



covenant

children's ministries

Second Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Dear parents of young worshipers,

Welcome! We are delighted to have you and your children worshipping with us this morning. Our goal each Sunday is to glorify and enjoy the God Who made us and saved us by His grace.

This bulletin was designed to help your children follow along with this morning's worship service. Here are some ideas to guide you:

- * Have children use the **stickers** provided as they follow along with this morning's liturgy. We've included some **brief definitions** for various parts of the liturgy to help you as you guide your child through the worship service.
- * Encourage your children to **color (or draw)** the main points of this morning's sermon as you listen together.
- * Help your children as they listen for the answer to the **question for young worshipers** during the sermon.
- * Check out the back of the bulletin for suggestions on **preparing for next week's worship service!** (Practicing can be especially helpful for young worshipers who cannot yet read!)

If you have any questions about our church, please do not hesitate to ask.

**In Christ,
Pastor Wiersema**

MORNING WORSHIP



Advent Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

- READER: ¹ There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
 and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
- ² And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
 the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
 the Spirit of counsel and might,
 the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- ³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
 He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by
 what his ears hear,
- ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
 and 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 of his waist, and faithfulness
 the belt of his loins.
- ⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
 and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
 and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf 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 cobra,
 and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
- ⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain;
 for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord
 as the waters cover the sea.
- ¹⁰ In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples
 —of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.



Prelude: Magnificat

Think about why we are here. Get ready to worship!



Call to Worship: from Luke 1

God calls us to worship Him from His Word

PASTOR: My soul magnifies the Lord

PEOPLE: And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

*PASTOR: For he who is mighty has done great things,
and holy is his name.*

PEOPLE: And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

*PASTOR: He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,*

ALL: As he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.



Hymn of Adoration:

O Come, All Ye Faithful #208

We respond to God's call to worship in praise and love!

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,
2. God of God, Light of Light;
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing:

O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold him
lo, he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb: ver - y God, be -
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove; glo - ry to God
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther,

REFRAIN
born the King of an - gels;
got - ten, not cre - a - ted;
in the high - est; O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let
late in flesh ap - pear - ing;

us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.



Invocation

We ask God to be present with us as we worship Him.



Profession of Faith: The Nicene Creed

**We declare what we believe about God —
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of
the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the
living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



Doxology

We praise God and call others to praise Him!

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Him, all crea-tures here be -
low; al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise Him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly
host, praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost: al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Thomas Ken, 1709; alt.

LASST UNS ERFREUEN L.M.al.
Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Cologne, 1623



Corporate Confession of Sin: from Luke 1

We confess our sins together as God's people.

PASTOR: *Father, you are the God who does great things
and holy is your name.*

ALL: **Yet we confess, O Lord,
that we have sinned against you.
We have been proud in our thoughts
and conceited in our words and actions.
We have tried to magnify ourselves, instead of you.
We have trusted in our riches to feed our souls.
We have not listened to your Word
nor waited on you.
Have mercy on us, O Lord.**



Silent confession

Confess your own sins quietly to God.



Assurance of Pardon: from Romans 6

God promises to forgive all those who trust in Jesus!

PASTOR: *Thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. Now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.



Hymn of Assurance

Once in Royal David's City #225 (vv.1-2, 4-5)

We sing that we are forgiven and held secure by God.

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3. And through all his won - drous child - hood he would hon - or and o - bey,
4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
5. Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,

where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall:
love and watch the low - ly maid - en in whose gen - tle arms he lay:
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove,
we shall see him, but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
with the poor, and mean, and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
Chris - tian chil - dren all must be mild, o - be - dient, good as he.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
when like stars his chil - dren crowned all in white shall wait a - round.



Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

The pastor prays for God's Church, locally and globally, then we pray the prayer Jesus taught His disciples.

ALL: 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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever. Amen



Offertory: Bring A Torch, Jeannette Isabella

We give back to God a portion of what He has given us.



