

January 9, 2022
church news

Thank you from **Conrad Brandsen** for all the Christmas cards. He is extremely thankful for his church community!

2022 Giving Envelopes are back ordered from the printer. You may continue to use any leftover 2021 envelopes (just write in the new date) or there are some temporary envelopes by the donation baskets in the church to use.

We are so sorry to say we **forgot a name** on Sunday for those who have passed away this last year. Please include Henry Baker on the list. Sorry again!

Love in Action is starting another Empower You training session at our church and we are in need of at least 4+ child care helpers for an infant through 3 year old group, and an older 6-9 years school age group. They started on Thursday, at 6:00 PM and run for 8 weeks on Thursday nights through Feb 24th. If you are able and willing to assist in any way please email Steve Marotti or call at 616-366-2717. Thank you for your consideration and prayers for this Love In Action endeavor!

January Series: We are very excited to host January series again this year. Check out the list of speakers. The series will begin on next Monday continues weekdays until January 28. Each lecture will be shown by live feed from Calvin University from 12:30-1:30. If you are not able to come to the North Hall to view the presentation, you can also watch digitally on Demand each day until midnight on your own device.

Thank you to those who have been willing to be added to the list of people willing to do **prayers of the people** in upcoming services. We are so thankful for your willingness! Interested in being added to the list? Email Emily.

The next meeting for the **Swans** is a game time in the Atrium on January, 20, Thursday, at 2 PM.

Add upcoming **Tool Times** to your schedule! Tool Time Men's Bible Study will Saturdays January 22, February 5, and February 19 at 7:30-8:30 in the North Hall. Coffee and Donuts are provided. We would love to see you there!



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Sunday, January 9, 2022

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Prelude: How Firm a Foundation arr. Held
Arioso (Thanks be to God) Handel
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty arr. Varner

Welcome and *Greeting

***Call to Worship : Our World Belongs to God 1&2**

As followers of Jesus Christ,
living in this world-
which some seek to control,
and others view with despair-
we declare with joy and trust:
Our world belongs to God!

From the beginning,
through all the crises of our times,
until the kingdom fully comes,
God keeps covenant forever:
Our world belongs to God!
God is King: Let the earth be glad!
Christ is victor: his rule has begun!
The Spirit is at work: creation is renewed!
Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

***Sing:**

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
"Behold Our God"

LUYH 575
Sovereign Grace

GOD RECONCILES WITH US

Call to Confession: Our World Belongs to God 3

Still, despair and rebellious pride fill
the earth: some, crushed by failure
or broken by pain, give up on life and
hope and God; others, shaken,

work feverishly to realize their dreams.
As believers in God, we also struggle
with the spirits of this age, resisting
them in the power of the Spirit, testing
them by God's sure Word.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God,
we acknowledge that the world is
not as it should be.
We have taken what you have made
and tarnished it,
using others, using creation,
using the gifts you have given us
for our own gain.
We confess our participation
in the fallenness of this world.
And we lament the brokenness
all around us,

big brokenness caused not by one
person or one action, but a result of bro-
ken systems,
many actions piled one on top
of the other. This brokenness seems too
big for us to fix, God, and so we cry out
for your saving presence.
Be near to your world and heal it.
Be near to us and forgive us,
that we would not be afraid,
but trust, unfailingly, in you.

Song: "Don't Be Afraid"

LUYH 429

Words of Assurance: Our World Belongs to God 4 & 5

Our world, fallen into sin,
has lost its first goodness,
but God has not abandoned the work of his hands:
our Maker preserves this world,
sending seasons, sun, and rain,
upholding all creatures,
renewing the earth,
promising a Savior,
guiding all things to their purpose.

Choir: "Rejoice in All Your Works"

Kimbrough

God holds this world
with fierce love.
Keeping his promise,
he sends Jesus into the world,
pours out the Holy Spirit,

and announces the good news:
sinners who repent and believe in Jesus
live anew as members of the family of God-
the first fruits of a new creation.

Sing: "Before the Throne of God Above"

LUYH 682

GOD SPEAKS TO US

Children Sent to Walk Out Worship

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

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.
When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not
overwhelm you;
when you walk through the fire you
shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
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.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
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 -
everyone who is called by my name, whom I
created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

Message: "Do Not Be Afraid"

Rev. Laura de Jong

Prayers of Dedication:

**We rejoice in the goodness of God,
renounce the works of darkness,
and dedicate ourselves to holy living.
As covenant partners,
set free for joyful obedience,
we offer our hearts and lives
to do God's work in the world.**

**With tempered impatience,
eager to see injustice ended,
we expect the Day of the Lord.
We are confident that the light
which shines in the present darkness
will fill the earth when Christ appears.
Come, Lord Jesus.
Our world belongs to you.**

***Sing: "All Must Be Well"**

Smith

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us—even when we fell into sin.

We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was exalted as King of the universe, that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Lift Up Your Hearts #538:4

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All Thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea;

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

The Institution

We give thanks to God the Father that our Savior, Jesus Christ, before he suffered, gave us this memorial of his sacrifice, until he comes again.

At his last supper, the Lord Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,

"This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, he took the cup after supper and said,

"This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this in remembrance of me."

For whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (Corinthians 11:23-26).

Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and cup may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we and all your saints be united with Christ and remain faithful in hope and love. Gather your whole church, O Lord, into the glory of your kingdom.

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray:

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 gifts of God for the people of God.

Congregation in Christ, since the Lord has fed us at his table, let us praise his holy name with thanksgiving

Response from Psalm 103:

**Praise the Lord, O my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
Praise the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—
who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and
compassion.**

***Song of Response: "How Firm a Foundation" Verses 1, 2, 5**

LUYH 427

GOD SENDS US TO SERVE IN HIS LIGHT AND LOVE

***Blessing**

Postlude: "Psalm 19"

Marcellos

Participants:

Rev, Laura deJong, preaching

Julie Hordyk, piano

Cathy Schaaf, organ

Paul LaMaire, brass

Jean Schuitman, choir

Brendan McClenahan, praise team

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