



# Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



*We welcome you to Worship as we celebrate  
the baptism of our Lord!*  
January 11, 2026 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 11, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.**

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

*ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymn Book,*

## **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**

Welcome to worship this day!

**We have come seeking God's blessings and love.**

They shall be given to you.

**We have come seeking forgiveness and healing.**

These will be offered to you. Open your hearts to receive God's Good News.

**We open our hearts to all of God's words and ways for us. AMEN.**

### **Children's Time**

**Gathering Hymn**

*Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*

ELW 310

**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**

pg. 138

**Hymn of Praise**

*Glory to God*

pg. 139-140

**Prayer of the Day**

O God, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your children, and empower us all with your Spirit, 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 42:1-9**

*A reading from Isaiah, the forty second chapter.*

- <sup>1</sup> Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
- <sup>2</sup> He will not cry out or lift up his voice  
or make it heard in the street;
- <sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
- <sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth,  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
- <sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the Lord,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,

who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup> I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness;

I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people,

a light to the nations,

<sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind,

to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,

from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup> I am the Lord; that is my name;

my glory I give to no other,

nor my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup> See, the former things have come to pass,

and new things I now declare;

before they spring forth,

I tell you of them.

The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading**

**Acts 10:34-43**

*A reading from Acts, the tenth chapter.*

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to Cornelius and his household: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us

who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation**

pg. 142

## **Gospel**

**Matthew 3:13-17**

*The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the third chapter.*

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom 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

## **New Member Reception**

These persons have come to us from other churches or backgrounds and desire to become members of Covenant:

### **Names:**

**Barbara and Lloyd Rasmussen**

**Julie Pierce**

**Kristin Forde Hurckes**

**Kirsten Almo and Larry Beck  
Danielle, Clare, Hayden and Harper Armbruster  
Russ and Mimi Hinshaw**

P: Gathering God, you knit your people together in the body of Christ and from congregations to do your good work. Be present in our feasting and praying and our worship and service, so that this community reflects your abundance and desire for the church on earth today and always. Amen.

We give thanks for the unique stories and talents you bring to this community. The church is a living organism, and your commitment adds value and energy to who we are as a congregation.

We promise to welcome your faith as it flows through life's joy and challenges. We desire for this church to be a safe place where you can show up as your true self and be received with love and grace.

**All: Faith is a team sport, and we are in together. In this community, we choose curiosity over certainty, and strive to honor each other's faith expressions and life experiences with respect and love.**

New Members: We choose the fullness of this community!

**All: We welcome you as member of this congregation, inspired and invested in the ministry we all share. You are beloved, and your presence here is a gift! May God bless these new relationships and our common call as agents of God's mercy and the abundance the world needs!**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

Steadfast God, give courage to your servant church. Heal our divisions and unite us in mission. Uphold our lay leaders, missionaries, pastors, and bishops, and all who proclaim hope in a broken world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Restoring God, cleanse the life-giving waters of rivers, seas, and springs. Create in us an urgent desire to preserve the beauty and bounty of your good creation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Righteous God, you guide the nations. Reconcile warring enemies and end cycles of violent retribution. Defend the rights of prisoners, detainees, and all who flee from persecution. Sustain international aid workers and peacemakers. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, you care for all in distress. Provide safety and support for those seeking asylum or in need of shelter. Be near to the dying, and comfort all who are grieving or ill *especially* **<go to prayer list>**. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Loving God, awaken the gifts of the Spirit in this congregation, that we may serve Christ by loving one another, our neighbors, and our enemies. We pray for travelers and those who are homebound. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Promising God, in baptism we die and rise with Christ. We give thanks for those who have gone before us, and we trust that we will join them in your everlasting peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **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**

### **Vocal Choir Anthem**

*"Gather by the River to Pray"*

(arr. Pepper Choplin)

## **Offering Prayer**

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **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**

pg. 144

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**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see.

<b>Communion Hymns</b>	<i>Lamb of God</i>	pg. 146
	<i>Spirit of Gentleness</i>	ELW 396
	<i>Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal</i>	ELW 464

## **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**

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

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

### Blessing

May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### Sending Hymn

*The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

ELW 551

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.  
**Thanks be to God.**



*Care to contribute to our Church and ministries?*

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### Announcements:

- ✠ **American Red Cross Blood Drive** at Covenant **Jan 26 1-6pm** Signup online or just walk in
- ✠ **'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:** *Ronnie Stensrud*

**Assistant Minister:** *Ingrid Thompson* **Lector:** *Sunday School*

**Greeter:** *George Craig, Carol Pritchard*

**Communion Worship Assistants:** *Kimberly Currie, Karen Hanson Cook, Millie Proper*

**Organist/Pianist:** *Meghann Proper*

**Vocal Choir Director:** *Beth Gardner*

**Ushers:** *Mark Herbst, Loretta Smith, Bill Cook, Gary Tarpinian*

**Sound/projection:** *Jude Surrell, Lars Forde*

**Altar Guild:** *Bill Cook, Karen Hanson Cook*

**Communion Prep:** *Marijo Vols*

**Flowers:** *Karen Hanson Cook and Bill Cook*

**Fellowship Hosts:** *Tom & Philayne Chose, Tamarine Westrand, Judy Schroeder*

<b>Covenant Lutheran Church</b> 1525 N. Van Buren St. Stoughton, WI 53589 (608) 873-7494	<b>Email:</b> covlutheran@covluth.org <b>Website:</b> www.covluth.org
<b>Pastor Wendy Moen</b> 240-506-1388 cell	<b>Email:</b> PastorWendyMoen@covluth.org