

To Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America,

And now, this 15th day of February, A.D. 2023, comes TE Joshua Smith and complains against the Immanuel RPC Session concerning their action of approving PCA Minister Daniel H. Perrin to preach in their pulpit on February 12th, 2023.

The Complainant alleges, by the action taken above, the Session erred to fulfill its duty in promoting the purity, peace, and protection of the Bride of Christ.

Complaint: The Immanuel RPC Session failed in their duty in promoting the purity, peace, and protection of the Bride of Christ:

1. The Constitution of the RPCNA is clear about who the universal church consists of, namely, professing believers together with their children, as well the duty of elders is maintain the purity of worship and that to protect the Bride of Christ from false teaching.
 - a) Directory of Church Government 4.7 (D-29) states, “A particular responsibility of the session is to care for the spiritual interest of the congregation and of each member. Therefore, it shall maintain the ordinances of public worship in accordance with the principles of the church. It shall be responsible for the leadership of the singing, for the observances of the sacraments, and for the visitation of the people of the congregation. It should exercise general supervision of Christian education, missionary societies, young people’s societies, and all other organizations and activities in the congregation. It shall guard against any inappropriate or disorderly use of the church building. It shall particularly seek to provide wholesome recreation for its young people.”
 - b. WCF 25.1 (A-86) states, “The catholic or universal Church which is invisible, consists of the whole number of the elect, that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one, under Christ the Head thereof; and is the spouse, the body, the fulness of Him that filleth all in all.”
 - c. WCF 25.2 (A-86) states, “The visible Church, which is also catholic or universal under the Gospel (not confined to one nation as before under the law), consists of all those throughout the world that profess the true religion; and of their children: and is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, the house and family of God, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation.”
 - d. RP Testimony 25.2 (A-86) states, “It is the mission of the Church...to maintain the ordinances of divine worship in their purity; witness against all evil...”
 - e. RP Testimony 25.9 (A-87) states, “The responsibility of the elders is in teaching and ruling...”
 - f. RP Testimony 25.14 (A-89) states, “Divisions that separate believers into denominations mar the unity of the Church and are due to error and sin. It is the duty of all denominations which are true churches of Christ to seek reconciliation and union. Such organizational unity, however, should be sought only on the basis of truth and of scriptural order. It is the duty of every believer to unite with the branch of the visible church which adheres most closely to the Scriptures.”

2. The Session of Immanuel RPC by approving PCA Minister Daniel H. Perrin to minister before the congregation did not keep pure nor protect the Bride of Christ in her worship and teaching, thus disturbed the peace of the Church and possibly relations with our sister denomination the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).
 - a. PCA Minister Daniel H. Perrin on February 12th, 2023 preached a sermon¹ where he described Muslims as Christian and part of the Church of Jesus Christ.
 - i. The specific language he used in communicating an illustration from his personal experience where he was invited to attend in Egypt a service where there were Anglicans, Coptics, Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholics, and Muslims². Of this gathering he calls it the, “Church of Jesus Christ,” and “Christian leadership,” “the Church of Jesus Christ in a fullness that I have never seen before,” and a “representation of the Church from around the world.” And of the Muslims describing them as “the Muslim Church.” He continues and says, “I haven’t compromised my theology but totally changed my ecclesiology.” Moreover, he says, “This is what Paul is calling us to do... joining together even when we don’t agree.”³

Thus, the Complainant alleges by the action of approving this PCA minister to preach those things contrary to the Constitution of the RPCNA, the Immanuel RPC Session failed to promote the purity, peace, and protection of Christ’s bride.

TE Joshua Smith, Complainant
Date: February 15, 2023

¹ Full audio of Immanuel RPC Worship Service on February 12, 2023 - <https://www.dropbox.com/s/bczm33jcizbr2u/IRPC%202122023.mp3?dl=0>

² The word “Muslim” is defined as one who practices Islam.

³ <https://www.dropbox.com/s/urv2plaha44e1az/D%20Perrin%20Muslim%20Christians.mp3?dl=0>