

THE LITURGY OF WORD & SACRAMENT

Second Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY, December 7, 2025 10:00AM

REGULAR PRINT = PRESIDING MINISTER OR ASSISTING MINISTER

BOLD PRINT = CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES

✠ = AT VARIOUS POINTS THROUGHOUT THE SERVICE, THE SIGN OF THE CROSS MAY BE
MADE BY ALL IN REMEMBRANCE OF THEIR BAPTISM

*The red EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP service book and hymnal is used for the
liturgy.*

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors: We welcome you to Reformation Lutheran Church and are so glad you have chosen to join us as we worship God. We hope you find it meaningful for your faith life and that you will return.

Please complete a Visitor Card in the small pew rack and put it in the offering plate so we can thank you for coming. You may hand the card to the pastor or an usher. Also, please sign our guest register which is near the entrance.

Please join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for our weekly fellowship time with food and beverage.

*Words to be spoken or sung by the assembly are indicated in **bold type**.*

Prelude

(We Stand)

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, (+) one God,
who forgives all our sins, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Creator God,

You created the earth, whole and round;

You created us to be whole people.

But we have become fragmented, cracked and broken.

We have been broken by false promises,

lost relationships, shattered trust.

We have become cracked with the experience

of systemic sin: prejudice, oppression and fear.

We have become fragmented,

building up walls instead of lending hands.

Forgive us when we have done the breaking,

heal us where we have been hurt.

Let Your light shine through our cracks and scars

so that we might bring light to the world,

showing that in You we are made whole.

In You we find healing.

In You we find renewed life.

Help us to forgive, to love, to mend.

Amen.

God is the Potter; we are the Clay.

When we are cracked and broken,

God helps to bring us back together.

Sometimes we don't feel the same afterwards,

but God uses every piece

and offers us the newness of life to begin again.

Amen.

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
- 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
- 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
- 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
 to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
 sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
 the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
 O fallen human race!
 Look and be saved through faith alone,
 be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
 be now and ever giv'n
 by saints below and saints above,
 the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

II Corinthians 13: 13

And also with you.

LITANY OF WELCOME

God has shown us what is good, and what then is required of us?

**To act justly; to love mercy;
and to walk humbly with our God.**

Micah 6: 8

Jesus says, "Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me,
and anyone who welcomes me
welcomes the One who sent me."

Matthew 10: 40

The Spirit says, "Come."

**Let each one who hears the Spirit say, "Come,"
for all are welcome here.**

Revelation 22: 17

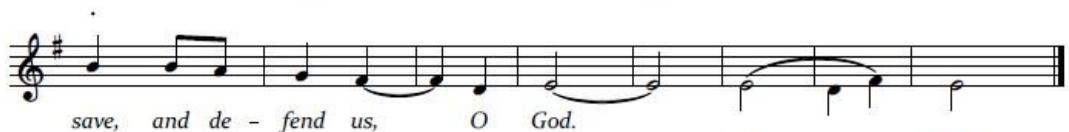
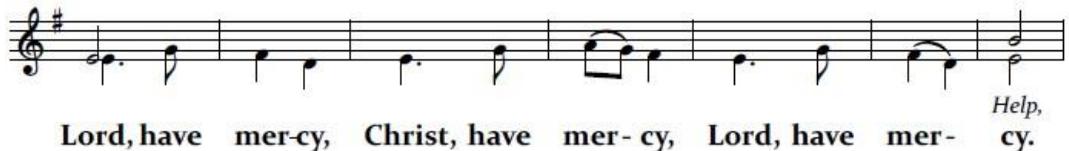
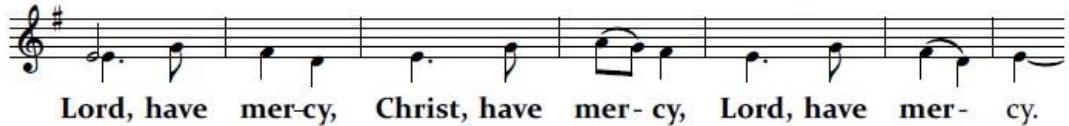
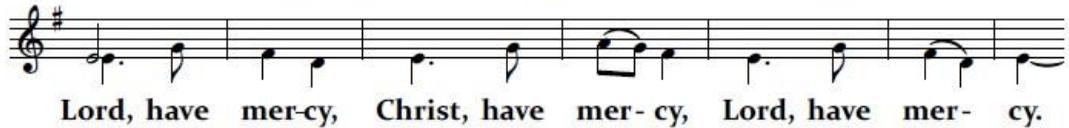
In this service, let us draw near to our Reconciling Redeemer,
who knows our hearts and is able to mend our souls,
to strengthen and sustain us,
to reconcile our broken relationships and heal our wounds.

