

THE LITURGY OF WORD & SACRAMENT

Second Sunday of Christmas

SUNDAY, January 4, 2026 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.

O, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



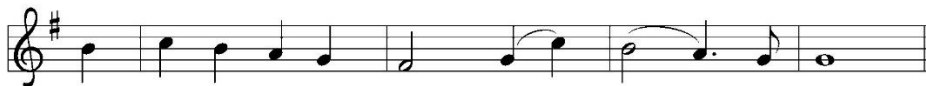
come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain

Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2
 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

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!**

Gloria

Angels We Have Heard on High



- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
- 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain



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...

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, 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: 1 Kings 18:1-8

A reading from 1 Kings.

1 After many days the word of the LORD came to Elijah, in the third year of the drought, saying, "Go, present yourself to Ahab; I will send rain on the earth." **2** So Elijah went to present himself to Ahab. The famine was severe in Samaria. **3** Ahab summoned Obadiah, who was in charge of the palace. (Now Obadiah revered the LORD greatly; **4** when Jezebel was killing off the prophets of the LORD, Obadiah took a hundred prophets, hid them fifty to a cave, and provided them with bread and water.) **5** Then Ahab said to Obadiah, "Go through the land to all the springs of water and to all the wadis; perhaps we may find grass to keep the horses and mules alive and not lose some of the animals." **6** So they divided the land between them to pass through it; Ahab went in one direction by himself, and Obadiah went in another direction by himself. **7** As Obadiah was on the way, Elijah met him; Obadiah recognized him, fell on his face, and said, "Is it you, my lord Elijah?" **8** He answered him, "It is I. Go, tell your lord that Elijah is here."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

¹² Extol the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

¹³ **For he strengthens the bars of your gates;
he blesses your children within you.**

¹⁴ He grants peace within your borders;
he fills you with the finest of wheat.

¹⁵ **He sends out his command to the earth;
his word runs swiftly.**

¹⁶ He gives snow like wool;
he scatters frost like ashes.

¹⁷ **He hurls down hail like crumbs—
who can stand before his cold?**

¹⁸ He sends out his word and melts them;
he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.

¹⁹ **He declares his word to Jacob,
his statutes and ordinances to Israel.**

²⁰ He has not dealt thus with any other nation;
they do not know his ordinances. Praise the LORD!

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

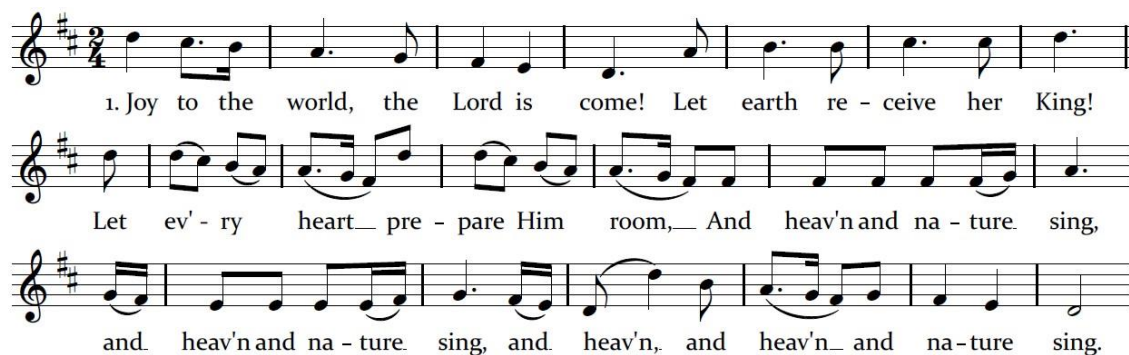
A reading from Ephesians.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

