concordia church



Baptism of Our Lord

January 11, 2026

Prelude "*Wade In The Water*"
Traditional Melody Arr. Chris Nile

Children's Message

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

C: Merciful God, we praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us in the gifts and promises of baptism, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all who have been baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

**C: We rejoice in the gift of our baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

P: May Almighty God,
who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit,
forgive us all our sins,
strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Opening Hymn ELW #453 *"Baptized and Set Free"*



P: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O God our Father, 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 daughters and sons, 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.

Canticle of Praise *"I Bind Unto Myself Today"*



First Reading — Isaiah 42:1-9

[1] 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.
[2] He will not cry out or lift up his voice
or make it heard in the street;
[3] a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
[4] He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth,
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

[5] 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:
[6] 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,
[7] to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
[8] I am the Lord; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.
[9] See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

Choir sings antiphon + odd verses
Congregation sings bolded text

R: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

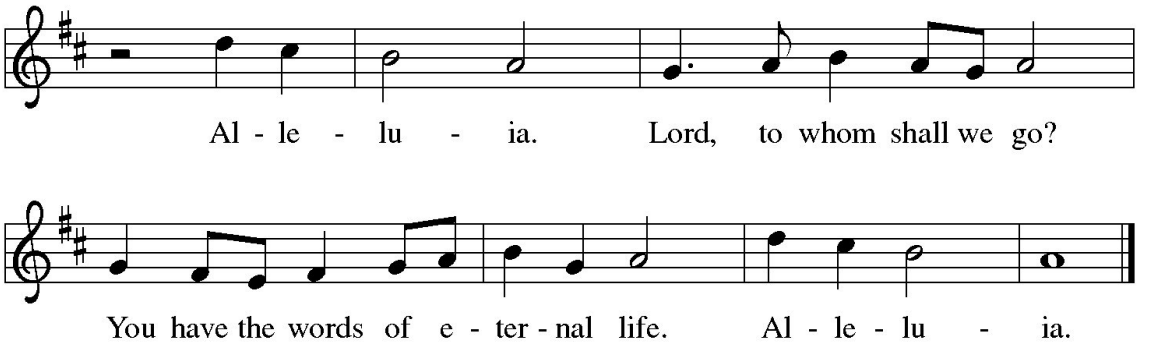
1 Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.
2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.
3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.
4 **The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;**
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor. R
5 The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;
6 **the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,**
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.
7 The voice | of the LORD
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.
8 **The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;**
the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh. R
9 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, "Glory!"
10 **The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;**
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.
11 O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace. **R**



Second Reading Acts 10:34-43

34 Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that
God shows no partiality, 35 but in every people anyone who fears him and
practices righteousness is acceptable to him. 36 You know the message he sent to
the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. 37 That
message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that
John announced: 38 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. 39 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, 40 but
God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41 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. 42 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. 43 All
the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives
forgiveness of sins through his name."
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *"Alleluia"*



P: The Gospel according to St. Matthew.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel **Matthew 3:13-17**

13 Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. 14 John
would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come
to me?" 15 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. 16 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. 17 And
a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well
pleased."

Gospel Acclamation (repeat acclamation)

Sermon Rev. Nicholas Zook



Hymn of the Day ELW #800 "*Spirit Of God Descend Upon My Heart*"



Apostle's Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

A: Remembering the Church, the world, and all those in need, let us offer our prayers to God. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Blessed be God, who gave us the light of the world and who desires that all people should come to know Christ's love and grace. Fill our hearts with your radiance and truth that we might walk as children of light. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Praise to you, almighty God and Father, you proclaimed Christ your Son at his baptism in the waters of the Jordan. Make your church holy that we who have been born again by the power of the Holy Spirit may live as witnesses to your grace and love for all people. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Lord God, through the ministry of your Son we have received grace upon grace. Bring light to those who dwell in darkness, joy to those in sorrow, hope to those in fear and despair. We pray especially for: Ian, Dee, Margaret, Mike, Joanne, Jocelyn, Dennis, Bernie, Mary, Chase, Aaron, Jack, Donna, Mark, and for those we name before you or silently in our hearts *(pause for names]* ...Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Thanks be to God who calls us to witness to Christ's love in our community. We give you thanks for the ministries of our congregation, and the blessings of Concordia Church and Concordia Place. Use our gifts for those you have called us to serve. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: God of light and truth, whose love knows no bounds in your Son, Jesus. Bring us to a deeper understanding of the Gospel, help us to accept the challenge of Christian living, and lead us to the joy of faith in the family of your church. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

P: All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O Lord our God, through Jesus Christ, for your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.
C: Amen.

The Peace

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

You are invited to share the sign of peace with others.