Children's Worship (8:30 service only)

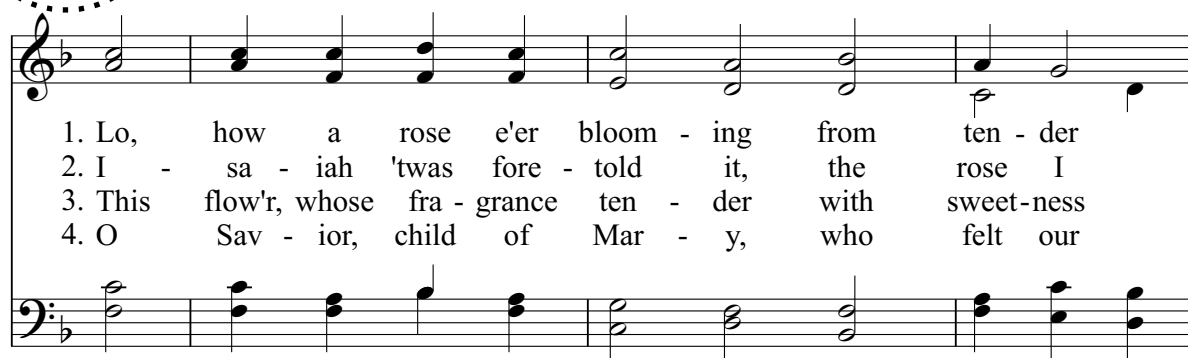
*Parents, please bring participating **children ages 4–1st grade** to meet their Worship leader in the Narthex during the following hymn. Children can be picked up downstairs in Room 13. They are also invited stay with us during the remainder of the service!*



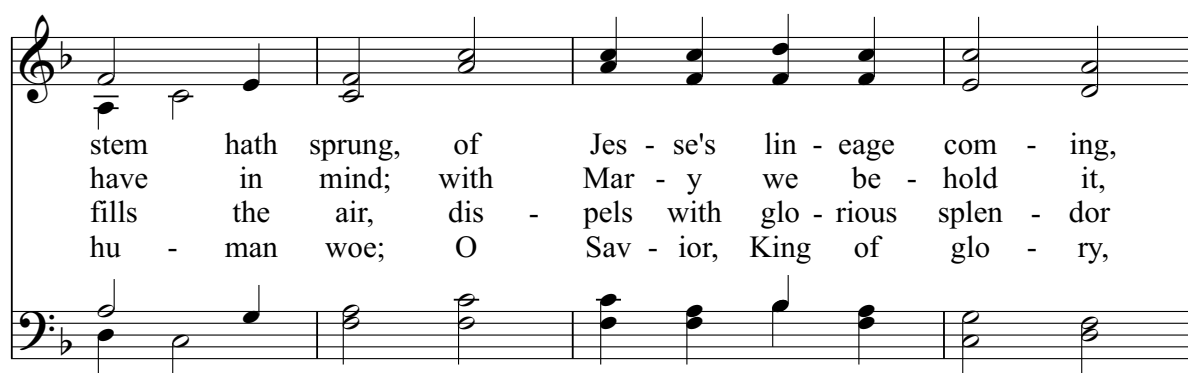
Hymn of Preparation:

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming #221

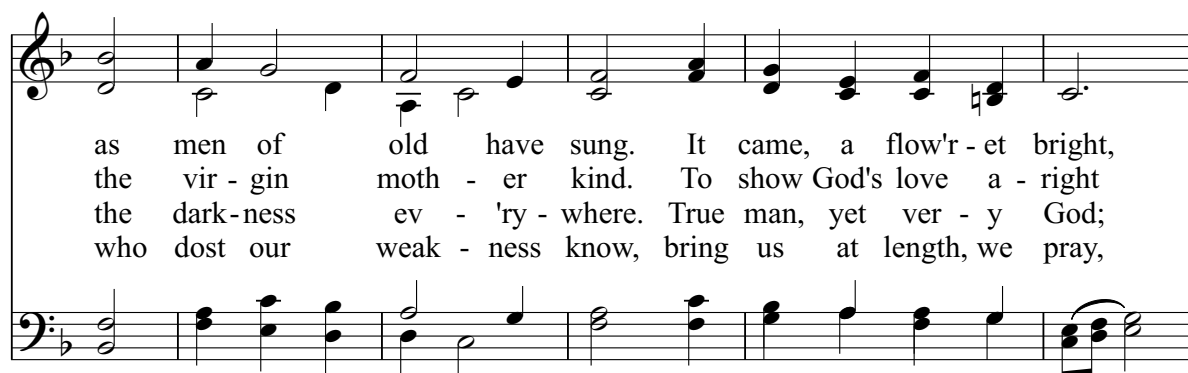
We praise God as we prepare to listen to His Word.



