

1 [Ezek. 18:4, 20](#); [Heb. 2:14-18](#)

2 [Ps. 49:7-9](#); [130:3](#)

Q & A 15

Q. What kind of mediator and deliverer should we look for then?

A. One who is a true¹ and righteous² human, yet more powerful than all creatures, that is, one who is also true God.³

1 [Rom. 1:3](#); [1 Cor. 15:21](#); [Heb. 2:17](#)

2 [Isa. 53:9](#); [2 Cor. 5:21](#); [Heb. 7:26](#)

3 [Isa. 7:14](#); [9:6](#); [Jer. 23:6](#); [John 1:1](#)

Upcoming Events

Jul 30

8:30am – Prayer Meeting

9:30am – Pastor Kevin, Baptism – Nylah Gordon, Communion

6:30pm – Middle School Bonfire

Jul 31

6:00pm – High School Band

Aug 1

8:00am – Prayer Meeting

7:00pm – Deacon Meeting

Aug 6

8:30am – Prayer Meeting

9:30am – Pastor Kevin, Special Music – Ashlan Bruins & Jessa Wedel

To view the church calendar, go to www.altoreformedchurch.org

Youth News

Middle School bonfire and games tonight on the church hill at 6:30pm.

Don't forget to let Jessa know if you can make it to our Alto Fair outreach to the carnival workers Tuesday, August 8th. Check your email for more details.

High School Praise Band practice from 6-8 tomorrow night.

Join us at the Alto Fair stage Thursday morning of the fair at 9am to worship with the band.

Soda & Water Donations for youth group: Now through the school year we'll be taking soda and water bottle donations – if you see it on sale and are willing to donate just drop it off on the youth room counter. Thank you!

Opportunities to Get Involved

Attention Post-Highers – Don't miss our next event on Sunday, July 30th! Join us at Andy and Jenny Glewen's (N2997 Marshview Rd., Waupun) at 6pm for swimming, a bonfire and whiffle ball. Invite your friends!

Alto Fair Booth – We are looking for volunteers to sit at our church's booth at the Alto Fair (Aug 9-10). This is a great way to catch a break in the shade and chat with a bunch of people as they walk through the booths. If you're able to help with this, please sign-up at the Information Center.

CCCD Mission Trip – Marty Huizenga is organizing a mission trip to the Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf in Jamaica January 16-23, 2024. Cost is \$720/person + flight (\$100 off for married couples). If you are interested in attending, please contact Marty or sign up at the Information Center by August 13th so Marty can begin reserving plane tickets.

Bulletin Board News

Offering may be placed in one of the three white offering boxes located in the lobby, may be given online, or through autopay. For more info or to set up autopay, please contact Megan. Upcoming benevolent schedule: 7/30 Missionary Salary, 8/6 REACH Waupun, 8/13 Union, 8/20 Missionary Salary. If you feel led to give specifically towards the ceiling project, please put your check in a separate marked envelope in one of the offering boxes. The deacons are keeping track separately of what has been contributed towards the project, which will be shown on the monthly financial reports. Thank you.

Congrats to Jessie Klumpers as she celebrates her 87th birthday on August 3rd.

AMEN articles are due today.

Outdoor Worship & Church Picnic – Join us Sunday, August 13th at 10am on the church hill for outdoor worship followed by the church picnic at 11:30am. The church will provide the sandwiches, chips, drinks, and tableware.

Please bring lawn chairs/blankets to sit on as well as:

Last name A-G: 2 dozen bars/cookies

Last name H-R: fruit/jello salad to serve 10+ people

Last name S-Z: veggie/lettuce/pasta salad to serve 10+ people

P - praise R - repent A - ask Y – yield

The Lord's Prayer

(an easy to understand translation of Mat. 6:9-13, compiled from the NIRV, NET, NLT, & ERV)

*Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored. May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Give us the food we need for today. **Forgive our sins, just as we have forgiven those who did wrong to us.** Keep us from sinning when we are tempted. Save us from the evil one. For the kingdom and all power and all glory are yours forever. Amen.*

Lord Jesus, when I consider the lengths You went to forgive my sins, I'm in awe and I fall to my knees—giving up all the glory of heaven, becoming a baby, dealing with continual criticism, and, ultimately, going to the cross and enduring the shame and agony of the most brutal death known to man. It brings me to tears. Lord, as I bow before You and consider the price of my forgiveness, how can I do less than extend grace to those who hurt me? Yet, in my human nature, it often feels impossible. Holy Spirit, resurrect my soul. Transform me, I pray. You, Lord, are forgiving and good, and my desire is to be like You. Change me, I pray! I invite You to keep working on me and keep providing me the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of Jesus to extend forgiveness. (Based on Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:13; Ps. 86:5.)

Becky Harling, [Our Father: A Study of the Lord's Prayer \(A 6-Week Bible Study\)](#) (Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2023).

THIS WEEK... Pray for complete healing for Marilyn Westerveld. Pray for Deb Hoekstra as her mom passed away recently.

Healing: Friends and family with cancer, undergoing treatment, hospitalized, recovering from surgery/illness, etc.: Betty Daane, Cal Flegner, Barbara Gordon, Alvin Harmsen, Kevin Harmsen, John Hoekstra, Faye Janey, Isabel Kastein, Jim Parrish, Dave Rumley, Jean Stelsel, Jodi Vande Berg, Carl VanderKooi, Ron Vande Zande, Harold VanRuiswyk, and Silas Willey.

Military Personnel: Aaron Zeatlow, stationed in Las Vegas; Sebastian Hoenisch, stationed in San Diego, grandson of Larry & Gloria Mulder;

Shut-ins: Members in assisted living, nursing homes or those confined to their home: **Barrett House:** Lowell Glewen
Charleston House: Brian Hemp
Beaver Dam Memory Care: Cora Hemp
Christian Home: Sharon Harmsen, Dayton TerBeest, Junice Vande Zande, Kay Vande Zande
Home: Margaret Hoekstra, Julie Medema, Marion Tolsma, Marilyn Westerveld
Christian Homestead: Betty Bruins
Harbor Haven: Don Vande Zande
Marvin's Manor: Eleanor Loomans
Prairie Ridge: Annice Hopp

Missionaries: Bob Abel – Remember Nhu, Steve & Amanda Bialy – Converge, Chris Briggs – CCCD, Andy Lickel – InterVarsity, Jersey & Preston Sheldon – Overland Missions, Randy & Wanda Potratz – SIM, Scott Ritzema – Youth for Christ