

Trinity Reformed Church of Northwest Connecticut

Biblical, Traditional, Congregational

Lord's Day Worship for

May 11, 2025

*"Train up a child in the way he should go,
even when he is old he will not depart from it." – Proverbs 22:6*



trinityreformedct.org

“*” = Please stand if you are able.

Welcome, Greeting & Announcements

Call to Worship – Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Leader: Hear, O Israel!

People: The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!

Leader: You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart

People: And with all your soul and with all your might.

Leader: These words, which I am commanding you today,

People: Shall be on your heart.

Leader: You shall teach them diligently to your sons

People: And shall talk of them when you sit in your house

Leader: And when you walk by the way

People: And when you lie down and when you rise up.

*Leader: You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals
on your forehead.*

People: You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession

Gospel Absolution Text – 1John 3:1

***Hymn #599** – “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Scripture Reading – Numbers 30:1-16

Ancient Creedal Proclamation – Apostles Creed (pg#845 in the red hymnal)

Offerings Presented

[Please put your tithe/offering in the plates before or after the service – Thank you!]

[Gifts labeled “Deacon’s Fund go to aid those in need in the congregation.]

***Doxology #731** (red hymnal)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Sung Psalm #Psalm 78B** – “O Come, My People”

Prayers of the Church & Lord's Prayer (sins)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Reformation Creedal Reading – Westminster Larger Catechism, 129.

Leader: What is required of superiors towards their inferiors?

People: According to that power they receive from God,

Col 3:19

Leader: And that relation wherein they stand, to love,

Titus 2:4

People: Pray for, and bless their inferiors;

Gen 49:28; 1Sam 12:23
1Kgs 8:55-56; Job 1:5; Heb 7:7

Leader: To instruct, counsel, and admonish them;

Deut 6:6-7; Eph 6:4

People: Countenancing,

1Pet 3:7

Leader: Commending,

1Pet 2:14; Rom 13:3

People: And rewarding such as do well;

Esth 6:3

Leader: And discountenancing, reproof,

Rom 13:3-4

People: and chastising such as do ill;

Prov 29:15; 1Pet 2:14

*Leader: Protecting, and providing for them all things
necessary for soul*

Job 29:13-16; Is 1:10,17
Eph 6:4

People: And body:

1Tim 5:8

*Leader: And by grave, wise, holy, and exemplary carriage,
to procure glory to God,*

1Tim 4:12

Titus 2:3-5

People: Honour to themselves,

1Kgs 3:28

Leader: And so to preserve that authority

People: Which God hath put upon them.

Titus 2:15

Ministry of the Word

Prayer of Illumination

***Sermon Text** – 1Samuel 1:19-28

***Gloria Patri #735** (red hymnal)

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

Sermon – “Children”

(A Sermon Series on the Beginning of 1Samuel)

***Hymn #719** – “A Christian Home”

***Benediction**

Everyone is welcome to Coffee Hour Fellowship downstairs after church today

Announcements

- TRC is **organizing a visitation/meal outreach** that will provide friendly visits, especially to shut-ins, either in-person or by phone. Also, this group will provide temporary meals to those in need or special occasions. If you are interested in either volunteering to help, or know someone who would like a visit, please contact Leona [bllejeune@gmail.com - (860) 480-0370].
- There is a "Draft" of the **Photo Directory** available for review after Church. If any of your individual information is incorrect or needs to be updated or removed, please make a note of it on the draft so that it can be revised before the final directory is printed and copies made available for members and visitors. Also, one last call for anyone who has not submitted a picture and would like to have it included in the Directory to send it to Sheryl this week (sgabelmann058@gmail.com) so that the Directory can be finalized for publication.

Upcoming Events

- **Pizza at the Pastor's House** will be on **Friday, May 16th**, starting at **6:30 PM**. Pizza and drinks will be provided. If you want to bring an appetizer or desert that would be helpful though not required.
- A joint **Elders & Deacons** meeting will be at Pastor Doug's house on **May 24th at 9:00 AM**. Breakfast will be provided.
- **New Members** will be joining on **Pentecost, Sunday, June 8th**.
(Zoom classes will be on Saturday, May 3, 10, 17 & 31 at 9:00 AM.)
- **Pool Party/Picnic** to be held on **Saturday, July 19th** at the Gabelmanns, 101 Wallens St., Winsted, beginning at **noon**. Hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks and an ice cream bar will be provided. Please bring a dish to share if you are able. Bring your swimsuits if you wish to enjoy the pool. This will be held rain or shine as we are not able to plan for a rain date this year. Mark your calendars!

Regular Weekly Events

<i>Sunday</i>	9:00 – c.10:00 AM	Sunday School Children's curriculum: KVB Publications Women's Study: Sproul's <u>What is Reformed Theology?</u> Adult Study: Westminster Larger Catechism
	10:30 – c.11:40 AM c.11:40 AM	<u>Worship</u> (Lord's Supper on the 1 st Sunday of the month) Coffee Hour Fellowship
<i>Tuesday</i>	10:30 AM – Noon	Tuesday Study (Evangelism in Acts) at Pastor Doug's house
<i>Wednesday</i>	6:30 – 8:00 PM 6:30 – 8:00 PM	Wednesday Study (biblical geography) at Pastor Doug's house Gen Alpha Club (Tiny Theologians) - 2 nd & 4 th Wednesdays at Pastor Doug's house
<i>Friday</i>	6:30 - ??? PM	Young Adult Discussion Group at Pastor Doug's house (1 st & 3 rd Fridays)
<i>Saturday</i>	morning	Prayer Group at the Gabelmann's. (Please call Sheryl to confirm if the group is meeting that day, 860-309-7250.)

ONLINE RESOURCES

TRC's Webpage:	TrinityReformedCT.org
TRC's Facebook Page:	facebook.com/people/Trinity-Reformed-Church/61554974150922/
TRC's Youtube Channel:	youtube.com/@TrinityReformedCT
Pastor Doug's	youtube.com/simplyreformed
Youtube Channels:	youtube.com/@PilgrimsOfPlunder

INTERNET PRAYER CHAIN

If you have any prayer requests for our prayer chain, please email them to Donna Ensminger at: trcnwprayer@gmail.com. (If you would like to join the Prayer Chain, also see Donna.)

LEADERSHIP

Elders:	Rev. Douglas Aldrich, pastor	860-379-1147	douglas_aldrich@sbcglobal.net
	Bob Ensminger	860-485-8738	robert.ensminger@arthurgrussell.com
	Rich Gabelmann	860-605-7852	rgabelmann0415@gmail.com
	Rev. Jonathan Haulenbeek	203-709-0784	jhaulenbeek@icloud.com
Deacons:	David Mattson (chair), Carl Bierce, Caleb Goodell, Mason Goodell, Dean Winters		
Sunday School:	Verna Aldrich, Mason Goodell	Music Coordinator:	Cindy Rines
Clerk:	Sheryl Gabelmann	Treasurer:	Cindy Rines

Trinity Reformed Church of Northwest Connecticut

Worship Starts At: 10:30 AM (9:30 AM in the summer)

Sunday Worship At: Winchester Grange (100 Newfield Rd; Winchester Center, CT 06098)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 343; Riverton, CT 06065 - Phone: (860) 238-7399

Webpage: trinityreformedct.org - Email: trinityreformedct@gmail.com

Sermon Notes

1Samuel 1:19-28

"Children"

A Sermon Series on 1Samuel 1-8

May 11, 2025

Introduction

- 1) We are going through 1Samuel 1-8 which is about the judge/prophet/priest Samuel, one of the key figures of the OT.¹
- 2) Last week we began to hear about Samuel's origins.
 - a) Elkanah, Samuel's father, had a wife named Hannah who was deeply grieved because she did not yet have a child. 1Sam 1:2,5-7
 - b) While the family was at Shiloh, Hannah prayed frequently to the LORD for a child. 1Sam 1:12
 - c) Hannah makes a godly OT vow that if God will give her a child then she will give that child to God. 1Sam 1:11
 - i) The OT clearly allows and has rules to govern vows.² Num 30:1-16
Ps 76:11; 116:14,18
 - ii) Hannah's vow is that if given a child her child will have the Nazirite vow for life on him. Num 6:1ff