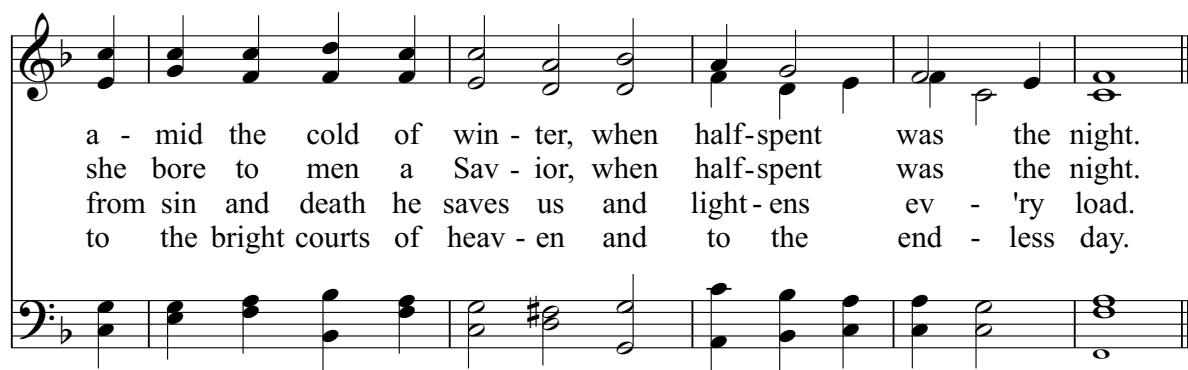
1. Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der
2. I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I
3. This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness
4. O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our



stem hath sprung, of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing,
have in mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it,
fills the air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor
hu - man woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry,



as men of old have sung. It came, a flow'r - et bright,
the vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right
the dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God;
who dost our weak - ness know, bring us at length, we pray,



a - mid the cold of win - ter, when half-spent was the night.
she bore to men a Sav - ior, when half-spent was the night.
from sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
to the bright courts of heav - en and to the end - less day.

German hymn, ca. 1500
St. 1-2 tr. by Theodore Baker, 1894
St. 3 tr. by Harriett R. Spaeth, 1875
St. 4 tr. by John C. Mattes, 1914

ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN 7.6.7.6.6.7.6.
German melody, 15th cent.
Arr. by Michael Praetorius, 1609; alt.



Sermon: Luke 1:39-56

The Songs of Advent - Mary's Song (Pastor Noah)

We listen to God's Word preached to us.

39 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, 40 and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, 42 and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 43 And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

46 And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

48 for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

49 for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

50 And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

51 He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

52 he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;

