

\*Closing Song: "Canticle of Simeon"

**Lord, bid your servant go in peace; your word is now fulfilled.  
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, this child so long foretold.**

**This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles' promised light,  
God's glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel.**

Words: Nunc Dimittis, James Quinn, Music: Elkanah K. Dare, Text © 1969 Selah Publishing, Co.

Offering our gifts is an important part of our response to God—connecting our worship with a life of discipleship—and is a way to participate in the ministry of Covenant CRC here in this building and around the world. Offering baskets are located at the entrances to the sanctuary, or check your bulletin announcements for more ways to give.

how long? not long.



### Worship Participants

Pastor: Dr. Jason Lief, Rev. Phil Postma ♦ Piano: Ryan Smit ♦ Guitar: Laremy DeVries

Violin: Amie Smit ♦ Worship Leader: Len Rhoda

Readers: Ruth Clark, Rebecca DeVries, Jeff Ploegstra

Sound: Nick Breems ♦ Video: Marty Vander Plaats ♦ CCLI #493458 ♦ OneLicense #A-721171

### Hearing Assistance

A telecoil hearing-loop system sends a signal into the sanctuary. If your hearing aid is t-coil equipped, try switching to the t-coil receiver. An FM hearing assistance system is also available for ears without hearing aids. Consult the sound operator for assistance.



### Psalm 27:13-14

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord  
in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong,  
and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the Lord!

† Cover art by Sophia Marcus

## Gathering

Call to Worship & Advent Candle Lighting: Psalm 27:1,13-14

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of living.

**Be strong. Take heart. And wait for the Lord.**

\*Song: "The Day of the Lord (Psalm 37)"

**1. It's not long 'til the boastful are silenced and shamed.  
It's not long 'til the wealth of the wicked's reclaimed.  
And the ones who have waited with eyes on the Lord  
will shine like the sun forevermore.  
It's not long till the Day of the Lord!**

**2. Just be still and be faithful and dwell in the land.  
Put your trust in the Savior and cling to his hand.  
When your heart burns with anger for all that is wrong,  
do not let the dark steal your song.  
It's not long till the Day of the Lord!**

*Chorus:*

**It's not long till the Day of the Lord,  
it's not long till the Day of the Lord!  
Everything that is broken will soon be restored.  
It's not long till the Day of the Lord!**

**3. Do not fear for the wicked with weapons of war,  
for the Lord is the shelter and strength of the poor.  
And our God comes with laughter, let him be your joy.  
The power of the sword, he'll destroy.  
It's not long till the Day of the Lord! (to chorus)**

Words and music by Wendell Kimbrough, © 2017 Wendell Kimbrough

\*God Greets Us, We Greet One Another

\*Song: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

LUYH 61:1,2,6,7

*We invite you to come down the center aisle to the communion table at the front of the sanctuary. We ask that you take the bread and juice back to your seats and we will eat and drink together after all are served.*

The Communion: "Savior of the Nations, Come" LUYH 74:1,2,4,6,7  
"Lift Up Your Hearts unto the Lord" LUYH 844:1,2,4,5

Prayer of Thanksgiving

## Sending

\*We Profess Our Faith: Our World Belongs to God

Our hope for a new creation is not tied to what humans can do,  
for we believe that one day every challenge to God's rule will be crushed.  
His kingdom will fully come, and the Lord will rule.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

**Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

We long for that day when our bodies are raised,  
the Lord wipes away our tears,  
and we dwell forever in the presence of God.

We will take our place in the new creation,  
where there will be no more death  
or mourning or crying or pain,  
and the Lord will be our light.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

**Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

On that day we will see our Savior face to face,  
sacrificed Lamb and triumphant King, just and gracious.  
He will set all things right, judge evil, and condemn the wicked.  
We face that day without fear, for the Judge is our Savior,  
whose shed blood declares us righteous.

We live confidently, anticipating his coming,  
offering him our daily lives—

our acts of kindness, our loyalty, and our love—  
knowing that he will weave even our sins and sorrows  
into his sovereign purpose.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

**Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

\*Benediction

Scripture Reading: Luke 21:25-36

p.1636

Message: "It's the End of the World as We Know It"

Dr. Jason Lief

## Table

The 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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

The Institution: 1 Corinthians 11

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Prayer of Consecration, concluding with the Lord's Prayer

**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.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

The Invitation to the Table

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body, for we all share the same loaf.**

The cup for which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

**The cup which we drink is our participation in the blood of Christ.**

## Renewal

Prayer of Confession: Psalm 25:1,4-7

In you, Lord my God, I put my trust.

**Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths.**

**Guide me in your truth and teach me,**

**for you are God my Savior,**

**and my hope is in you all day long.**

Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.

**Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways;  
according to your love remember me, for you, Lord, are good.**

**Amen.**

Words of Assurance: Jeremiah 33:14-16

p.1232

with "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

LUYH 79:1,3

*(soloist) Lo, how a rose e'er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung...*

'The days are coming,' declares the Lord, 'when I will fulfill the good promise  
I made to the people of Israel and Judah.

*of Jesse's lineage coming, as saints of old have sung.*

'In those days and at that time

I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line;

he will do what is just and right in the land.

In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety.

*It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter*

*when half spent was the night.*

This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord Our Righteous Savior.'

*All sing verse 3*

Prayers for the Church and World

## Word

Children's Blessing: "Away in a Manger"

LUYH 86:3

Children ages 3 years old through kindergarten are invited to go 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. Parents, we invite you to walk your children downstairs to help get them settled in.

Prayer for Illumination