

Our Reformation Heritage

Next to the introduction of Christianity itself, the Reformation was the greatest event in history. Today, we do well to reflect on our great heritage by considering three fundamental principles of the Reformation and therefore of evangelical Protestantism.

The supremacy of Scripture over tradition. The Reformers called Christendom back to the Bible it had all but forgotten. They stressed repeatedly the all-sufficiency of the sacred word. For since God is truth, and since he has spoken in his word, that word is the only infallible rule of faith and life. As against the humanists who went back to the classics and revived the spirit of ancient paganism, the Reformers went back to the Scriptures in the original languages and revived the spirit of apostolic Christianity. And, as against a decadent Romanism for which both Scripture and tradition constituted the rule of faith, Luther boldly affirmed: “I oppose the quotations of all the Fathers...with the Scriptures...The Word of God is supreme to me...in consequence, I care not a fig for it though a thousand Augustines and a thousand churches were opposed to me. I am certain that the true Church clings to the Word of God with me.”

The supremacy of faith over works. This was the spark that kindled the fires of the Reformation: “The just shall live by faith.” Away with the awful uncertainty bred by a religion of salvation by works! Now the soul could know that “Jesus paid it all.” Now, by the faith God freely gives to his own, men could live in the assurance of sins forgiven and the hope of life eternal. “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

The supremacy of the Christian people over an exclusive priesthood. Paul the apostle taught that through Christ we have access by one Spirit unto the Father. As saints, believers are a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices of praise to God. Whether it be with adoration, prayer, praise, or confession, we are privileged to approach boldly the throne of grace through Jesus Christ who is the only Mediator between God and man.

For these truths the Reformers raised their voices in mighty protest against Rome’s denial of them. Let us who hold and cherish these truths stand fast in the liberty we possess in Christ.

*...Contend for the
faith that was
once for all
delivered to the
saints.*

Jude 3

Covenant Presbyterian Church
1623 University Avenue, Berkeley, California 94703
www.berkeleyopc.org

MORNING WORSHIP – 11:00 A.M.

THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

Salutation and Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise # 53

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 25

*“O Light That Knew No Dawn”***CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE**

The Law of God

Matthew 22:37-40

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

O most great, most just and gracious God; thou are of purer eyes than to behold iniquity; but thou has promised mercy through Jesus Christ to all that repent and believe in him. We confess that we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God. We have neglected and abused thy holy worship. We have dealt unjustly and uncharitably with our neighbors. We have not sought first thy kingdom. We have run into temptation; and the sin that we should have hated, we have committed. Have mercy on us, most merciful Father! In thy Son is our salvation, in thy promises our hope.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 1:18 “Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 161

“O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire”

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

We extend a cordial welcome to each visitor!

Wayne K. Forkner, Minister

510-928-8024

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD*Hymn of Preparation # 87 *“The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want”*

Sermon Text

Luke 22:24-30

Sermon

THE WAY OF THE KINGDOM

*Hymn of Response # 92

*“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”***THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING**

*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord)

734

*The Lord's Benediction

Announcements

Today, 12:30pm. Potluck luncheon following the morning worship service. All are welcome.

Today. Reformation Service 2024, sponsored by Sovereign Grace Community Church (SBC) and Trinity Presbyterian Church (OPC). The speaker is Dr. Alan Strange, Interim President and Professor of Church History at Mid-America Reformed Seminary and a Minister in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church. For more information:

<https://www.trinitynorthbay.org/reformation/>

4:00pm: Preservice Lecture: “Christian Nationalism: An Uncomfortable Disjunct”

5:30pm: Reformation Service: “Psalm 15: The Genius of the Reformation”

Location: Trinity Presbyterian Church, 1445 Technology Lane, A1, Petaluma, CA

Tuesday, 7:30pm. Weekly Bible Study at the church or via Zoom. Our Bible study at the church begins with dinner at 7:00pm, followed by a time of study at 7:30pm. For information on attending the study via Zoom, please send an email to Pastor Wayne at wforkner86@mac.com.

Sunday, November 3. We remember the Lord's death in the Communion service during morning worship. Our Communion service is open to those who have been, or are now, communicant members of an evangelical church. But those who are not communicant members of our Church are asked to meet with the elders of the Church before partaking of the Lord's Supper. It is required that they meet with the elders only once.