53 he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

54 He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

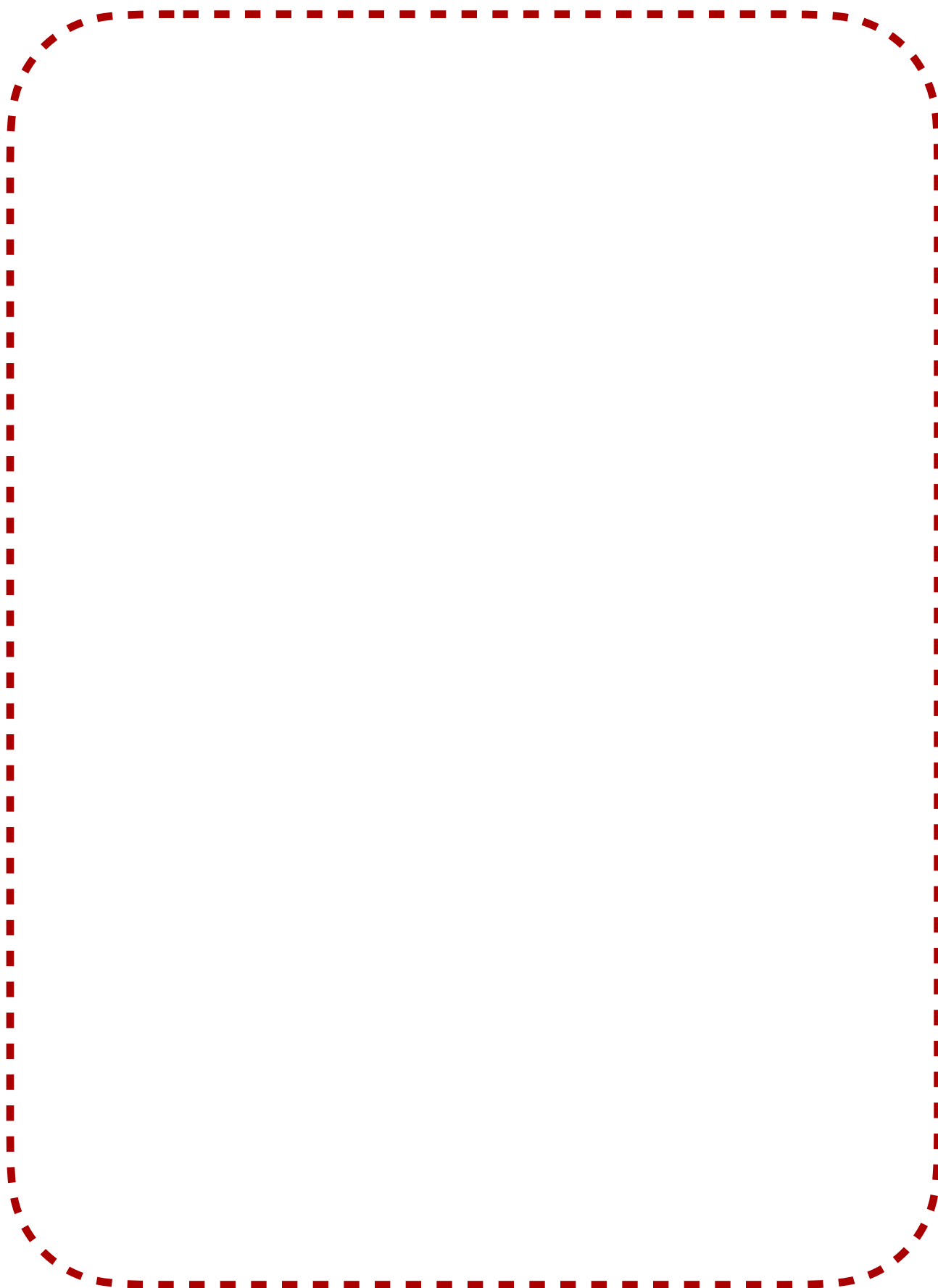
55 as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever."

56 And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

Question for young worshipers:

Who does the Lord fill with good things?

THE SONGS OF ADVENT - MARY'S SONG








Celebration of the Lord's Supper:

All My Heart This Night Rejoices #217 (vv.1-2,4-5)



As Christians, we share this meal - reminding us of and strengthening our union with Christ and with one another - as Jesus told His disciples to do before He was crucified.




▶ 1. All my heart this night re-joice - es as I hear far and near
 ▶ 2. Forth to - day the Con-qu'ror go - eth, who the foe, sin and woe,
 ▶ 3. Shall we still dread God's dis-plea - sure, who, to save, free - ly gave
 ▶ 4. He be - comes the Lamb that tak - eth sin a - way and for aye
 ▶ 5. Hark! a voice from yon - der man - ger, soft and sweet, doth en - treat:

▶ sweet - est an - gel voice - es. "Christ is born," their choirs are sing - ing
 ▶ death and hell, o'er - throw - eth. God is man, man to de - liv - er;
 his most cher - ished Trea - sure? To re - deem us, he hath giv - en
 ▶ full a - tone - ment mak - eth. For our life his own he ten - ders;
 ▶ "Flee from woe and dan - ger. Breth - ren, from all ills that grieve you,

▶ till the air ev - 'ry - where now with joy is ring - ing.
 ▶ his dear Son now is one with our blood for - ev - er.
 his own Son from the throne of his might in heav - en.
 ▶ and our race, by his grace, meet for glo - ry ren - ders.
 ▶ you are freed; all you need I will sure - ly give you."



