Ordinary Time

October 18, 2026

Revelation 1:5b-6

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

† Ordinary time refers to the Sundays in the liturgical year between Pentecost and Advent. It is a season of growth and discipleship in the life of the church where we see, speak about, and join God's ongoing work in the world.

Worship Participants

Pastor: Dr. Brad Hickey ✦ Organ/Piano: Lois Vander Zee ✦ Worship Leader: Dennis Vander Plaats
Sound: Andy Landman ✦ Video: Jason Wyenberg ✦ 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 for Worship

Prelude: “Sing to the Lord of Harvest” H. D. Wolff
“Holy God, We Praise Your Name” H. Kihlken

Welcome

*Call to Worship LUYH 524
Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.
This is the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
O Lord, open our lips,
and our mouths shall declare your praise.

*Song: “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” LUYH 538:1-3

*God Greets Us, We Greet One Another

*Song: “You Are Holy” LUYH 598

We Are Reconciled & Renewed

Affirmation of Faith: Our World Belongs to God, art.39
The church is a gathering of forgiven sinners called to be holy.
Saved by the patient grace of God, we deal patiently with others
and together confess our need for grace and forgiveness.
Restored in Christ's presence, shaped by his life,
this new community lives out
the ongoing story of God’s reconciling love,
announces the new creation,
and works for a world of justice and peace.

Prayer of Confession

Song of Lament: “How Long, O Lord”

1. ***O God, who hears our prayers, when will your kingdom come?***
With souls weighed down with cares, we call to you alone.
Our path is dimmed by tears, our world cries out in pain,
we long for heaven’s peace; deliver us, again.

and made us to be a kingdom,
priests serving his God and Father,
to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.
Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!

We Are Sent with God’s Blessing

*Benediction

*Closing Song: “Shout, for the Blessed Jesus Reigns” LUYH 261:1,4,5

Postlude: “All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name” F. Peeters

Chorus: ***How Long, O Lord, till you make things right?***
How Long, O Lord, till our faith is sight?
How Long, O Lord, till your kingdom comes? Lord Jesus, come.

2. ***When will the sick be healed? When will our sadness end?***
When will your light reveal the beauty of your plan?
When will our hatred cease? When will your justice reign?
When will your enemies revere your holy name? *(to chorus)*

3. ***You surely know our grief, our sorrows you endured;***
your Spirit intercedes with groans too deep for words.
Now make us sure in hope, steadfast until the end;
we wait upon you, Lord, and trust your sovereign hand. *(to chorus)*

Words & Music: Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker, Laura Story © 2023 Getty Music Publishing/Matthew Merker Music/Jordan Kauflin Music/ Getty Music Hymns and Songs/Laura's Stories and Songs

Words of Assurance: Revelation 22:17, 20 p.1939

"I am the Alpha and the Omega,
the first and the last, the beginning and the end.
Surely, I am coming soon."
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

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

God Speaks to Us through His Word

Children's Dismissal: "Open Our Eyes"

Open up our ears to listen. Open up our eyes to see.
Plant the seed of understanding. Grow it up like the tallest tree.
Pull the blinds, open wide all the windows.
Fill our hearts with the light of your truth.

Words & Music: Sandra McCracken, © 2014 Drink Your Tea Music

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: Revelation 1:4-11 p.1913

Message: "How to Flourish in Challenging Times" Dr. Brad Hickey

God Meets Us at the Table

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.

Song: "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord" LUYH 810:1

The Institution: 1 Corinthians 11

Memorial Acclamation
We 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 table.

Communion Song: "Come, You Disconsolate" LUYH 614
"Beneath the Cross of Jesus" LUYH 825

*Acclamation of Praise: Revelation 1:5-6, 5:12 LUYH 839
To Jesus Christ, who loves us
and freed us from our sins by his blood,