



Worship Service for
Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2025

We Believe...in God the Father

Prelude “Come, Thou Savior of Our World”
“Prepare the Royal Highway”

A. Vetter/arr. L.D. Bye
arr. J. Behnke

Choral Introit “Come, Messiah”

L. Larsen

The Call to Worship

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!
Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever!”

The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.
Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord!

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
We will give thanks and praise his name forevermore!

***The Hymn of Praise** “Come, Thou Almighty King”

LUYH 492 vs. 1-4

***The Welcome**

***Opening Prayer**

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace,
by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity,
and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity:
Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

***The Song of Worship** “Behold Our God”

Sovereign Grace

We Believe...in God the Son

The Call to Repentance

We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

1 John 5:18–21

The Prayer for the Forgiveness of Sins

O Holy God, we confess that our earthly vision has been clouded. We have failed to fully grasp the wonder of your truth, and we have fallen short of the holiness you call us to.

O Holy, mighty God, who sent your Son to share in our humanity, we confess our weakness in service, our hesitation in proclaiming your name, and our reluctance to follow the perfect pattern of His sacrifice and love.

O Holy, merciful Father, who through your Spirit makes us holy, we confess that we have grieved your comforting presence within us through our pride, our indifference, and our failure to extend your mercy to those around us.

Choral Anthem “In Silence We Wait”

L. Larson

The Proclamation of Pardon

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

We Believe...in the Holy Spirit

The Advent Blessing

Liturgist 1: We praise you, O God; we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you, the Father everlasting. Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you: Father, of majesty unbounded, your true and only Son, worthy of all praise, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

Liturgist 2: You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.
When you took our flesh to set us free, you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

The candles are lit

**Lord, show us your love and mercy, for we have put our trust in you.
In you, Lord, is our hope; let us never be put to shame. Amen**

(Children 4 years- 5th Grade are invited to Walk Out Worship.
They return to the Sanctuary for Communion with their families.)

The Scripture Reading "Isaiah 40:1-31"

p. 599

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

The Sermon "We Believe One God"

The Prayer of Response

***The Hymn of Response "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"**

LUYH 540 vs.1,3,4

We Believe...in one holy Church

***The Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made;
of the same essence as the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit
and the virgin Mary, and was made human.
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.**

The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory to judge the living
and the dead. His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper & Prayers of the People

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

Is the Father with us?
He is.

Is Christ among us?
He is.

Is the Spirit here?
He is.

This is our God.
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We are his people.
We are redeemed.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation. Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

On the same night that he was betrayed he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying,

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Amen. His body was broken for us.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks; he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Songs of Communion “Spirit of the Living God”

“Give me Jesus”

“Great Are You Lord”

LUYH 749

LUYH 423 vs 1,3,4

Ingram/Jordan/Leonard

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty God, eternal Father, we have sat at your feet, learned from your word and eaten from your table.

We give you thanks and praise for accepting us into your family.

Send us out with your blessing, to live and to witness for you in the power of your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead. Amen.

The Offering *Crossroads Prison Ministry*

The Offertory “Of the Father's Love Begotten

arr. A. Zabel

***The Sending Hymn** “Now Thank We All Our God”

LUYH 543, vs. 1,3

*The Benediction

Postlude "Now Thank We All Our God"

G. Kaufmann

Worship Leaders & Liturgical Notes

Preaching: Rev. Tim Blackmon

Liturgist: Erik Veker

Organ & Choir Director: Jean Schuitman

Piano: Mauricio Espinal

Choir Accompanist: Lois Reinders

Advent Blessing: Annie & Evie Hoekzema

Vocalist: Christie VanderHeide, Paul LaMaire

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

Welcome Guests:

Welcome, we are glad you are here! Please fill out a Guest 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 sweet treats after church so we can meet you!

This Sunday:

Today's Ministry Spotlight: *Crossroads Prison Ministry*, connects people in prisons with mentors from churches to develop Christ-centered relationships as they study God's Word together.

Walk-Out Worship: Today all WOW children will spend time practicing Advent songs with sign language and start learning about Chrismon ornaments.

Nomination Forms: 2026 Nomination Forms for Council positions are available in today's bulletin. The congregation is invited to prayerfully consider self-nomination or nominating others who they feel have the gifts and abilities for the available positions, listed on the form. Please return them by this Sunday November 30 at the Welcome desk.

Prayer Requests, Praises & Gratitude:

Please hold **Pastor Tim** in prayer as he undergoes hip replacement surgery this Wednesday, December 10. During his time of surgery and initial recovery, if you have an **urgent pastoral need**, please call the **Church Office** at 616-842-0710 or email [Amy Wolffis](mailto:Amy.Wolffis@churchoffice.com), as she will be coordinating care and ensuring all needs are met.

Please continue to pray for David Ziegler. David and Jeanne are new to our church and David was recently diagnosed with metastatic melanoma.

Please continue to pray for Chuck Schuch as he recovers from a successful procedure on Tuesday.

Ron Kuiper has requested a weekly meal train, due to recent health issues. Please sign up to bring him dinner: <https://mealtrain.com/gzvvv3>

“Heartfelt thanks for your cards, flowers, food and prayers. We are so blessed to be part of such a caring church family!” ~ Henk & Sharon Ottens

Church Announcements:

Address Updates:

Vic & Jean Neinhuis have moved to Grand Pines. Their address is: 1450 S. Ferry St. Grand Haven, MI 49417.

Eileen Harnden has moved to Serenity Home. Her address is: c/o Serenity Home, 830 Hayes St., Marne MI 49435.

Art Gallery: *"Connections. Pause. Reflect. Wonder."* will be showcasing until the end of January. Please invite your family and friends to visit the Atrium Gallery during regular office hours. Also, a list of pieces for sale is available in the office.

