

\*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.**

\*Song of Thanksgiving: “Amen, We Praise Your Name, O God” LUYH 921

## Sending

\*Benediction

\*Closing Song: “My Friends, May You Grow in Grace” LUYH 938

# 50th Anniversary Worship Service

April 28, 2024



## Worship Participants

Pastors: Joel Kok, Dan De Groot, Kory Plockmeyer, Harry Weidenaar ✦ Organ: Donna Brue ✦ Piano: Mike Janssen  
Guitar: Laremy DeVries ✦ Worship Leader: Rebecca DeVries ✦ Orchestra directed by Jill Friend  
Sound: Andy Landman ✦ Video: Terry Friend ✦ 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 145:4

One generation commends your works to another;  
they tell of your mighty acts.

† Bulletin Cover Art: “One Generation Will Call to the Next”  
-acrylic silkscreen print by Vaughn Donahue

## Gathering

### Welcome & Opening Prayer

\*Call to Worship: Psalm 145:3-7 p.979

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;  
his greatness no one can fathom.

**One generation commends your works to another;  
they tell of your mighty acts.**

They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty—  
and I will meditate on your wonderful works.

**They tell of the power of your awesome works—  
and I will proclaim your great deeds.**

They celebrate your abundant goodness  
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

\*Song of Praise: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” LUYH 575

\*Song of Praise: “Great Is He”

*Altos: **Great is he who’s the King of kings and the Lord of lords,  
he is wonderful!***

*Sopranos: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, he is wonderful!***

*Men: **Alleluia, salvation and glory, honor and power, he is wonderful!***

Author Unknown

\*God Greet Us, We Greet One Another

\*Song: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness!” LUYH 348

## Repentance & Renewal

### Prayer of Confession

#### Assurance of Pardon

People of God, all of us together have received God’s mercy in Christ.  
In Christ we are forgiven, redeemed,  
and made to be a community united in faith.

**Thanks be to God.**

Guide for Grateful Living: “May the Mind of Christ, My Savior” LUYH 334  
*st.1—all, st.2-4—Choir, st.5—all*

Song: “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

LUYH 538:1

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.**

**Dying, he destroyed our death. Rising, he restored our life.**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

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

*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.*

*Gluten-free bread is available on the communion table.*

Communion Songs: “Behold the Lamb”

LUYH 840

“We Will Feast”

*Chorus: **We will feast in the house of Zion.***

***We will sing with our hearts restored.***

***He has done great things, we will say together.***

***We will feast and weep no more.***

*1. **We will not be burned by the fire, he is the Lord our God.***

***We are not consumed by the flood,***

***upheld, protected, gathered up. (to chorus)***

*2. **In the dark of night, before the dawn, my soul, be not afraid.***

***For the promised morning, oh how long?***

***Oh God of Jacob, be my strength. (to chorus)***

*3. **Every vow we’ve broken and betrayed, you are the faithful one.***

***And from the garden to the grave,***

***bind us together, bring shalom. (to chorus)***

Text & Music: Sandra McCracken, Joshua Moore

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And let us pray for the renewal of this church, beginning with ourselves.

**Reshape us, good Lord,  
until in generosity, in faith, and in expectation,  
we are truly Christlike.**

**Make us passionate followers of Jesus  
seeking righteousness, working for justice,  
and showing love and compassion.**

**Renew in the whole church  
a fervent desire for the coming of your kingdom,  
which unites all Christians in one mission to the world. Amen.**

## Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Psalm 145

p.979

Message: "Generation to Generation to New Creation"

Pastor Joel Kok

\*Song of Response: "We Will Extol You, God and King"

LUYH 562

## Table

Trinitarian Invocation

Is the Father with us?

**The Father is with us!**

Is Christ among us?

**Christ is among us!**

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.**

The 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.**

*(St.2-4 have been written by Bob DeSmith for Covenant's 50th Anniversary)*

2. *Moses saw a bush was burning, found himself on holy ground,  
may we meet our Lord in worship, Covenant affirmed.*

3. *God has blessed our congregation, called us to new life in Him:  
may we live in rich communion, foll'wing only Him.*

4. *As we fellowship together, see in each God's face today,  
may we seek to love each other, graced along the way.*

Invitation to Giving

*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 available, or check your  
bulletin announcements for more ways to give.*

Prayers for the Church and World

Covenant God, God of our ancestors,

Creator, Sustainer and Giver of all good gifts—we thank you

for all the sound and silence and color and symbol that, through these 50 years,  
have helped the worship of this church to be relevant and real.

Here we remember and say thanks those who helped us to come to faith,  
by singing us songs or telling us stories,

by inviting us in when we felt distant,

by praying for us without being asked.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We remember and say thanks for the preachers, the readers,

the musicians, the leaders, whose sensitivity and skill

have helped us to grow in faith and to enjoy worshipping you.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We remember and say thanks for those

who encourage people to praise you and share your love outside the sanctuary:

those who teach young children, those who lead youth groups,

those who visit the elderly and the sick,

those who volunteer and bring meals, those who offer hospitality.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

And we remember those who cannot pray and who struggle to believe,

or who fear changes in the church more than in any other area of their lives.

We pray that they might be encouraged, and that love might dispel fear.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**