Let us worship God now

**With words that proclaim God's inclusive love,
With works that bring forth God's powerful justice,
And with worship that rejoices in God's wondrous presence,
Now and always,
Amen!**

Kyrie

Kyrie



A - - men.

CANDLELIGHTING PRAYER

Dear God,
As we journey down this Advent road,
grant us the courage to make peace.
Peace in our hearts,
Peace in our homes,
Peace in our communities. **Amen.**

CANDLELIGHTING HYMN / GLORIA

Victoria Blackmore

Light the Advent Candle Two

French Carol

tune: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

1. Light the Ad-vent can - dle TWO. Think of hum-ble shep - herds, who,
2. Can - dle, can - dle burn - ing bright, Shin - ing in cold win - ter's night;

Filled with won - der at the sight, Saw the Child on Christ mas Night!
Can - dle, can - dle, burn - ing bright, Fill our hearts with Christ - mas light!

Glo - - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis de - o!

Glo - - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis de - o!

The PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

Children's Message

Pastor Steven

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and psalm.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- ² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;

their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Read responsively

¹ Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.

² **May he judge your people with righteousness
and your poor with justice.**

³ May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴ **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.**

⁵ May he live^[a] while the sun endures
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

⁶ **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.**

⁷ In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

¹⁸ **Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.**

¹⁹ Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may his glory fill the whole earth.

Amen and Amen.

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

A reading from Romans.

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name”;

¹⁰ and again he says,

“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;

¹¹ and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

¹² and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope.”

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Holy Ground

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "We are stand-ing on ho-ly ground. And I know that there are an-gels all a-round." The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "Let us praise Je-sus now. We are stand-ing in His pres-ence on ho-ly ground." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a mix of eighth and quarter notes.

We are stand-ing on ho-ly ground. And I know that there are an-gels all a-round.

Let us praise Je-sus now. We are stand-ing in His pres-ence on ho-ly ground.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;

make his paths straight.’ ”

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW#249 (Red book)

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

The assembly stands for the Affirmation of Faith.

Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

The service then continues with the prayers of intercession.

Prayers of the Church and Response

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system of music has the following lyrics: "O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, an-swer me." The second system has the lyrics: "O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come, and lis-ten to me." Above the notes, there are chord symbols: Em, Em/D, Am/C, D, G/B, C, Am, B in the first system; and Em, Em/D, Am/C, D, Em/G, Am7, B, Em in the second system.

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples. With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive. God of grace,

O Lord, hear my prayer...

With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our partner churches, and for the shared mission of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response. With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease. Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures. With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ. God of grace, God of grace,

O Lord, hear my prayer...

Command your angels concerning all who are sick, especially those we remember silently in our hearts and with voice upon our lips (*pause*)... Jill Mann; David Cossey (*stepfather of Ben Bullock*); Sue ZurSchmeide (*wife of Lynn Black*); Alicia Jarvis; Maria Gallego (*mother of Pastor Steven*); Tiffanie Reeves; Joe Black (*father of Lynn Black*); Bill Black (*brother of Lynn Black*); Sharon Baldwin; Tracy Hamiter; Connie Pool; Emmy Reeves; Bobbie Prosser; Sarah Trani; Jeff Harrell; James Deckle; Candy Pennington, (*friend of Peg Thompson*), Sharon May (*wife of Peggy Thompson*). God of grace,

O Lord, hear my prayer...

