



Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



We welcome you to Worship this Sunday!

January 12, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

The People of Covenant are called to:

Gather, Grow and Go Serve

...With God's Love!

Welcome Thank you for joining us for Worship today!

WORSHIP ORDER – Sunday, January 12, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.

*Congregation participation in **bold** in bulletin.*

ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymn Book,

ACS= All Creation Sings Hymnal, Setting 11

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Land Acknowledgment

Covenant Lutheran Church acknowledges and honors the Indigenous Peoples and their ancestral homelands on which we gather. We stand on stolen ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and the many other Indigenous Nations that have been historical occupants here. We respect Native Americans as caretakers of this land and Mother Earth. We strive to emulate the stewardship they first demonstrated. We embrace Indigenous People in love and gratitude. May we always seek a greater understanding of the Native community and their history as a whole as we aspire to work in meaningful partnership.

Welcome

Call to Worship

Today we celebrate a special baptism the baptism of Jesus of Nazareth.

God says:

Look! See my chosen servant, the One in whom I utterly delight;

**I have placed my Spirit on him,
he will bring true justice to the nations.**

When Jesus was baptized, the heavens opened up, and Spirit came down like a dove; and there was a voice from heaven saying:

“This is my dearly loved Son, with whom I am delighted.

Children’s Time

Gathering Hymn

Shall We Gather At the River

ELW 423

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

ACS p. 12

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

A reading from Isaiah, the forty third chapter.

¹ But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³ For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight and honored and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made." The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Reading

Psalm 29

A responsive reading from Psalm twenty-nine.

¹Ascribe to the LORD,
O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**²Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

³The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over mighty waters.

**⁴The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

⁷The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

**⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

**¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**

¹¹May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Second Reading

Acts 8:14-17

A reading from Acts, the eighth chapter.

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ²¹ Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." The Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Wendy Moen

Hymn of the Day

Christ, When For Us You Were Baptized

ELW 304

Prayers of Intercession

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

You call us by name and form us. All are welcome at your table and in your church. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news, especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans. Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city and county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery (See Prayer Insert). < full 5 second pause >. Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

Exchange of Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us share a sign of peace safely with one another.

Announcements

Offering Prayer

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of Holy Communion and Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy Holy Holy

ACS pp. 20-21

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

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| Communion Hymns | <i>Lamb of God</i> | ACS p. 25 |
| | <i>By Your Hand You Feed Your People</i> | ELW 469 |
| | <i>You Satisfy the Hungry Heart</i> | ELW 484 |

Post Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.

In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

Blessing Holy Communion to be Taken to Homebound Members

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist us in this ministry on which we are sent forth. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this sacrament, that through the

body and blood of your Son we all may know the comfort of your abiding presence. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God ✠ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Go, My Children, With My Blessing

ELW 543

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.**



Care to contribute to our Church and ministries?
Scan this QR Code to give digitally with Vanco Online Giving.
Or visit www.covluth.org and click 'On-line Giving'!
(*Electronic donations from a debit/credit card now accepted.*)



Announcements:

- ✝ **With gratitude for dedications** please pick up a plant and spread Joy with it, if you wish
- ✝ Welcome LUAD! Learn more at their presentation today after worship in the sanctuary
- ✝ **Much gratitude for the generous giving in the many ways spreading hope to our world**
- ✝ **Bible Study** gathers weekly on **Wednesdays at 5:30pm** in the Gateway Room or by Zoom
- ✝ **Social Action Team** meets each 2nd Monday, **Join Jan 13 at 6:30pm** in the Gateway Room
- ✝ **Join Movie Night in the Cinema Jan 17** watching **Wild Robot at 6:30pm**- Popcorn provided
- ✝ **American Red Cross Blood Drive** at Covenant **Jan 20 1-6pm** Signup online or just walk in
- ✝ **Lunch Bunch meets the 1st Wednesday of each month!** Feb 5 meal location coming soon
- ✝ **Book Group 2nd Thur at 1pm Feb 13** book title and gathering location information to come
- ✝ **Feed our Souls-** the 2nd Friday of the month- **Feb 14 10:30a-1:30p** at St. Marks in Madison
- ✝ **'Hospitality Bags'** and **'Sew at Home Bags'** by main doors- Take what you can help with
- ✝ Questions? Or looking for other opportunities to serve or gather? Ask the Pastor or office!

WORSHIP NOTES

Pastor: *Pastor Wendy Moen; Acolyte:* *Emma Rupp;*
Greeters: *Gloria Carpenter, Cynthia Liddle;*
Assistant Minister: *Judy and Matthew Heil;*
Lector: *George Craig;*
Communion Assistants: *George Craig, Judy and Matthew Heil, Christy Unzicker;*
Organist/Pianist: *Meghann Proper;*
Ushers: *Mark, Evan, Caleb and Garrett Herbst, Rhetta Smith, Bill Cook;*
Sound/projection: *Jude Surrell;*
Altar Guild: *Eileen and Jack Nelson;*
Communion Prep: *Christy Unzicker;*
Altar Flowers: *A great way to celebrate any special occasion with church family!*

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