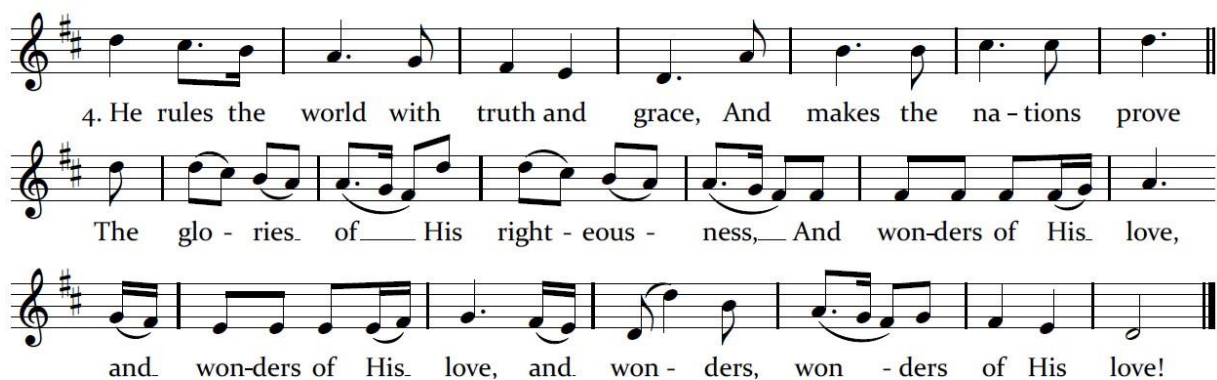
[¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the na-tions prove
The glo - ries of His right - eous - ness, And won-ders of His love,
and won-ders of His love, and won - ders, won - ders of His love!

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Steven

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

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,
veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.
"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt.

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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 staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The first system of music covers the first line of the hymn, and the second system covers the second line. The lyrics are: 'O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, an-swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come, and lis-ten to me.' The chords are indicated above the treble staff: Em, Em/D, Am/C, D, G/B, C, Am, B for the first system, and Em, Em/D, Am/C, D, Em/G, Am7, B, Em for the second system.

Em Em/D Am/C D G/B C Am B

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, an-swer me.

Em Em/D Am/C D Em/G Am7 B Em

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come, and lis-ten to me.

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

O God, you reveal yourself wherever two or three are gathered in your name. Be with us now, not only in the infant Jesus and resurrected Christ, but in the beloved people of this assembly. You reveal yourself in the waters of the womb; in brooks, ponds, and oceans; and in the waters of baptism. Grant us wisdom to tenderly care for the earth as a garden watered by your grace. Hear us, O God.

O Lord, hear my prayer...

You reveal yourself in blessed diversity. Help us to look for you in people near and far, in bodies of all kinds, and in kindred young and old. Let us seek you in many places, praising you in many tongues. You reveal yourself in new life. Support those beginning a new job, a new relationship, or a new living situation, especially those displaced because of tragedy or loss. Be with all others who need your life-giving touch this day. You reveal yourself in holy communion. Sustain all who provide food and fellowship in this congregation and in the wider community. Make our tables signs of your welcoming presence among us. Hear us, O God.

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*); 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*). Hear us, O God.

O Lord, hear my prayer...

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **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

"The Wind Blew Keen" by Colin Gibson, New Zealand, 1933-

*The wind blew keen, the wind blew cold. The sheep were huddled in the fold
When Joseph reached a darkened town And found no place to lay Him down.*

Lord, may I with fire and bread Relieve such pain, remove such dread.

And freely as I share May Christ the stranger enter here!

*The pain was sharp the shadows hard When Mary walked the cattle-yard.
She took dry straw to make her bed, "Come quickly, quickly, Child," she said.*

Lord, may I with fire and bread Relieve such pain, remove such dread.

Come quickly, Child of Light, Be born within my heart tonight!

*The moon shone white, but brighter far There gleamed a single shivering star,
When three kings rode and rode in fear That Herod's men were drawing near.*

Lord, may I with fire and bread Relieve such pain, remove such dread.

And freely as I share May Christ the stranger enter here!

*The frost lay sparkling on the hill, And all the sleeping world was still
While shepherds ran by stony ways To find the child the angels praised.*

Lord, may I with fire and bread Relieve such pain, remove such dread.

Come quickly, Child of Light, Be born within my heart tonight!

Doxology

All Praise, Eternal Christ, to Thee

Charles Coffin, 1736

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 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 al - so 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.

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a hymn titled 'GREAT THANKSGIVING'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has one measure.

PROPER PREFACE AND SANCTUS (tune: "What Child Is This?")

"It is indeed right . . .

. . . 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!

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a hymn titled 'PROPER PREFACE AND SANCTUS'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 6/8. The melody is more complex than the first hymn, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff has four measures, the second and third have four measures each, and the fourth has four measures.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER III

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life;

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat, this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,

gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

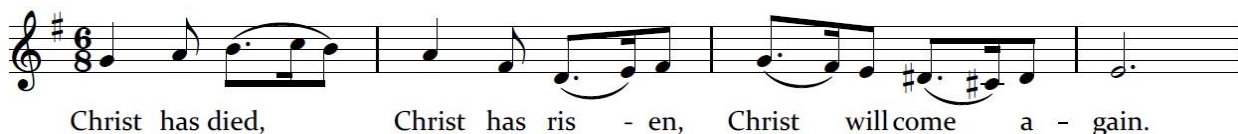
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

[Communion Acclamation is sung.]



With this bread and cup we remember

your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

[Communion Amen is sung.]



LORD'S PRAYER

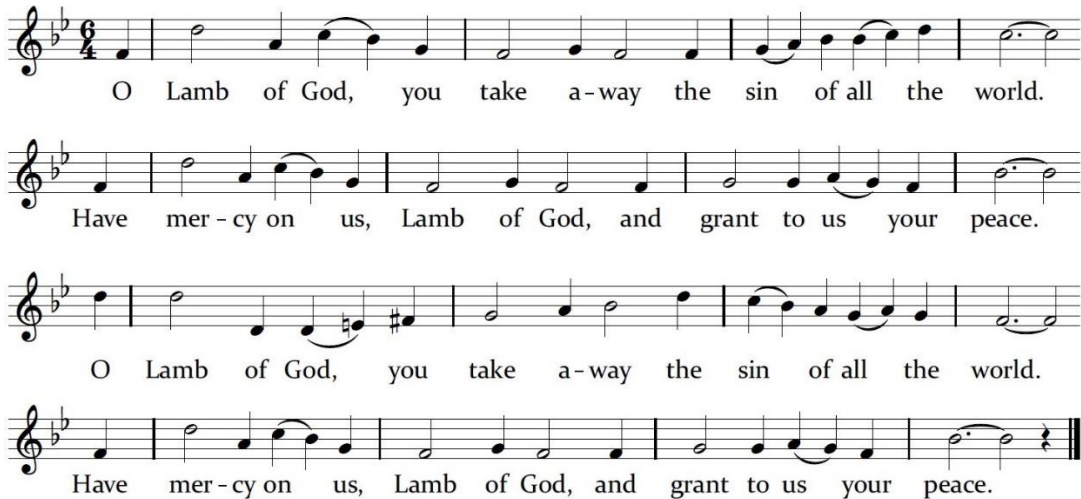
Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours, now and forever. **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.

Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have deem - been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 pect - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 si - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 min - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry

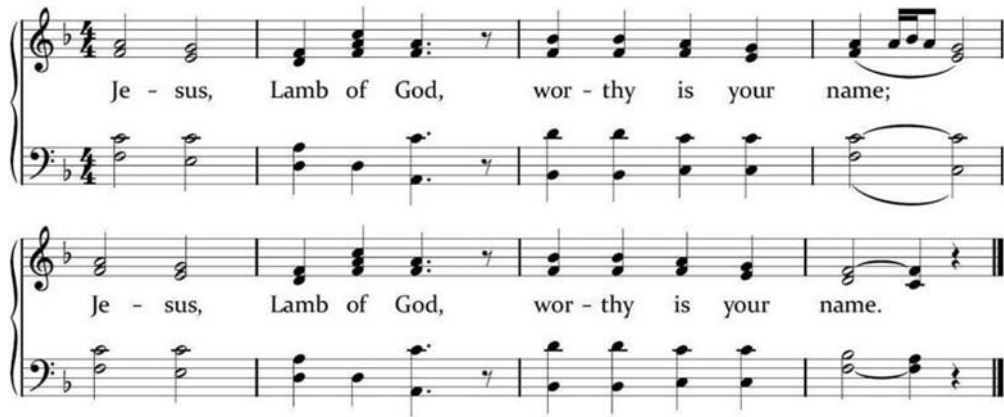


ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

A - men.

COMMUNION HYMN

Jesus, Lamb of God



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 BENEDICTION

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#439 (Red book)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



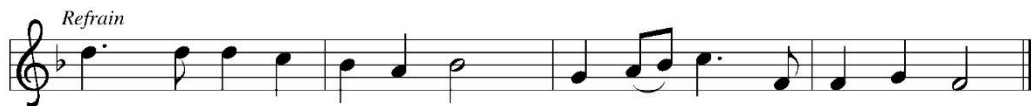
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Refrain

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

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

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!