Angel Tree: We are supporting the Christmas Shoppe at Love in Action. The Angel Tree is in the Atrium along the windows decorated with gift tags. Our donations will brighten Christmas for LIA's Housing Guests and families of those in their "Financial Fitness" program. Please consider taking a tag or two from the tree and place the items unwrapped under the tree by today, Sunday, December 7. Thank you! ~ The Outreach Team

Christmas Service: Please mark your calendar for the Christmas Eve Service on Wednesday December 24 at 5:00pm.

Christmas Cards: Please help us spread love and Christmas cheer to some of our homebound members by sending them cards. There are boxes in the church's narthex and in the atrium near the office for the cards. Please leave the envelopes unsealed, put cards in alphabetical order, and tie them together. Cards can be placed in the boxes by next Sunday December 14. We are collecting cards for: *Claudia Alphenaar, Evelyn Baker, Lou & Joan Baker, Jack & Marcia Brace, Conrad Brandsen, Donna DeVries, Hank DeYoung, Judy Doezema, Eileen Harnden, Jill Holman, Fran Kieft, Dave & Sandy Klaassen, Donna Kuiper,*

Shirley Kuiper, Vic & Jean Nienhuis, Jack & Ruth Smant, Jan Veenstra, Jean VerStraete, Ruth Wallinga.

Handbell Choir: We will rehearse on Sunday, December 7 at 11:30am in the choir room. Questions, contact Jean Schuitman at morbaroque@gmail.com or by text at (231) 750-6676.

Little Lambs Playgroup: We're hosting a mom and toddler playgroup at church on Thursday, December 18 from 9:30-12:00pm. All Moms with young children are welcome to attend. Bring your own coffee, kiddos and come for fellowship and playtime in the North Hall. Questions, please ask Jenna Brian or email [Amy Wolffis](mailto:Amy.Wolffis).

Missionary Christmas Cards: There's a table in the Atrium with Christmas Cards for our missionaries for you to wish them a blessed Christmas. Please sign them by today Sunday, December 7.

Ping Pong: We continue on Mondays at 1:30pm in the church basement.

Sanctuary Choir: Rehearsals continue on Wednesday, December 10 at 7pm, in the choir room, due to the GHC concert on Thursday. Questions, please contact Jean Schuitman at morbaroque@gmail.com or text (231) 750-6676.

Swan's: Please join us on Tuesday, December 9 at 3:00pm for a fun and festive Christmas Tea at Barb Hammond's home! (10785 Lakeshore Drive, West Olive, MI.) If you requested a ride, we will call you so we can co-ordinate rides. Questions, call Barb at 616-485-7595 or Carole at 616-502-2015.

Tool Time Men's Bible Study: We will meet Saturday, December 6 from 8-9am. We will then conclude the fall session on December 20. Questions, call Tony Razzini at (614) 753-2164.

Weather Notice: Our Policy for Events or Services is that if an event/ service is canceled the following notices will occur: an email from the office will be sent by 8:30am, it will be posted to our website, www.secondcrcgrandhaven.org and the cancellation will be announced on Wood TV 8 and Fox 17.

Volunteer Schedule

Sunday December 7, 2025

Projection: Dan Braak

Video: Gary Roelofs, Paul Marotti, Jay Brace, Jason Zuidema

Sound: Todd Cunningham

Ushers: Team 4: Rick & Rosemary Geertsma, Dirk Weesies, Ralph VanDuyen

Coffee Hosts: Steve & Ruth Marotti; Jim & Sheila Warners

Nursery: Laura Knochenhauer, Kerry Bierma

Little Lambs: Sheila Warners, Jane DeGroot

Walk Out I: Carla Byma, Cheryl Diephouse

Walk Out II: Cindy Brace, Ian Clapp

Greeters: Dale Schuitema, Mike & Lori Buitendorp

Council in Parlor: Dennis Schaaf, Ken Terpstra

Offering: Crossroads Prison Ministry

December 14, 2025

Projection: Eric Wolffis

Video: Chuck DeWitt, Ian Clapp, Mark Boelens, Ethan Hodge

Sound: Mike Katje

Ushers: Team 5: Dan Braak, Jeff Erickson, Joe & Paula Risselade

Coffee Hosts: Jason & Jennifer Steigenga; Char TerHaar, Kathy Hardy

Nursery: Mary Wierenga, Carisa Marotti

Little Lambs: Cherise VanderHeide, Vivienne McCarthy

Walk Out I: Marie Rycenga, Kyla Zuidema

Walk Out II: Joslyn Wagenmaker, Rio Gasser

Greeters: Dennis Schaaf, John & Kathy Buitenhuis

Council in Parlor: Ken Terpstra, Steve Marotti

Offering: Calvin University

Calendar

Sunday, December 7

10:00 AM–Worship Service

11:30 AM–Bell Choir

Monday, December 8

9 AM -1PM – Office Hours

1:30 PM – Ping Pong

Tuesday, December 9

9 AM-1 PM – Office Hours

5:30 PM – Leadership Board

7 PM – Full Council

Wednesday, December 10

9 AM-12 PM – Office Hours

1:00 PM - Knitting/Craft Group

Thursday, December 11

7 PM – Sanctuary Choir

Friday, December 12

Office Closed

Saturday, December 13

Sunday, December 14

10:00 AM–Worship Service

11:30 AM–Bell Choir

Connect with Second CRC

2021 Sheldon Road, Grand Haven, MI 49417

(616) 842-0710

admin@secondcrcgrandhaven.org

YouTube: @2ndCRCGH

Give Online:



Guest Registration:

