# The Divine Service of Covenant Renewal

on the Lord's Day December 15, 2024

**Prelude** Matthew 1:21

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

Welcome

# God Calls Us to Worship Him

# † Call to Worship

Luke 2:12–14

Pastor: And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

People: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

# Δ† Hymn of Adoration

# 214 Angels We Have Heard on High

## † Salutation and Responsive Scriptures

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

People: Amen!

Pastor: The Lord be with you! **People:** And also with you!

Pastor: Our help is in the Name of the Lord! **People: Who made heaven and earth!** 

Pastor: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;

People: A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

# † Prayer of Thanksgiving and Praise

#### † The Lord's Prayer

Together as God's People

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.

## † Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Billy Hastings

#### **Isaiah 9:6–7,** Together as God's People

"For to us a child is born, to 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. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this."

## Ơ Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

# **God Graciously Renews Us in Christ**

## We Confess Our Sin

Rev. Billy Hastings

God of love, it is your will that we should love you with heart, soul, mind, strength, and our neighbor as ourselves, but we are not sufficient for these things. We confess that our affections continually turn away from you: from purity to lust, from freedom to slavery, from compassion to indifference, from fullness to emptiness. Have mercy on us. Order our lives by your holy Word, and make your commandments the joy of our hearts. Conform us to the image of your loving Son, Jesus, that we may shine before the world to your glory. Amen.

#### **Individual Silent Confession of Sin**

# **God Forgives Us in Christ**

Galatians 4:4–7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. *In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!* 

#### **Interlude for Meditation**

## **Lighting of the Second Advent Candle**

The Brady Family

# Δ† Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

# 218 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

# † The Passing of the Peace

Pastor: May the peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Pastor: Let us offer one another a sign of peace!

(Members of the congregation greet one another with a sign of friendship such as the ancient words which the church has used over the centuries, "The peace of Christ be with you," and the response, "And also with you.")

#### **Morning Prayer**

Elder Steve Campbell

# We Give Our Tithes and Offerings

# Offertory

# † Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## God Instructs Us With His Word

# **Prayer for Illumination**

# **Scripture Reading**

Rev. Jason Wegener

Luke 2:8–20

# Preaching of the Word

Exposition from The Gospel of Luke

# "The Song of Angels"

† **Hymn of Response** (as the Elders prepare the Table)

# 215 While by the Sheep We Watched at Night (1–2)

## God Meets and Feeds Us at His Table

### **Invitation and the Words of Institution**

Rev. Jason Wegener

**Prayer of Consecration** 

#### **Distribution of the Elements**

The Elders

(Partake of the Bread individually and the Cup together. Wine is used for communion with a limited amount of grape juice in the center rings. Please note the bread in the center of the plate is gluten free.)

# God Blesses Us and Sends Us Out

## † Hymn of Dedication

# 215 While by the Sheep We Watched at Night (3–4)

† Benediction

Rev. Jason Wegener

† Hymn of Dismissal

# **195** Joy to the World (3)

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

# **Postlude**

The Order of Divine Worship concludes with your silent prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

† Indicates the congregation standing Δ Ushers may seat latecomers