



Worship Service for the
First Sunday of Christmas
December 29, 2024

The Lord Your God Welcomes You

Prelude “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”
“As With Gladness Men of Old”

arr. W. Held
arr. P. Manz

Greeting & Welcome

*Mutual Greeting

*Call to Worship

The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world and those who dwell therein; for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

The Lord is our shepherd; we shall not want. He makes us lie down in green pastures; He leads us beside still waters. He restores our soul.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Proclaim the good news of His salvation day after day. Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all peoples.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

***Hymn of Praise** “Joyful, Joyful, We adore Thee”

LUYH 581

*Opening Prayer

Let us pray: Eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you who created heaven and earth out of nothing, and who continues to uphold and rule all things by your eternal counsel and providence — we come before you as your people, trusting in your power, your wisdom, and your love.

Because of Christ your Son, we are confident to call you our God and Father. We trust in you completely, knowing you will provide all we need for body and soul. Even in times of adversity and trial, we believe you will turn all things to our good, for you are almighty and faithful.

As we gather in your presence, grant us hearts that rest in your care and lives that glorify your holy name. In Jesus' name, we pray.
Amen.

***Song of Worship** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

LUYH 575 vs 1,2,4

The Lord Your God Forgives You

Call to Confession

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weaknesses, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:14-16

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Song of Confession "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

LUYH 667

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Words of Assurance

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. In fulfillment of the promises of God I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
All glory be to God. Amen.

***Song of Assurance** "As with Gladness Men of Old"

LUYH 105 vs 1,4,5

The Lord Your God Speaks Good News

Blessing for Children

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your Word made flesh: Grant to us and our children that this light, kindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Children 4 years- 5th Grade are invited to follow the banner for Walk Out Worship.
Children are dismissed at 11:20 from their classrooms located near the nursery.)

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading Genesis 45:4-8a, 50:15-21; Romans 8:37-39,

p. 38, 945

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Sermon "Our Plans and God's Providence"

The Lord Your God Listens to Your Prayers

***Song of Response** "Blessed be the God of Israel"

LUYH 67

Prayers of the People

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. On this first Sunday of Christmas, we pray that you will grant that this light, kindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives.....

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.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

The Lord Your God Blesses You

The Offering *Mosaic Counseling*

Offertory “The Work of Christmas”

D. Forrest

***Closing Hymn** “Go Tell it on the Mountain”

LUYH 93 vs 1,3

***Benediction**

Postlude “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

arr. W. Held

Credits & Liturgical Notes

Preaching: Pastor Michael Borgert

Organ: Jean Schuitman

Prayer of the People: Amy Wolffis

Vocalists: Kate Reinders

We display all music and readings on the screen. LUYH (red hymnal) located in the pew rack;
OneLicense.net #A-721176, CCLI#7750

Welcome Guests:

Welcome visitors, we are glad you are here! Please fill out a Guest Registration Card (in the pew rack) and place it in the offering basket or scan the back of this bulletin for an online form. Also, join us for coffee and cookies after church so we can meet you!

This Sunday:

Special Offering: *Mosaic Counseling* serves the mental health needs of our community through accessible, affordable, professional counseling, by connecting individuals to personalized support.

Walk Out Worship: 4 years- 5th graders will have a birthday party for Jesus on this First Sunday of Christmas.

Prayer Requests, Praises & Gratitude:

Ray Kuiper is at Holland Hospital. Please continue to keep him and Shirley in your prayers.

Ken Westveld is in the ICU at Holland Hospital. Please keep him and Kathy in your prayers.

Hank Byma’s mother passed away. Please keep him and Carla in your prayers.

Please continue to keep Tom Kapteyn, Mary North, Jan Veenstra, Glen Wierenga and Jan Zuidema in your prayers.

Announcements:

Giving Envelopes: Boxes for 2025 are on a table in the Atrium along the railing. If you have any questions about giving, please contact Amy Wolffis or Dave VanderHeide, treasurer.

Grief Recovery Method: On Thursdays at 9:30 -11:30 am from January 9 through February 27, 2025 at Calvin Christian Reformed Church, 973 W. Norton, Muskegon, MI 49441. If you are currently giving care to someone who is grieving or if you are experiencing unresolved grief issues, please consider joining the Grief recovery Method Class. For more information, please contact Jane DeGroot, class facilitator, at janehdegroot@charter.net.

Midweek Gathering: Our Winter Midweek Gathering will begin on January 29. One of the sessions will be with Jeff Munroe on his book *Telling Stories in the Dark*. Jeff has been a frequent visitor to Second CRC and is the editor of the Reformed Journal. The book is a collection of stories of people who have not only experienced significant trauma but become good stewards of their pain, transforming their pain into something redemptive. Copies of the book are available in the office with a suggested donation of \$20. The other session topics will be announced soon.

Outreach Update: We are seeking additional members to enlarge and enrich our Outreach team in 2025. If you are interested, please contact any member of the team: Steve Marotti at 616-366-2717, Mary Erickson at 616-842-4813 or Joanne Query at 616-260-1789.

SWAN's: Let's ring in the New Year with breakfast and fellowship at the Pine Street Cafe in Ferrysburg, 401 Pine St., on January 8 at 9:30am. We hope you can all be there and will share some of your Christmas stories.

Ushers: Schedules for 2025 have been placed in your mailbox.

White Elephant Epiphany Party: Next Generation Ministries invites parents of our students to a special gathering on Saturday, January 11 from 4-6pm at Jay and Cindy Brace's house (16798 Timber Ridge). Please bring an appetizer to share and one white elephant gift per couple. Childcare will be available for kids (birth–elementary) at the Brace's home. Please RSVP to [Amy Wolffis](#) or contact her for more information.

We are Hiring: We are looking for a *Communications Coordinator*. If you or anyone you know have a talent for communications or secretarial work, please have them contact [Amy Wolffis](#) for the job description.

Volunteer Schedule

December 29, 2024

Projection: Eric Wolffis

Video: Harley Dyk, Jim Query, Jay Brace, Ethan Hodge

Sound: Todd Cunningham

Ushers: Roger Hordyk (Team 8), Dan Holtrop, John Buitenhuis, Paul Marotti

Coffee Hosts: David & Robin Kieft/ Mike & Karen Katje

Nursery: Dawn Rotman, Carissa Marotti

Little Lambs: Jane DeGroot, Sydney Marotti

Walk Out: Annie Hoekzema, Gabe Schaaf

Greeters: Jim Warners, Mike & Karen Katje

Offering: Mosaic Counseling

January 5, 2025

Projection:

Video:

Sound: Mike Katje

Ushers: Eric Rotman (Team 9), Ron Frantz, Dave VanderWall, Jason Zuidema

Coffee Hosts:

Nursery: Sam Farrar, Mary Wierenga

Little Lambs: Manette DeYoung, Cherise VanderHeide

Walk Out 4s-1st: Marie Rycenga, Ian Clapp

Walk Out 2nd-5th: Carla Byma, Kyla Zuidema

Greeters: Anne Zuidema, David & Robin Kieft

Offering: Resonate Global Mission--Matthew Slack

Calendar

Sunday, December 29

10:00 AM – Sunday Service

Monday, December 30

9 AM-1 PM–Office Hours

1:30 PM– Ping Pong

Tuesday, December 31

9 AM-12 PM

Wednesday, January 1

Office Closed

Thursday, January 2

9 AM-1 PM

Friday, January 3

Office Closed

Saturday, January 4

Sunday, January 5

10:00 AM–Sunday Service

Connect with Second CRC

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(616) 842-0710

admin@secondcrcgrandhaven.org

YouTube: @2ndCRCGH

Give Online:



Guest Registration:

