

Christ's Reformed Church  
130 W. Franklin St.  
Hagerstown MD 21740  
301-733-4144  
August 24, 2026

## Judgment Day

by [Kenneth L. Samuel](#) | published on Aug 24, 2026

### Devotional

*For a day of anger is coming, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. He will judge everyone according to what they have done.* – Romans 2:5b-6 (NLT)

I understand that belief in eternal torment for the sins committed in earthly life is viewed as a relic of religious antiquity in many enlightened circles. Some Christians today reject doctrines of hell and damnation as being incompatible with the God of eternal love and amazing grace.

But let's not forget that the love and grace of God have never negated the truth and justice of God. The same Bible that tells us the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting is the same Bible that tells us the wages of sin is death.

Notwithstanding the gruesome images of eternal torture in a lake of fire and brimstone, Christian theology has always contended that our earthly actions have eternal consequences; that how we treat the poor, the disenfranchised and the marginalized registers at the throne of God; that the dreadful consequences of unrepentant evil extend through time and impact the direction of human destiny.

In a jealous rage, Cain murdered his brother Abel and then walked through the Garden of Eden as though his act carried no divine consequence. But the God who loved Cain told him that Abel's blood was crying out from the ground and being heard in heaven. From that day forward, the ground beneath Cain's feet would forever withhold its welcome.

A rich man with more bread than he ever needed refused to give a crumb to the starving beggar Lazarus at his gate. Thinking nothing of it, the rich man died, expecting subsequent eternal rest. But in the afterlife, the rich man awakened to the everlasting consequences produced by a life of selfishness.

God can't be the God of Love if God isn't the God of Justice, because—to quote Cornel West—"Justice is what love looks like in public."

### Prayer

Lord, in the life beyond, help me to be able to live with all I've done in this life. Amen.

### About the Author

Kenneth L. Samuel is Pastor of Victory for the World Church, Decatur, Georgia.

## This week at Christ's Church

Change 4 Change—Wash clothes for Wellness

24 ATS Board meeting 7pm

26 Lectionary Via Zoom, 11am. Join Zoom

Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86393839530> or call the following local number:

PH# 301.715.8592 Enter Meeting ID: 863 9383 9530

30 Service and Potluck in the Park, Black Rock Park (Washington County Regional Park, Pavilion 2, 20017 Mt. Aetna Rd. Hagerstown, MD 21742

## Change 4 Change August Collection – Washcloths for Wellness



This Sunday will be the last week to donate to Washcloths for Wellness

Washcloths for Wellness supplies washcloths and soap to those less fortunate from the hardships that life gives them. They are supporting our local Reach, Salvation Army and Rescue mission. Everyone deserves a clean start.

You can help by joining the stitchers already making washcloths. If you don't knit or crochet but you would like to donate to their small charity, they accept any cotton yarn or you may make a donation of any amount. ❤️ No donation is too small. Let's give back to our community!!! 🧵🧶

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### Looking ahead

September

- 6      Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost, Rev. Dull, communion will be served
- 7      Labor Day, church office will be closed



Zion Reformed UCC  
201 N. Potomac Street, Hagerstown

Are you a senior looking for a welcoming place to enjoy meals, companionship, music, exercise, and activities? The Zion Senior Day Center offers a warm and engaging environment where you can connect and thrive.

Next meetings, 9am-2pm  
August 28  
September 11  
September 25

August 30, 2026

9:30am Sunday in the Park

Please join us Sunday at Washington County Reg.  
Park, Pavilion 2 for our Service in the Park.  
(Black Rock Park, 20017 Mt. Aetna Rd. Hagerstown,  
MD 21742)



We will have a potluck  
breakfast, after our service.

**ALL IN**

Raising the Stakes for Affordable Housing

*An Evening of Games, Giving & Community Impact*

Benefiting Habitat for Humanity of Washington County

**September 25th | 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM | Cortland Mansion**

Casino Games | Wine & Whiskey Pull | 50/50 RAFFLE | Wheel of Luck | Prizes & Auctions

*Early Bird Special*

**Tickets**  
**\$50 Before Aug 15th • After \$60**

Tables \$600 | Sponsorships Available

Habitat for Humanity of Washington County has reached out to our church requesting a donation basket for their event on September 25<sup>th</sup>. We'd like to put together a collection of gift cards each around \$25 for local

restaurants, grocery stores, etc....some examples are Panera Bread, Cracker Barrel, Sheetz, Martins (see Paula), Dunkin, Weis the list goes on. If you aren't able to get out to pick up gift cards, donations can be given to Jackie Plume or placed in the offering plate with a note for Habitat for Humanity and we'll take care of getting them. All donations need to be turned into the church by September 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

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**Sunday Worship Service at Christ's Reformed @ 9:30AM**

**You are invited to worship with us each week on Zoom or in person. To join by phone. Simply dial 1-301-715-8592, wait for the prompt, enter the access code 853 3757 7035 followed by #, wait for the prompt then enter # again. To join the worship by computer, enter the following into your web browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337577035>**

**Lectionary Group** - The Lectionary Group will meet on Wednesdays at 11:00 am. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86393839530> or call the following local number:  
PH # 301.715.8592      Enter Meeting ID: 863 9383 9530

**\*\* Here is the YouTube video link of a previous Sunday's service August 23, 2026**  
[Sunday Service 8/23](#)