

We Dedicate Ourselves to Holy Living

*Our World Belongs to God #5,6

God holds this world with fierce love.
Keeping his promise, he sends Jesus into the world,
pours out the Holy Spirit, and announces the good news:
sinners who repent and believe in Jesus
live anew as members of the family of God—the firstfruits of a new creation.

**We rejoice in the goodness of God,
renounce the works of darkness,
and dedicate ourselves to holy living.**

**As covenant partners, set free for joyful obedience,
we offer our hearts and lives to do God’s work in the world.
With tempered impatience, eager to see injustice ended,
we expect the Day of the Lord.**

**We are confident that the light
which shines in this present darkness
will fill the earth when Christ appears.**

Come, Lord Jesus. Our world belongs to you.

*Song: “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

LUYH 928:1-3

We are Sent with God’s Blessing

*Benediction

*Closing Song: “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

LUYH 928:4



Ordinary time refers to the Sundays between Pentecost and Advent, a season in the liturgical year of growth in the life of the church.

Creator God, garden my life—turn it over, cultivate it, and make it ready for gospel seeds to take root. And in quiet darkness let the gospel do its work, slow but powerful, stirring up life in my heart, increasing joy, strengthening all your graces, until shoots of new life rise and good fruit bursts forth on the branches of my life, a life beautiful for you and a blessing to others. Amen. (Prayer from Seeking God's Face by Philip F. Reinders)

† Bulletin cover art by Christina Chahyadi

Worship Participants

Pastor: Dr. Scott Culpepper ♦ Organ/Piano: Donna Brue

Worship Leaders: Pam DeJong, Dave Schelhaas

Sound: Andy Landman ♦ Projection: John Kok ♦ CCLI #493458 ♦ OneLicense #A-721171

God Gathers Us for Worship

Welcome

Call to Worship

*Songs of Praise: "I Come with Joy" LUYH 533:1,2,4,5
 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" LUYH 581

*God Greet Us, We Greet One Another

*Song: "O Love of God, How Strong and True" LUYH 583:1,2,5,6,7
st.1—all, st.2—women, st.5—all, st.6—men, st.7—all

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Call to Confession: Psalm 139:23-24 p.975

**Search me, O God, and know my heart,
 test me and know my anxious thoughts.
 See if there is any offensive way in me,
 and lead me in the way everlasting.**

Prayer of Confession (based on Psalm 139)

God, you know us through and through.
 You know our thoughts, our weaknesses, our motivations, our sins.
 And you love us still.

Forgive us when we don't believe such love is true or possible;
 when we wonder how You could love us just as we are,
 when we forget our intricate construction,
 fearfully, wonderfully made, in Your image!

Forgive us when we are selfish with your love,
 or when we fail to recognize your image in others
 who may act or think differently from us.

Remove from our minds every thought which keeps us from you.

**Break down the walls,
 push aside the pride,
 and help us to trust anew.
 You know our hearts.
 And you love us still. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

**We are forgiven.
 We are loved.
 We are reconciled to God.
 Let us live in the love of the God.
 Amen.**

Song of Thanksgiving: "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" LUYH 689

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children's Blessing: "Send Us Your Spirit" LUYH 228 (chorus only)

Children ages 3 years old through Kindergarten are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary to receive a prayer of blessing before going downstairs to the Multi-Purpose Room for a time of worship designed especially for young children. Our young guests are welcome to participate in this service.

Scripture: Genesis 22:1-19 p.31

Sermon: "The Binding: True Faith Truly Tested" Dr. Scott Culpepper

*Song of Response: "Faith Begins By Letting Go" LUYH 852

We Offer Our Gifts and Prayers

Offertory Prayer and Offering of our Gifts

Each week at Covenant we receive a monetary offering to support the mission and ministry of the church. This morning's offering will support the General Fund, which helps keep our church operating and pays for a wide range of denominational ministries, and the Building Fund, which is used to cover major project expenses for the church.

Moment for Missions: World Renew Kathleen Lauder

We Share Our Joys & Concerns and Pray for One Another