Paul Gerhardt, 1653
Tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt.

WARUM SOLLT' ICH MICH DENN GRAMEN 8.3.3.6.8.3.3.6.
Johann G. Ebeling, 1666



Parents, if you think your child or children are ready to come to the table, please contact your fold elder or a pastor.



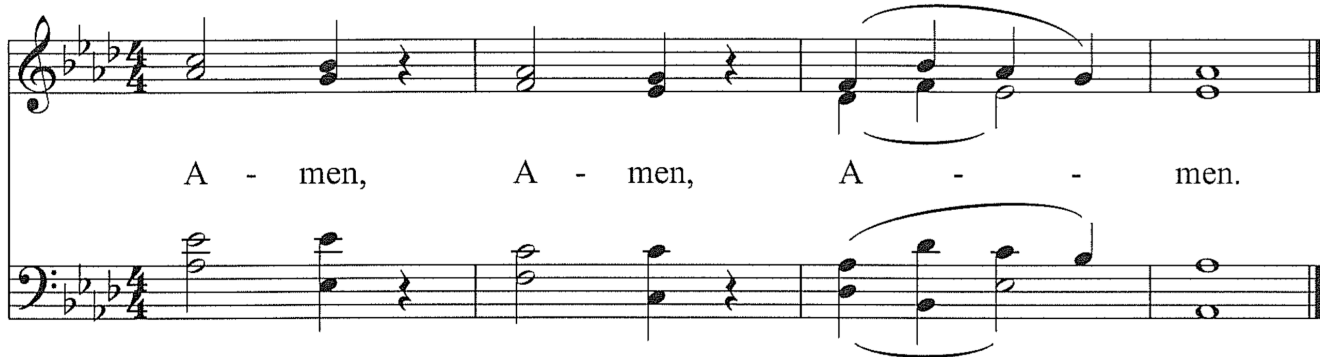
Benediction

The pastor proclaims a blessing on God's people



Threefold Amen

"Amen" means "Let it be so" or "It is true"



The Peace of Christ

We greet one another and are sent out on our way.

PASTOR: *The peace of Christ be with you.*

ALL: **And also with you!**

Musicians – Jonathan McGuire, Organ & Piano; Tim Cole, Choir Director;
Bekah Marsh & John Fussell, Children’s Choir

Unless noted otherwise, all Scripture notations are from The ESV Bible
[The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, © 2001 Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News
Publishers.

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Offertory (“Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella”): Traditional French Carol (public domain).

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Join us for Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.!

Check in downstairs at the Children's Ministry Desk to learn more!

Preparing for next week's worship service

We know that **training our children to worship** does not happen overnight. Especially for children who are not yet able to read, worship services can be difficult to follow, much less participate in! By practicing some of the elements of the service at home as a family during the week as you are able, your child(ren) can be prepared for what to say and sing along with the congregation.

- **PRAY:** We need the Lord's help as we train our children in worship. Even our best efforts to prepare them will fall flat without His aid!
- **MEMORIZE:** Work on memorizing **The Apostles' Creed** and **The Lord's Prayer** with your child(ren). We say these almost every week! In addition, we almost always include one or more of the following songs: the **Doxology**, the **Gloria Patri**, and the **Threefold Amen**.
- **PRACTICE:** You can scan the QR code to find a Spotify playlist with hymns commonly sung in our service and other worshipful hymns.







By the grace of the Triune God, Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to form and send disciples with passion for God and compassion for people.

Statement of Faith

We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), which believes that the Bible is the inerrant and infallible Word of God and holds to that system of doctrine summarized in the Westminster Confession of Faith & Catechisms.

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