¹ Samuel was a writer, historian and seer of a critical time in Israel's history. (1Sam 9:19; 10:25; 1Chr 9:22; 26:28; 29:29). Two books of the Bible, 1 & 2Samuel, bear his name. He is the last of the judges, those who ruled Israel in between the patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac & Jacob) and before they had kings (Saul, David, Solomon, etc.). (1Sam 7:6,15; Acts 13:20) He is the first of the great prophets since the time of Moses, the greatest OT prophet. (Deut 34:10; 1Sam 3:20; 19:20; Acts 3:24; Heb 11:32) He is called by God to ordain Israel's first king (Saul) and then one of its greatest kings (David). (1Sam 13:14; 16:13; Ps 89:3-4; Acts 13:22) He held three great OT offices that usually don't go together: Priest, prophet and judge. Samuel's greatness is noted in the later parts of the Old Testament (OT) and in the New Testament (NT). (2Chr 35:18; Ps 99:6; Jer 15:1; Acts 3:24; 13:20; Heb 11:32)

² The Lord Jesus, however, warns against vows. (Matt 5:33-34; James 5:12; Acts 18:18?)

- A Nazirite vow was usually for a short period of time where an OT believer would make a special vow, dedicating that time to God by experiencing what it is like to be an OT priest by not drinking alcohol, not having one's hair cut, or touching a dead body.
- A few in the Bible had the Nazirite vow given to them all their lives: Samuel, Samson (who completely failed at it) and John the Baptist. Judg 13:5
Luke 1:15

- 3) The high priest Eli, responded with *"Go in peace; and may the God of Israel grant your petition that you have asked of Him."* – 1Samuel 1:17b
- 4) Hannah responded, *"'Let your maidservant find favor in your sight.' So the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad."* – 1Samuel 1:18b
- 5) Let's continue the story with today's sermon text: 1Samuel 1:19-28.

1Samuel 1:19-28

- 1) Elkanah, and his household, arose early in the morning, worshiped and left Shiloh and returned to their home land "Ramah", the common name for "Ramathaim-zophim", the hometown of Elkanah's clan.³ 1Sam 1:1,19
- 2) There Hannah becomes pregnant, through the normal method, and because *"the LORD remembered her"*. – 1Samuel 1:19b
- 3) When she gives birth to a son, Hannah names him "Samuel."
 - a) There is much debate on how to exactly translate this Hebrew name.
 - i) It could be "heard of God" or "name of God" depending on how you parse the Hebrew.
 - ii) The Hebrew word for "Samuel" is heard in various places in the text.⁴
 - b) Hannah herself explains the name in verse 20, *"Because I have asked him of the LORD."* – 1Samuel 1:20b
- 4) It is time for Elkanah to return to Shiloh. 1Sam 1:21
 - a) Shiloh is a city in the northern part of Israel, in the territory of Ephraim. Judg 21:19
 - b) It is at Shiloh the tabernacle received its first permanent home. Josh 18:1
 - c) The tabernacle is the portable "house" for God in the OT so the LORD would be with His people. It would become the Temple in Jerusalem during the time of the kings. Ex 26ff; Num 3ff
2Sam 7ff; 1Kgs 8ff
Heb 9ff; Rev 15:5
 - d) Thus, Shiloh became the main place of worship for Israel during the time of the Judges. Judg 18:31

³ Note, there are six different cities called "Ramah" in the Old Testament. The exact location of "Ramah of Ephraim" is unknown, though clearly being in Ephraim it is north of Jerusalem.

⁴ "The first two letters of Samuel's name (= mēšû'al) creates a word meaning "He who was asked for"; acrostically, the name may be derived from the Hebrew phrase meaning "asked from God" (= šā'ûl min_ēl)." – NAC Commentary on 1Samuel.

"The name 'Samuel' sounds like the Hebrew verb translated "asked." The explanation of the meaning of the name "Samuel" that is provided in v. 20 is not a strict etymology. It seems to suggest that the first part of the name is derived from the Hebrew root שאל (sh'l, "to ask"), but the consonants do not support this. Nor is it likely that the name comes from the root שמע (shm', "to hear"), for the same reason. It more probably derives from שם (shem, "name"), so that "Samuel" means "name of God." Verse 20 therefore does not set forth a linguistic explanation of the meaning of the name, but rather draws a parallel between similar sounds. This figure of speech is known as paronomasia." – NET Bible notes.

- e) In the OT there are periods of time the faithful would go before God to offer sacrifices to the LORD as commanded in the Law. Deut 12:5-7,11
1Sam 1:3
- 5) Note there is another reason Elkanah goes to Shiloh.
- a) 1Samuel 1:21 - "... *Elkanah went up with all his household to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and pay his vow.*"
- b) Elkanah did not make the vow about Samuel, his wife did.
- c) According to God's Law, Elkanah, as the head of the house, could nullify his wife's vow. Num 30:10-15
- d) However, Elkanah, was a good husband, and thus he is very concerned that his household worship the Lord correctly, besides simply loving his wife. 1Sam 1:3-5,7
- 6) Hannah, will not go to Shiloh because the child is not yet weaned. 1Sam 1:22
- a) After that, she will bring him so "*that he may appear before the LORD and stay there forever.*" - 1Samuel 1:22b
- b) Elkanah agrees and thus takes on the vow. 1Sam 1:23
- c) This probably takes three years.
- 7) After Samuel is weaned, Hannah (assuming with the rest of the family), takes Samuel up to Shiloh along with an offering that far exceeds what is required. 1Sam 1:24
- a) "They", we assume Elkanah as the head of the household, and Hannah, who made the vow, slaughter a bull(s) for the OT offering and bring Samuel to the high priest Eli. 1Sam 1:25
- b) This is one of the best examples of how an OT believer fulfills one's vows.
- i) Testing God, and rash vows, are very dangerous. Deut 6:16; Judg 11:30-40
Ps 95:8-9; Is 7:10-12
- ii) Remember the 3rd Commandment – "*You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.*" – Exodus 20:7
- iii) They pay their vow fully and quickly. Num 30:2; Deut 23:21; Eccl 5:4-5
- iv) They bring more than what is required. Num 15:8-10
- v) They pay it with joy, even when giving over your son.
- 8) Hannah says "*Oh, my lord (Eli)! As your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the LORD. For this boy I prayed, and the LORD has given me my petition which I asked of Him. So I have also dedicated him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is dedicated to the LORD.*" - 1Samuel 1:26b-28
- a) Hannah is fully paying her vow.
- b) Again, in Hebrew you can hear in this verse a play on Samuel's name.⁵
- 9) The final line of our sermon text is: "*And he worshiped the LORD there.*" – 1Samuel 1:28b
- a) Who is the "*he*"?
- b) Elkanah? Eli? Samuel?

⁵ "Asking from" (šā'altî mē'im) God. Being "given over" (šā'ûl).

Application

- 1) What do you make of this section of Scripture?
- 2) In one sense it doesn't apply to us.
 - a) We are not Elkanah, Hannah, Eli, Samuel etc.
 - b) We do not have their special callings.
 - c) We are not under the OT sacrificial / pilgrimage system.
 - d) We are commanded not to make vows swearing by God or His creation in the New Covenant. Matt 5:33-35
James 5:12
 - e) We have received the final revelation of God's Word, and we need nothing else. Heb 1:1-2
- 3) We can learn of Elkanah's & Hannah's great faith.
 - a) Look at Elkanah.
 - i) He lead his family in a godly way, putting the worship of the Lord first.
 - ii) Making sure his family was faithful to the Lord.
 - iii) He showed great charity to his godly wife.
 - Gave her a double portion to sacrifice.
 - Agreed with his wife's vow to give away their son to the Lord.
 - He allowed her to stay at home for 3 years to wean young Samuel.
 - iv) Was generous in giving to the Lord.
 - b) We will look closer next week at Hannah and her great prayer.
- 4) We learn that the main reason to have children is to raise them up unto the Lord.
 - a) There are no longer Nazarite vows or OT priests.
 - b) We are all priests.
 - i) 1Peter 2:9 – *"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;"*
 - ii) Who is the first group we are to proclaim the excellencies of God to?
Answer: Our children.
- 5) The number of texts that show the critical nature of training children are vast: Deut 4:9-10; 6:7,20-25; 11:19; 32:46
Ps 78:5-7; 27:3-4; Prov 22:6; 2Tim 3:14-15
 - a) Genesis 18:19 – *"For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him."*
 - b) Deuteronomy 4:9 – *"Only give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently, so that you do not forget the things which your eyes have seen and they do not depart from your heart all the days of your life; but make them known to your sons and your grandsons."*
 - c) From the great OT prayer, the Shema: *"You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up."* – Deuteronomy 6:7

- d) One of the main purposes of the OT rituals is to have your children ask, “why are we doing this?” so you can then educate them. Ex12:26-27; 13:14
Deut 6:20-21
 - e) Joshua’s great proclamation - *“but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”*
 - f) The Lord Jesus commanded: *“Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”* – Matthew 19:14b
 - g) Ephesians 6:4 – *“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”*
- 6) Many Christians do not put the raising of children as Christians first.
- a) What is more important training your child to fear, follow and know the Lord, preparing him or her for an eternity of worshipping and glorifying God in heaven or getting them ready to find a job for a few decades or their some extra-curricular activity?
 - i) You realize that is a really easy question to answer.
 - ii) Yet how many parents choose the exact opposite.
 - b) Which is more important for your children: The worship of God on the Lord’s Day as commanded in His Law with the family or secular extra-curricular activities?
 - c) We send our children to pagan state schools and are surprised they become heathens.
- 7) In all these passages who is the person most responsible for raising up children?
- a) The church? No.
 - b) The pastor? No.
 - c) The wife? No.
 - d) The father. Yes! Go back and read all those passages in context.
 - i) I have heard it said the number one sociological factor from polls on whether a child remains a Christian or not is one’s father.
 - ii) Though we should be terrified if polls and data move our hearts more than the word of God.
- 8) We need repentance.
- a) Men need to repent and lead their families.
 - b) Women need to repent and stop being rebellious feminists.
 - c) The church needs to repent for buying into the world and using worldly philosophies (like polling data) instead of fully and boldly preaching the word of God.

Baptism & Sunday School

- 1) To give an example: What is more important, Baptism or Sunday School?
 - a) Not saying “either or”.
 - b) But which one do we put more of a focus on?
- 2) In the Reformed Tradition, with its covenant theology, we believe baptism should be given to a believer’s children.
 - a) A secondary aspect of this baptism is that parents promise to raise their children in the Lord.

- b) Also, the church helps in the aid and support the parents.
 - c) Thus, baptism is the sign that the child is put into the visible universal church.
 - d) So Baptism is an act of worship, dedication, promises, kind of like what we read in 1Samuel.
- 3) Sunday School was created in the late 18th century and became popular in the 19th.
- a) The church should be concerned with helping to educate children in the faith!
 - b) However, the biblical focus is on the family, governed by a father, doing it.
 - i) As a supplement for a father raising his children in the Lord, S.S. can be useful.
 - ii) As a replacement, it will encourage very bad practices.
 - c) In my opinion the church has done a terrible job promoting and protecting the family and especially the roles of fathers.
 - d) Again, not either or, but an issue on where you put your focus.
- 4) The modern church has put more of an emphasis on evangelism, church growth, Sunday school, private Bible reading, small groups *instead* of worship, preaching, sacraments, the law, and promoting the family – those things the Bible puts the focus on.
- a) Should we abolish Sunday School? Not do evangelism?
 - b) No!
 - c) But we need to put the focus where God puts the focus.
 - d) And be careful with what might seem like a good intention but can have bad effects.
 - i) Example: Like having Sunday School during worship.
 - ii) Very counter productive – Could not the 3 year old Samuel worship?

Conclusion

- 1) The main purpose of baptism, however, is that it is a statement of the Gospel.
 - a) That God has promised us good, to us, and our children, through Jesus Christ.
 - b) The primary direction is God to us.
 - c) And we respond in faith, trusting in His mercies.
- 2) The purpose of 1Samuel's origin story is to get us to Samuel.
 - a) And Samuel's main purpose is to ordain Israel's first king. 1Sam 8:6-22
 - b) The great OT king is David, whose line will reign forever. 2Sam 7:13-16
 - c) And from the line of David we get the King of Kings, Matt 1:1; Rom 1:13
Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world.
- 3) Remember, that both Eli's and Samuel's children, went away from the Lord, 1Sam 2:12-17
during the corrupt age of the judges. 1Sam 2:22-34
- 4) Let us trust in Christ, worship and follow in him.