

# THE LORD'S DAY

January 4, 2026  
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

*Member of:*

United Reformed Churches in North America ([www.urna.org](http://www.urna.org))  
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International Council of Reformed Churches ([www.icrconline.com](http://www.icrconline.com))

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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)*

Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and my mind. For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness. I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD, proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds. O LORD, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells. My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the LORD (Psalm 26:2-3, 6-8, 12).

### Welcome and Announcements

#### God Calls Us to Worship

†Call to Worship                      Philippians 2:5-11

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

†Opening Prayer

†Responsive Reading              Rev. 1:4-5; Ps. 33

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!**

Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!

**Praise befits the upright.**

Our soul waits for the LORD;

**He is our help and our shield.**

For our heart is glad in him,

**Because we trust in his holy name.**

Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,

**Even as we hope in you.**

†“Come, Thou Almighty King”

#212\*

#### God Assures Us of Forgiveness

Call to Confession

Psalm 51:13-17

Prayer of Confession

**Our Father, we are sinful and you are holy. Your word has shown us how often we have offended you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. There is nothing in us that gives us reason for hope. Our hearts are filled with the love of the world; our minds are dark and are assailed by doubts; our wills are too often given to selfishness and our bodies to laziness and unrighteousness. By sinning against our neighbors, we have also sinned against you, in whose image they were created. Our Father, although you are a holy God who cannot look upon sin, look upon Christ our Savior and forgive us for the sake of his blood and righteousness. We ask also that you would give us an increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, so that we may walk in your ways, for your glory and the good of our neighbor; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 34:17-18

When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

† = please stand, if able  
**bold** = congregational response  
 \* = the congregation is invited to lift hands  
 (during last stanza); cf. *Psa.* 63:4, *1 Tim.* 2:8

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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)*

Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God. (Isaiah 50:10)

### Welcome and Announcements

#### †Call to Worship Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!  
Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

#### †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

Deut. 5:6-21

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

#### Pastoral Prayer

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,

**A very present help in trouble.**

Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,

**Though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

Though its waters roar and foam,

**Though the mountains tremble at its swelling.**

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.**

Come, behold the works of the LORD,

**How he has brought desolations on the earth.**

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

**He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.**

“Be still, and know that I am God.

**I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”**

The LORD of hosts is with us;

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

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying:

**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 4

Scripture Reading                      Matthew 6:25-34  
This is the Word of the Lord.                      (p. 811)  
**Thanks be to God!**

Prayer for Illumination  
Sermon                      Rev. Nick Smith

BY HIS FATHERLY HAND  
LORD'S DAY 10  
THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

27 Q. What do you understand by the providence of God?

**A. Providence is the almighty and ever present power of God by which God upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures, and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—all things, in fact, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.**

28 Q. How does the knowledge of God's creation and providence help us?

**A. We can be patient in adversity, thankful in prosperity, and for the future we can have good confidence in our faithful God and Father that no creature will separate us from his love. For all creatures are so completely in his hand that without his will they can neither move nor be moved.**

†“How Firm a Foundation”                      #243

Offering                      Christian Education Fund

†Benediction                      2 Corinthians 13:14  
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**Amen!**

†“For All the Saints”                      #408; 1-3, 5, 8\*  
(unannounced)

Postlude

† = please stand, if able

**bold** = congregational response

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