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. **Amen.**

The assembly remains standing for sharing the Peace.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you!

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

The OFFERING & OFFERTORY

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Offertory Anthem *"What Does the Lord Require of You?"*

Doxology

All Praise, Eternal Christ, to Thee

--Charles Coffin, 1736

All praise, e - ter - nal Christ, to Thee, Whose com - ing sets Thy

The first line of musical notation is in G major and 4/4 time. It features a treble and bass clef. The melody is primarily composed of quarter notes and half notes, with a fermata over the final note of the first phrase. The lyrics are: "All praise, e - ter - nal Christ, to Thee, Whose com - ing sets Thy".

peo - ple free; Once more up - on Thy peo - ple shine

The second line of musical notation continues the melody. It features a treble and bass clef. The melody is primarily composed of quarter notes and half notes, with a fermata over the final note of the first phrase. The lyrics are: "peo - ple free; Once more up - on Thy peo - ple shine".

And fill the world with love di - vine! A - men.

The third line of musical notation concludes the doxology. It features a treble and bass clef. The melody is primarily composed of quarter notes and half notes, with a fermata over the final note of the first phrase. The lyrics are: "And fill the world with love di - vine! A - men."

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

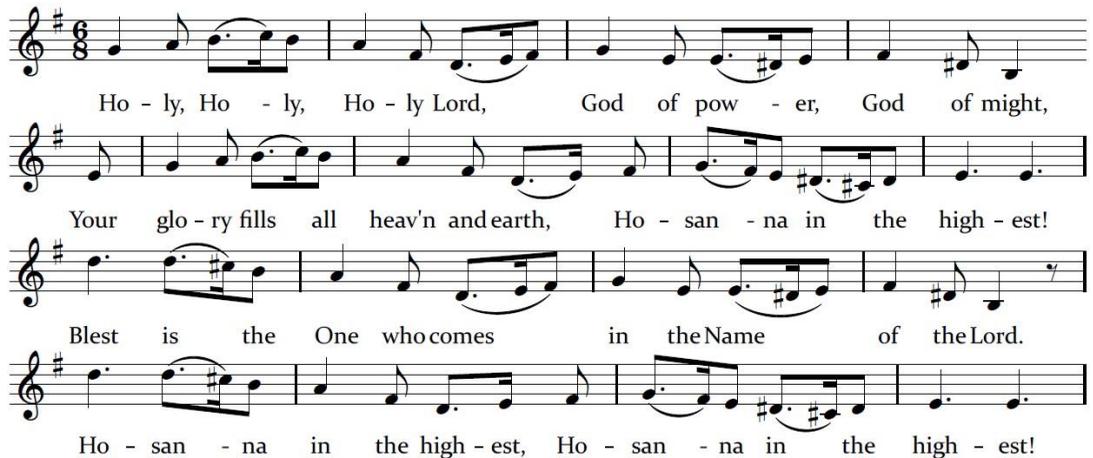
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might,
Your glo - ry fills all heav'n and earth, Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Blest is the One who comes in the Name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est!

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the beginning, O God, there was only you.
We lived with you, walked with you, and your presence
was like the light of a thousand suns blazing.
Yet we turned away from that light and walked into the dark.
We hid from the glory of your fire.
Our eyes were blinded by your brightness.
Even so, you did not turn from us.
You gave us the promise of a new light,
the hope of our reconciliation.
You promised us your Son.

We await the fulfillment of your promise.

We look into the dark, with eyes unused to your radiance, and see an ember burning.

Renew our eyes. Send us your light, O God.

In the beginning, O God, there was only you.
And you moved to save us from our blindness,
to lead us from our dark wanderings,
and to bring us back into the light of day.
Little by little you have revealed your light.
Little by little you have accustomed us to the coming fire.
Through Sarah and Abraham, through Jacob and Isaac,
through Moses and David, through Mary and Joseph,
you have slowly uncovered the ember of our hope still burning.
You have revealed to us Christ Jesus.

