

The Invitation

We invite you to come down the center aisle to the communion table at the front of the sanctuary. You may partake at the table or take it back to your seats to partake there.

Communion Songs: "I Come with Joy" LUYH 533:1,2,3,5
 "Gift of Finest Wheat" LUYH 815:1,3,4

*The Thanksgiving: Psalm 103:1-4 p.939

**Praise the Lord, O my soul;
 all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
 Praise the Lord, O 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.**

Sending

*Benediction

*Closing Song: "May the Mind of Christ, My Savior" LUYH 334
Vs.1&2—all, vs.3—men, vs.4—women & children, vs.5—all

Baptism of Our Lord

January 8, 2023

**Matthew 3:16-17**

And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

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Worship Participants

Pastor: Dr. David Westfall, Dr. Justin Bailey ♦ Organ/Piano: Lois Vander Zee
 Sound: Andy Landman ♦ Video: Rebecca DeVries ♦ 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.



Gathering

Welcome

Call to Worship: Isaiah 42:6-8

p.1124

*Song: "Gather Us In"

LUYH 529:1,3,4

*God Greets Us, We Greet One Another

*Song: "Here I Am to Worship"
"Imagine"

LUYH 567
LUYH 72

Renewal

Prayer of Confession

God of our salvation,
we marvel that you sent your Son into the world,
that we might become your children, children who walk in the light.
Yet we confess that we often rebel against your ways.
We fall back into the shadows and into a spirit of fear.
We turn toward false saviors.

Forgive and heal us, we pray.

**Help us, once again, to turn away from all that is false,
and to turn to you, toward your light.**

**Help us to hear and to embrace the identity, the promise,
and the calling you give to us in our baptism
as your dearly loved children. Amen.**

Words of Assurance: Micah 7:18-19

p.1450

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over
the transgression of the remnant of your possession?
You do not retain your anger forever,
because you delight in showing clemency.
**God will again have compassion upon us;
he will tread our iniquities under foot.
You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.
Thanks be to God!**

Song of Thanksgiving: "Your Mercy Flows"

LUYH 700

Offering Announcement

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 boxes are located at the entrances to the sanctuary, or check your bulletin announcements for more ways to give.

Prayers for the Church and World

Word

Children's Blessing: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

LUYH 82:3

Leader & Congregation: **The Lord be with you.**

Kids & Helpers: And also with you.

Leader & Congregation: **God bless you as you worship.**

Kids & Helpers: God bless you as you worship.

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.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:13-17

p.1499

Message: "The Perfect Penitent"

Dr. David Westfall

*Song of Response: "Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering" LUYH 113

Table

The Institution: 1 Corinthians 11

Memorial Acclamation

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.