

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

SUNDAY, December 4, 2022

10:00AM

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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

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*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.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*(We Stand)*

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

## HYMN FOR GATHERING

# Yield Not to Temptation

Horatio Palmer, 1834-1907



1. Yield not to temp - ta - tion, For yield - ing is sin.  
2. Shun e - vil com - pan - ions; Bad lan - guage dis - dain.  
3. To them\* that o'er - com - eth, God giv - eth a crown.



Each vic - t'ry will help you Some oth - er to win.  
God's Name hold in rev - 'rence, Nor take it in vain.  
Through faith we shall con - quer, Though of - ten cast down.



Fight val - iant - ly\* on - ward; Dark pas - sions sub - due.  
Be thought - ful and ear - nest, Kind - heart - ed and true.  
He Who is our Sa - vior Our strength will re - new.



Look ev - er to Je - sus; He will car - ry you through.  
Look ev - er to Je - sus; He will car - ry you through.  
Look ev - er to Je - sus; He will car - ry you through.

### Refrain



Ask the Sav - ior to help you, Com - fort, strength - en and keep you.



He is will - ing to aid you; He will car - ry you through.

*\*Composer's original words were  
"Fight **manfully** onward..." and  
"To **him** that o'ercometh..."*

# APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

## KYRIE

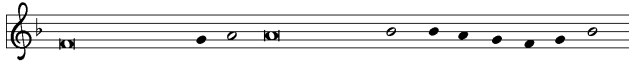
(ELW p. 165)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



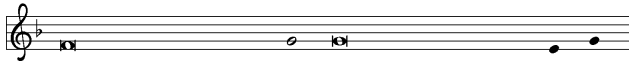
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



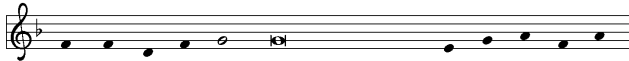
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



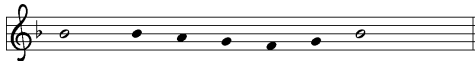
God, and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



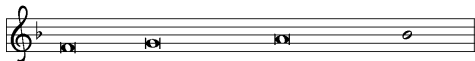
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.



A - - - - - men.

*The assembly is seated.*

## The PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

### Lighting the Advent Wreath: Advent 2

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

*The Acolyte will light two candles.*

**Song:**

**ELW#240**

*(Verse 1-2)*

### Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.  
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

## 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.

<sup>1</sup>A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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; <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek 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. <sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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.**

### **SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14**

A reading from Romans.

<sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>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 patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order 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"; <sup>10</sup>and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; <sup>11</sup>and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; <sup>12</sup>and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." <sup>13</sup>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.**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

**GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>3</sup>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.’” <sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup>“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>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.*

**SERMON**

Mr. Harold Jefferies, M.Div.

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

## 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 together as we confess our faith.*

## **NICENE CREED**

**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 and the Son,\*  
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*



## The PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH and RESPONSE

O Lord, hear my prayer

*Response to be sung*

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system has two lines of lyrics: "O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me." and "OR The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God." The second system also has two lines of lyrics: "O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me." and "The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and a steady rhythm.

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*A brief silence.*

God, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn writers and theologians. Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. You give us a vision of creation in harmony, when hurting and destruction will be no more. Teach us to be stewards of the earth and companions to its creatures. God, in your mercy,

***O Lord, hear my prayer...***

Restore to balance and wholeness what human greed has harmed. You defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves. Deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of the exploited, abused, especially children, elders, and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees, and those fleeing violence. God, in your mercy,

***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*) *Tracy Hamiter; Connie Pool; Emmy Reeves; Bobbie Prosser and Sarah Trani.*

God, in your mercy,

***O Lord, hear my prayer...***

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

*The assembly remains standing for sharing the Peace .*

## PEACE

ELW pg. 106

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

*"O Day of Peace"*

**Choir**

### Doxology

## All Praise, Eternal Christ, to Thee

Charles Coffin, 1736

Louis Bourgeois, 1539

The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. 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, And fill the world with love di - vine. A - men.

## OFFERING PRAYER

*Let us pray.*

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - low - ed be your  
name, your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in  
heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our  
sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.  
Save us from the time of trial and de -  
liv - er us from e - vil, for the king - dom, the power and the  
glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er.

## BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

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.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.  
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;  
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;  
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.  
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.  
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

### **CONTINUED PRAYERS**

Please continue to pray for Reformation and the SC Synod during the appointment of an interim pastor.

### **WE ARE GRATEFUL**

We give God thanks for Mr. Harold Jefferies preaching today.

### **ANGEL TREE**

For Christmas this year Reformation Lutheran Church will be hosting an *Angel Tree* for the youth at Palmetto Place youth shelter. These youth are some of those served by Safe Space Dinners.

The program is easy. Stop by the *Angel Tree* in the Fellowship Hall and pick one or more items from the tree. These items on the tree are ones personally requested by the youth. Purchase these items and return them to the box next to the tree. So that we are able to keep inventory of the items, we ask that you NOT wrap your gift(s).

Please bring back your purchased gifts by **Noon on Sunday, December 18th.**

During the holidays, Palmetto Place often receives a few new youth very close to Christmas Day. To be sure they are not forgotten, monetary donations can also be made to fill these last-minute needs. Simply mark your gift for *Safe Space Dinners* and place it in the offering plate. You may also give online, again, marking your gift for *Safe Space Dinners*.

Thank you for making the holidays brighter for those in need.

### **POINSETTIAS**

Adorn the sanctuary during Christmas with a beautiful poinsettia. Purchase a plant in memory or in honor of someone. The cost of the poinsettia is \$12/plant. Order forms are available in the narthex. Drop your form in the offering plate. Payment details are listed on the form. Donations will be published in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

# Reformation Lutheran Church

1118 Union Street Columbia, SC 29201

A Reconciling in Christ congregation

## *Sights and Sounds*

### OF THE NATIVITY

A CRECHE AND NATIVITY FESTIVAL



Enjoy a self guided tour of unique and beautiful nativity sets & collections

Hear joyous instrumental and vocal Christmas music renditions

Delicious refreshments & fellowship

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 - 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 - 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

**Free Event. Donations welcomed**

# *Sights and Sounds* **OF THE NATIVITY**

## **SIGN UP FORM**

Mark Your Calendars. Invite your friends and family. Plan to be involved in this special Christmas Event at Reformation. This is the 7th year we have offered this event for the community. Note that the ending time has changed to 6 p.m. Work days for preparation and set up will be November 27 and December 4 after church and December 9 morning and evening. We need sets loaned and set up by you to display, finger foods for refreshments, and volunteers for the preparation and set up as well as hosts during the event. Use the form below to let us know how you can help. More information will be provided.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 - 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 - 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

**SIGN UP TO HELP AND/OR BE INVOLVED  
RETURN IN OFFERING OR GIVE TO DOT JEFFCOAT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Check/circle all ways you can help (more information to follow):**

\_\_\_\_ Bring finger food \_\_\_\_ Help with music

\_\_\_\_ Share a nativity set/collection

\_\_\_\_ Help prepare: check lights & outdoor set up needed (Nov 27/Dec 4); Sanctuary set up (Dec 4-); Fellowship Hall set up (Dec 9)

\_\_\_\_ Be a host during the event (Dec 10 and/or Dec 11)



**REFORMATION LUTHERAN IS AN INCLUSIVE, LGBTQIA+ AFFIRMING** congregation 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 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.

**In Person Sunday Worship Livestream - 10:00 AM-11:00 AM**

[www.reformationcae.org](http://www.reformationcae.org)

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

**Choir** rehearses Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary.

**Monthly Zoom Meetings**

Every Wednesday	7:30 - 8:45 PM	Wired Word	883 7039 9004
2nd Sundays	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Executive Committee	873 4122 4846
2nd Mondays	7:30 - 8:45 PM	Education Committee	885 2843 7568
2nd Thursdays	7:00 - 8:30 PM	Finance Committee	876 9845 4243
2nd Thursdays	6:00 - 7:00 PM	Safe Space Dinner	IN PERSON
3rd Sundays	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Council Meeting	814 7371 7070
3rd Tuesdays	7:00 - 8:30 PM	Worship & Music Committee	840 4892 9600
3rd Thursdays	7:00 - 8:30 PM	Servants Committee	TBA
3rd Fridays	6:00 - 7:00 PM	3rd Friday Unwind	823 6924 1684
4th Thursdays	7:00 - 8:15 PM	Safe Space Dinners Committee	871 2863 2293

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