

# THE LORD'S DAY

January 5, 2025  
Second Sunday of Christmas



**Christ Reformed Church**  
**Rev. Nick Smith, Minister**

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Morning Worship Service: 10:15 AM • Evening Catechism Service: 5:00 PM

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United Reformed Churches in North America ([www.urna.org](http://www.urna.org))  
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## MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

10:15 AM

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### Prelude and Silent Prayer

*(Once the prelude begins, please remain silent as the congregation prepares for worship)*

“We delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment. . . The Scotch catechism says that man’s chief end is ‘to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.’ But we shall then know that these are the same thing. Fully to enjoy is to glorify. In commanding us to glorify Him, God is inviting us to enjoy Him.” (C. S. Lewis).

### Welcome and Announcements

#### God Calls Us to Worship

†Call to Worship                      Revelation 19:6-9

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.”

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading              Rev. 1:4-5; Psa. 46

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

**Amen!**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

**The holy habitation of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;

**God will help her when morning dawns.**

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;

**He utters his voice, the earth melts.**

The LORD of hosts is with us;

**The God of Jacob is our fortress.**

†“At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing”      #196\*

#### God Assures Us of Forgiveness

Call to Confession

Joel 2:10-13

Prayer of Confession

**O God and Father, whose chosen dwelling is the heart that longs for your presence and humbly seeks your love: we come to you to acknowledge and confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed; we have not loved you with all our heart and soul, with all our mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and for the good we have left undone. But you, O Lord, are compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and full of mercy; there is forgiveness with you. Restore to us the joy of your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us the word that we need, and let your word abide with us until it has worked in us your holy will; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8:1-4

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he



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## EVENING CATECHISM SERVICE

5:00 PM

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### Prelude and Silent Prayer

*(Once the prelude begins, please remain silent as the congregation prepares for worship)*

O LORD, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child is my soul within me. O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. (Psalm 131)

### Welcome and Announcements

#### †Call to Worship Psalm 33:1-5

Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!  
Praise befits the upright. Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings! Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts. For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

#### †Opening Prayer

#### †Responsive Reading Psa. 124:8; Eph. 1:2

Our help is in the name of the LORD,

**Who made heaven and earth.**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen!**

#### †Psalm 100A

#### †Confession of Faith Apostles' Creed, #560

#### Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 1

1 Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**A. That I am not my own, but belong—  
body and soul, in life and in death—to my  
faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully  
paid for all my sins with his precious**

**blood, and has delivered me from the  
tyranny of the devil. He also watches over  
me in such a way that not a hair can fall  
from my head without the will of my  
Father in heaven; in fact, all things must  
work together for my salvation. Because I  
belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit,  
also assures me of eternal life and makes  
me wholeheartedly willing and ready from  
now on to live for him.**

#### God's Will for Our Lives Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love each other,

**For the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.**

For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word:

**"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."**

Love does no wrong to a neighbor;

**Therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.**

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is gone, the day is at hand.

**So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.**

Let us walk properly, as in the daytime,

**And put on the Lord Jesus Christ.**

#### Pastoral Prayer

**Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen!**

*Psalm of the Month*

†Psalm 90A

Scripture Reading                      Matthew 24

This is the Word of the Lord.                      (p. 829)

**Thanks be to God!**

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Rev. Nick Smith

WHEN WILL THESE THINGS BE:

SIGNS OF THE TIMES (1)

ESCHATOLOGY #14

†Psalm 110B

Offering

General Fund

†Benediction                      1 Peter 5:10-11

And after you have suffered a little while, the  
God of all grace, who has called you to his  
eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore,  
confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him  
be the dominion forever and ever.

**Amen!**

†“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”                      #245  
(unannounced)

Postlude

† = please stand, if able

**bold** = congregational response

\* = the congregation is invited to lift hands  
(during last stanza); cf. Ps. 63:4, 1 Tim. 2:8