We have walked with Sarah.

We have walked with Abraham and all your prophets.

We have tried to open our eyes to the light.

Help us to see again.

Help us to endure the light of your coming.

Send us your light, our hope and our salvation.

Send us your Son. Send us Jesus.

In the beginning, O God, there was only you:
Creator, Word and Breath.
And from that beginning we see our birth.
From that beginning we see our salvation.
From that beginning we see our source of life.
Come loving Parent. Come Lord Jesus.
Come Holy Spirit. Come to us now.

For the promise of our salvation, the ember of life still burning, is Christ Jesus who comes as one of us,
who comes to save us, who comes to lead us into the light.

In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took the bread, and gave thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying, "This cup is the new covenant which is in my blood. Do this in remembrance of me."

For as long as you eat this bread and drink this cup you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

**Through God and with God and in God
is all glory and honor, all life and light,
now and forever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray the prayer Jesus has taught us,
**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God

(tune: *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*)



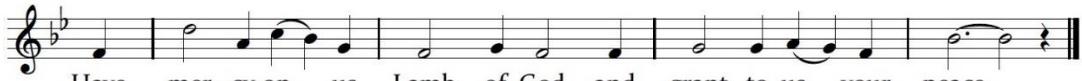
O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of all the world.



Have mer-cy on us, Lamb of God, and grant to us your peace.



O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of all the world.



Have mer-cy on us, Lamb of God, and grant to us your peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE BELOVED

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR WORSHIP IS THIS SHARED MEAL

ALL ARE WELCOME to join us as members of God's family in Christ, as we share in this powerful gift of God's love and grace for the whole human family. We gather around the altar, kneeling or standing, wherever there is a place. The presiding minister offers wheaten wafers but can provide a gluten free wafer by request.

The assisting minister offers individual cups of wine (red) or grape juice (white) for you to choose. The church also affirms our Lord's full presence in, with, and under each element alone. If you prefer to commune in your pew with a prepackaged communion set, please alert an usher.

What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
 What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?
 What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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COMMUNION HYMN

Jesus, Lamb of God

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Jesus, Lamb of God'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The first system has the lyrics 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name;' and the second system has 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name.' The music is in a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

The assembly stands and the presiding minister says a table blessing.

THE TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen!**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.. **Amen.**

COMMISSION and BENECTION

In the Name of the Divine Trinity, let us pray:

Loving God, you have called us into being through love.

You have joined us to one another in love.

How good and pleasant it is when your people dwell together in unity!

Shine your light upon all your children –

we of every identity, every gender, every race, every skin –
that we can see the glory of eternal life.

Grant to each individual their strength

to carry your blessing from this place to the next.

May each one be at home in any land, for all the earth is yours.
May each one's hope be set on your rule of justice and peace.
May the lamp of your Word guide each one on the unsure paths of life.
Amen.

The blessing of Almighty God be with you
and remain with you always.
Amen.

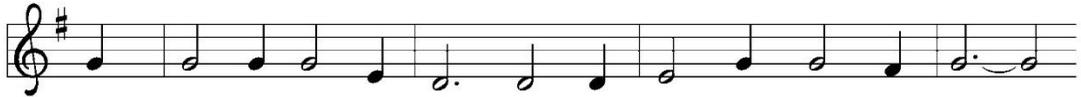
SENDING HYMN

ELW#264 (Red book)

Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

SENDING WORDS and DISMISSAL

As the apostle Paul says in Philippians,

“The Lord is near” (4:5).

We are witnesses of the dawning of that great light come into the world—

Immanuel, God with us.

May we depart from this gathering

with our faces set on the Sun,

so that our lives may serve as a reflection of God’s light

in the midst of our darkness,

that our very lives may announce the advent of the Messiah.

Amen. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Announcements

Poinsettias at Reformation Lutheran Church

Each year during Advent, Reformation Lutheran Church is transformed by the beauty of poinsettias lovingly placed by members and friends. These seasonal flowers are a long-standing Christian tradition representing **Christ’s birth, new life, and the light that shines in darkness.**

Poinsettias may be given **in honor, in memory, or in celebration** of loved ones. The flowers will adorn our sanctuary throughout the Christmas season, lifting our worship and adding to the joy of this sacred time. Pick up a form in the narthex - \$14/plant.

Winter Clothing Drive

As we recognize National Homeless Awareness Month this November, Trinity Recovery is launching a Winter Drive to help meet the urgent needs of our neighbors facing cold weather without adequate shelter or clothing.

From now until the end of the month, we’ll have two donation boxes and a coat rack set up at the church to collect gently used or new items such as:

Coats

Hats

Gloves

Blankets

Scarves

Warm socks

Any other winter essentials

New Blue Envelopes Available in the Pews

Thank you to all who faithfully use the blue pew envelopes to support the mission and ministry of Reformation Lutheran Church. Your gifts sustain the wide variety of programs, outreach efforts, and worship life of our congregation. The pew racks have been replenished, making it easier to make a recorded contribution. If you are behind on your 2025 pledge or haven't started giving, we encourage you to do what you can to catch up. We are currently behind in our anticipated giving and appreciate any effort to help close the gap. A special thank you to those who continue to give faithfully and regularly — your generosity helps us serve God and neighbor through Reformation Church.

Would You Be Willing to Make Prayer Shawls?

The Kindness Team is excited to share that we will be replacing coffee mugs in our new member welcome bags with handmade *prayer shawls*—a more personal and meaningful gift for each household. If you knit or crochet, we would love for you to join us in this ministry. We typically receive new members quarterly (on 5th Sundays), with an average of 5 or more households joining each time. There is no specific pattern or color required, though **red** is a meaningful color for Reformation. A typical shawl measures approximately **57–58 inches long** and **24–36 inches wide**, but the design is left to the creative heart of the maker. If you're willing to contribute, please contact **Lynn Black** or **Dot Jeffcoat** to get involved.

Coffee Hour

If you can help out with coffee hour, check with **Pastor Steven**. You can help by providing foods and/or by helping her set up and clean up. This is an important part of our hospitality and kindness ministry. Kindness is contagious.

Announcements to share - To include information from your committee or task group, submit brief messages (2-4 sentences) to the church office by **Monday at Noon** – officeofreform@gmail.com.

REFORMATION LUTHERAN IS AN INCLUSIVE, LGBTQIA+ AFFIRMING church

that believes Christ calls us to serve others with joy. Safe Space Dinners, a ministry for homeless LGBTQIA+ youth, including people of color.

The ministry is simple. On the second and fourth Thursday of each month, these youth (14-23 years old) are offered a safe space and time to gather for a time to rest and recharge, a home-cooked meal, a haircut, and a backpack of items they will find helpful in their day-to-day life. There are always a number of games to play, including video games. Sometimes we have entertainment from the community. There is no preaching, no conversion therapy attempts; only support and comfort. This is a ministry of giving – nothing more.



OPPORTUNITIES of WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

In Person Sunday Worship Livestream - 10:00 am-11:00 am www.reformationcae.org

Coffee Hour is held after the worship service in the Reformation Fellowship Hall.

Welcome to Reformation Lutheran Church

Whether you are visiting today or a longtime member, we are grateful to gather with you in worship. Our community is rooted in love, service, and the grace of Christ. If you're visiting, please fill out a visitor card located in the back of the pew and place it in the offering receptacle. We would love to keep in touch with you.

Stay Connected!

Follow us online:

 Facebook: [ReformationLutheranColumbiaSC](https://www.facebook.com/ReformationLutheranColumbiaSC)

 Instagram: [@reformationlutherancola](https://www.instagram.com/@reformationlutherancola)

 YouTube: [@Reformation1118](https://www.youtube.com/@Reformation1118)

Stay Informed!

Visit reformationcae.org and click the red box at the bottom of the page to sign up.

Google Group: Reformation Church Group News, Announcements

Constant Contact: Sympathy Notices, Weekly Announcements, Upcoming Events

Thank you for being connected and informed!