

May Christ, who shared his life,
grant us grace that we might share ours.
And may the Holy Spirit dwelling in us
empower us to be Christ's ambassadors
wherever we go and to whomever we meet.
Amen.

*Closing Song: "Take Us as We Are, O God"

LUYH 862:1,3

First Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025



Psalm 91:1-4

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge.

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Worship Participants

Pastor: Dr. Joel Kok ✦ Organ/Piano: Donna Brue ✦ Worship Leader: Sara Ploegstra
Sound: Andy Landman ✦ Video: James Rylaarsdam ✦ 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.



God Gathers Us

Welcome

*Call to Worship: Isaiah 43:19-21 p.1127

*Song: "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" LUYH 572:1,3,5

*God Greet Us, We Greet One Another

*Song: "Christ Our Hope in Life and Death"

1. ***What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone.***

What is our only confidence? That our souls to Him belong.

What holds our days within His hand?

What comes, apart from His command?

And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ in which we stand.

Chorus: O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal;

O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess

Christ our hope in life and death.

2. ***What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.***

Where is His grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise?

Who stands above the stormy trial?

***Who sends the waves that bring us nigh unto the shore,
the rock of Christ. (to chorus)***

3. ***Unto the grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!"***

And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with Him.

***There we will rise to meet the Lord, then sin and death will be destroyed,
and we will feast in endless joy,
when Christ is ours forevermore. (to chorus)***

Words & Music: Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Matthew Merker © 2020 Getty Music Hymns and Songs, Getty Music Publishing, Jordan Kauflin Music, Love Your Enemies Publishing, Matthew Merker Music, Messenger Hymns (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

God Renews Us

Prayer of Confession

God, you call us,

but we ignore your voice.

You speak to us,

**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 table.

Communion Song: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" LUYH 140
"Wonderful, Merciful Savior"

1. ***Wonderful, merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and Friend;***

***Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.***

Chorus: You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore.

***You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,
oh, our hearts always hunger for.***

2. ***Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace;
You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way,
oh, we hopelessly lost the way. (to chorus)***

3. ***Almighty, infinite Father, faithfully loving Your own;
here in our weakness You find us falling before Your throne,
oh, we're falling before Your throne. (to chorus)***

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

God Sends Us Out to Serve

*Benediction

May the God of love, who showed us love,
strengthen us in our love for others.

God Speaks to Us

Children In Worship Dismissal: “Speak, O Lord” LUYH 755:1
Children ages 3 years old through kindergarten are invited to a time of worship designed especially for young children and can gather in the fellowship hall with the helpers. Our young guests are welcome to participate in this service.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Psalm 91; Luke 4:1-13 p.930; 1595

Message: “Wounded Wings” Pastor Joel Kok

*Song of Response: “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High” LUYH 111:1-3

God Meets Us at the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Generous God,
 you have gathered grapes from many hills and grain from many fields,
and so we come to the table of plenty.
 You have offered to quench our thirst and to fill our hunger,
and so we come to the table of plenty.
 You want to nourish us with the blood and body of Jesus,
and so we come to the table of plenty.
 You will provide all that we need.
here at the table of plenty.
 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.

Song: “Trisagion”

***Holy God, holy and mighty, Holy Immortal One,
 have mercy, have mercy on us.***

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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.

but we are too busy to listen.

You invite us to see the good things you are doing
 even in difficult places and through difficult circumstances,
but our eyes are closed, and we refuse to look and see.

You ask us to join in your work,
 to be a part of the renewal of the world,
**but we think the price is too high,
 the people not deserving,
 or the people and creation to be someone else’s responsibility.**

You call us to serve others,
but we think only of ourselves.
 In the midst of the wilderness of this world and our lives,
 you are doing a good thing,

**but we prefer to stay in a comfortable place.
 We lose patience, demanding you act
 instead of resting in you.**

Forgive us for all we have done that goes against your will
 and for not doing the things you have asked of us.
 Help us to turn back to you, commit ourselves to follow you,
 and lead lives of service, even in the wilderness.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Romans 10:9-11

p.1760

Song of Dedication: “Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me”

***4. With every breath I long to follow Jesus,
 for he has said that he will bring me home.
 And day by day I know he will renew me
 until I stand with joy before the throne.***

***To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus. All the glory evermore to him.
 When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
 Yet not I, but through Christ in me.***

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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