

Distribution Song: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

LUYH 465

The Thanksgiving: Psalm 103

**Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
Praise the Lord, my soul; and forget not all his benefits—
who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion.**

We Offer our Gifts

Our gifts to Covenant's Compassion Fund provide monetary support to our members who have financial needs.

Offertory Song: "In Christ There Is No East or West"

LUYH 268:1-3,5

We are Sent with God's Blessing

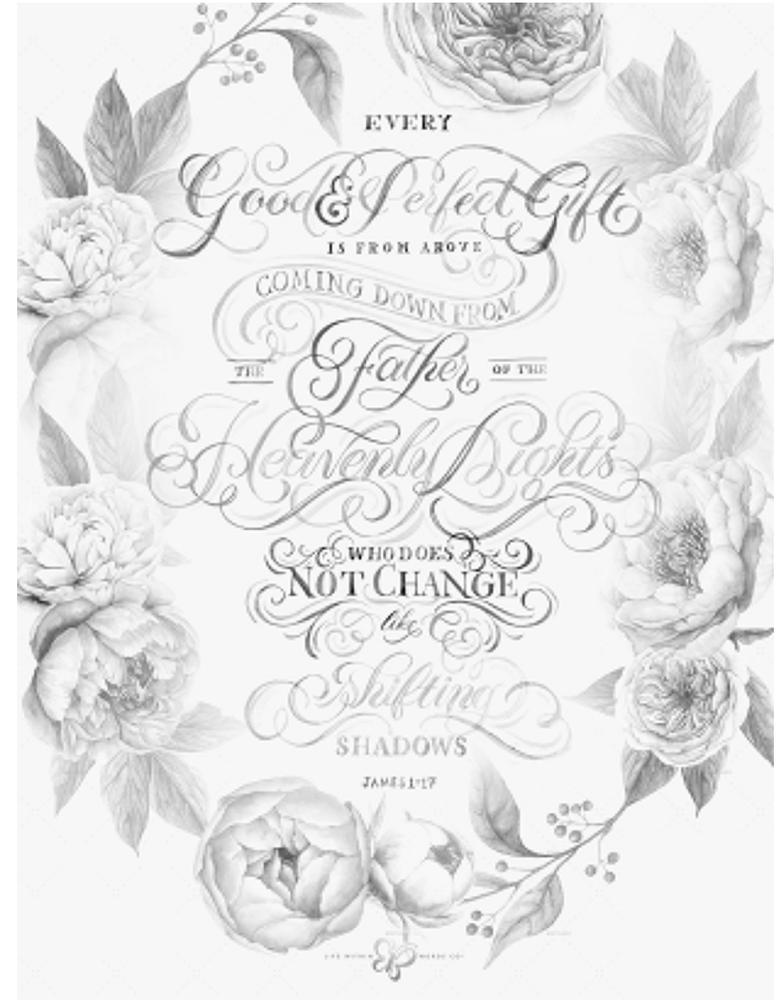
*Benediction

*Closing Song: "Salvation Belongs to Our God"

LUYH 608

Ordinary Time

July 8, 2018



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: Rev. Dave Smit ♦ Organ/Piano: Donna Brue ♦ Guitar: Jaren Brue ♦ Bass: Sam Eppinga
Drums: Adam Schultz ♦ Violin: Kinza Brue ♦ Vocalists: Emily Eppinga, Sara Ploegstra
Worship Leader: Sanneke Kok
Sound: Doug DeBoer ♦ Projection: John Kok ♦ CCLI #493458 ♦ OneLicense #A-721171

God Gathers Us for Worship

Welcome

*Call to Worship: "Gather Us In"

LUYH 529:1,3,4

*Opening Prayer

Triune God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

you have adopted us as your children,
you lavish your grace upon us at Word and table.

May all we do here equip us for ministry,

build us up as the body of Christ,

strengthen our unity in faith,

deepen our knowledge of Jesus, our Lord,

and help us to grow into maturity as your children,
reflecting the full stature of Christ.

Amen.

*God Greet Us, We Greet One Another

*Statement of Faith

Our Lord Jesus Christ spread out all the expanse of the heavens.

He is the author of creation.

He imagined all the tribes and tongues and nations.

He is the Lord of everyone.

His cry of sorrow is his cry of love

and his cry of love rings out across the lands

*Song of Praise: "Across the Lands"

LUYH 775

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Call to Confession: Isaiah 1:18

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Prayer of Confession

Gracious Merciful God, you made us in your image,
with a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a will to serve you.

But our knowledge is imperfect, our love inconstant, our obedience incomplete.
(continued on next page)

Is the Spirit here? **The Spirit is here!**

This is our God: **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

We are God's people. **We are redeemed.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

...Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels
and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name:

Song: "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"

LUYH 538:1

The Institution

...Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Prayer of Consecration

...We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray:

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, forever. Amen.

Distribution of the Elements: "Alleluia, He Is Coming"

1. I looked up and I saw my Lord a-coming.

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-coming down the road.

Chorus: Alleluia, He is coming. Alleluia, He is here.

Alleluia, He is coming. Alleluia, He is here.

2. I looked up and I saw my Lord a-weeping.

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-weeping for my sins. (to chorus)

3. I looked up and I saw my Lord a-dying.

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-dying on the cross. (to chorus)

4. I looked up and I saw my Lord a-rising.

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-rising from the grave. (to chorus)

**2. Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life. I know that it is finished.**

**3. I will not boast in anything: no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ: his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: his wounds have paid my ransom.**

Words and Music: Stuart Townend, © 1995 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

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 Christian Education Fund which provides funds for the education of our children at one of our local Christian schools to help keep tuition down to a level that is affordable for most of our families.

We Celebrate Communion

At Covenant, we believe that this is not the table of Covenant Christian Reformed Church; it is not the table of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, it is the table of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We therefore invite all who believe in Jesus as their Lord and Savior to come to the table to be fed and nourished. We also believe that this is a family meal. If your children have shown an interest in taking communion, please contact your elder who would be happy to talk through that with them. This morning we will come forward to receive the elements. If you are in need of gluten-free bread, please indicate that to the servers.

Preparing the Table

All things come from you, O Lord.

And of our own, we have given you.

We bring bread; **you give your body.**

We bring wine; **you give your blood.**

We bring our offerings; **yours is the sacrifice.**

Let us bring our gifts to be prepared for the communion feast of our Lord.

*Hymn of Praise: "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" LUYH 965

Trinitarian Invocation

Is the Father with us? **The Father is with us!**

Is Christ among us? **Christ is among us!**

(continued on next page)

Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness.
In your tender love, forgive us through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: "No Condemnation in Christ"

LUYH 694

Song of Thanksgiving: "No Longer Slaves"

**1. You unravel me with a melody. You surround me with a song
of deliverance from my enemies till all my fears are gone.**

Chorus: I'm no longer a slave to fear; I am a child of God. (repeat)

**2. From my mother's womb You have chosen me;
Love has called my name. I've been born again into Your family;
Your blood flows through my veins.**

Bridge: You split the sea so I could walk right through it.

My fears were drowned in perfect love.

You rescued me so I could stand and sing: I am a child of God.

Words and Music: Brian Johnson, Joel Case, Jonathan David Helser, © 2014 Bethel Music Publishing

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: Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

p.1623

Sermon: "A Father's Love"

Rev. Dave Smit

We Respond with Thanksgiving

*Song of Response: "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

**1. How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure
that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.**

**How great the pain of searing loss. The Father turns His face away
as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.**

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