

Readings from Matthew chapter 11—February 14th- 20th, 2021

⁷ As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft *clothing* are in kings’ houses. ⁹ But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ For this is *he* of whom it is written: ‘Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.’ ¹¹ “Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³ For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. ¹⁴ And if you are willing to receive *it*, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

Sunday: Where did John’s ministry take place? **Pray** for Trinity RPC (Wichita, Kan.), that the Lord would encourage their hearts; last year, they lost several member families, including a deacon and the pastor. **Pray** for South Sudan Community Church as it deals with struggling church plants.

Monday: What is meant by a reed shaken by the wind? **Pray** with Russell (Ont.) RPC for brother Greg Alexander, for full recovery from the cancer he is battling.

Tuesday: What does John’s clothing tell us about him and his ministry? **Praise God** for the new members added in 2020 to Lafayette (Ind.) RPC. **Pray** for the raising up and appointment of elders and deacons at Nantes Fellowship in France.

Wednesday: Why does Jesus say that he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than John the Baptist? **Pray** with Salt and Light RPC (Longmont, Colo.) for Martin and Barb Wilsey as they grieve the loss of Barb’s 99-year-old father, Ed Socha. **Pray** for Anugraha RPC (Bangalore, India), for growth, so that the pastor can be full-time. **Pray** for those in our flock in need of jobs.

Thursday: Why does Jesus make reference to violence with regard to the kingdom of heaven? **Pray** that Hudson/Saint-Lazare (Vaudreuil-Dorion, Que.) RPC’s evangelistic efforts and witness bearing in the community would be blessed by God for the furtherance of His kingdom in Quebec. **Pray** for our nation.

Friday: To what is Jesus referring when he mentions all the prophets and the law? Of what are they prophesying? **Pray** for the emotional, spiritual, mental, and physical well being of the residents of the RP Home in Pittsburgh; **pray** for the Home as it continues to navigate federal, state, and county directives, connects residents with their families, and provides quality care. **Pray** that the Lord would provide ministers and elders for the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Australia.

Saturday: Have you been given ears to hear God’s word? **Pray** for God’s rich blessing upon Southfield (Mich.) RPC’s many young married couples (two of whom are expecting the birth of their first covenant child) and three newborns. **Pray** for Ian and Shelby Gilles, as they seek to return to his native Scotland this

summer. **Pray** for the service at ARPC tomorrow, that the Lord’s blessing would be evident.

Atlanta

Reformed

Presbyterian

Church

The Lord’s Day

February 14, 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 Psalm 100:4-5

*The Invocation
*Psalm 138B “With All My Heart My Thanks I’ll Bring”
Scripture Reading II Chronicles 29:20-30

*Psalm 145A “I Will Thee Praise, My God, O King”

Pastoral Prayer
*Psalm 145B “Jehovah Very Gracious Is”

Scripture Text Psalm 150

The Sermon “Priority of Praise”

*Prayer
*Psalm 145C “The Eyes of All Upon Thee Wait”

*Benediction
*Psalm 150B “Praise the Lord! Praise God in His Sanctuary”

* 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

“Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!”—*Psalm 47:6.*

“Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.”—*Psalm 95:2.*

Q. 58. What is required in the fourth commandment? A. The fourth commandment requireth the keeping holy to God such set times as he hath appointed in his word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy sabbath to himself.

Q. 59. Which day of the seven hath God appointed to be the weekly sabbath? A. From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly sabbath; and the first day of the week ever since, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian sabbath.

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

We welcome to our pulpit today the Rev. Steven Work. A graduate of Sterling (Kan.) College and Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pastor Work has pastored churches in North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, California, and Kansas. Though retired from the pastorate, he remains active in ministry, serving as an elder at the Southwest Ohio Reformed Presbyterian Church, Mason, Ohio, and Moderator of the Atlanta Commission.

Sermon Outline

- A. Places of Praise (150:1)
 - 1. Focused expression
 - 2. Exploded expression

B. Passions of Praise (150:2)

1. His products
2. His person

C. Practices of Praise (150:3-5)

1. Why does the psalmist direct us to the sounds of praise, rather than the words of praise?
2. On what occasions were musical instruments used?
3. What is the significance of musical instruments?

4. What is the significance of dance?

D. Participants of Praise (150:6)

1. Command for adoration
2. Command for evangelism

E. Predominance of Praise (150:1a, 6b)

1. Three wrong uses of hallelujah
2. Three strong uses of hallelujah