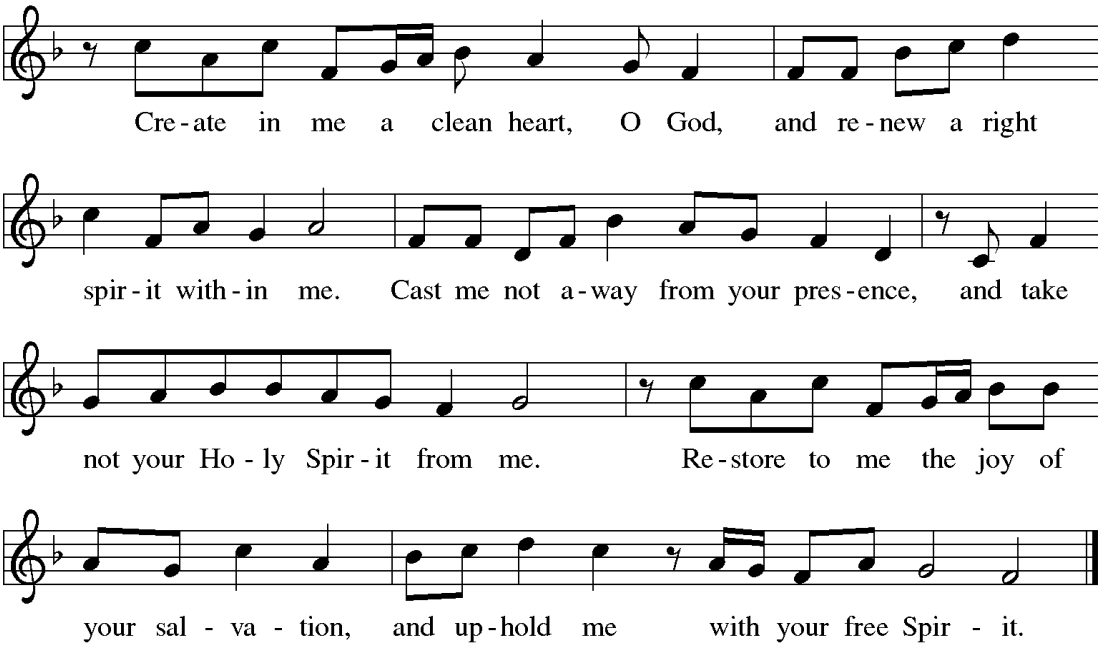
The Offering

We encourage you to use this time for reflection & gratitude as we prepare for communion.

Thank you for supporting our ministries with our financial gifts. Scan the QR code to the left to easily make a one-time gift or establish a recurring gift.

Offertory Anthem **"*The Baptism of Jesus*"**
Arranged by Austin C. Lovelace, Text by Fred Pratt Green

Offertory Hymn ELW #186 "*Create in Me a Clean Heart*"



Offertory Prayer

A: God of wisdom,

C: As the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, receive the treasures of ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body that we may be a light to all nations; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

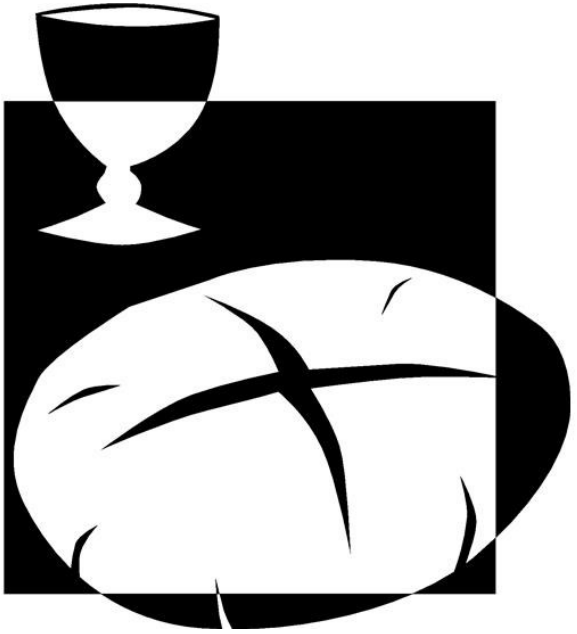
Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.



P: We give you thanks, Father,
through Jesus Christ,
your beloved Son,
whom you sent
in this end of the ages
to save and redeem us
and to proclaim to us your will.
He is your Word,
inseparable from you.
Through him
you created all things,
and in him you take delight.
He is your Word,
sent from heaven
to a virgin's womb.
He there took on our nature
and our lot and
was shown forth as your Son,
born of the Holy Spirit
and of the virgin Mary.
It is he, our Lord Jesus,
who fulfilled all your will
and won for you a holy people;
he stretched out his hands
in suffering
in order to free from suffering
those who trust you.
It is he who,
handed over to a death
he freely accepted,
in order to destroy death,
to break the bonds
of the evil one,
to crush hell underfoot,
to give light to the righteous,
to establish his covenant
and to show forth
the resurrection,
taking bread and
giving thanks to you, said:
Take and eat;
this is my body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
In the same way he took the cup,
gave thanks, and
gave it for all to drink, saying:
This is my blood
poured out for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Remembering, then,
his death and resurrection,
we lift this bread and cup
before you,
giving you thanks that
you have made us worthy
to stand before you
and to serve you
as your priestly people.
And we ask you:
Send your spirit
upon these gifts of your church;
gather into one
all who share
this bread and wine;
fill us with your holy spirit
to establish our faith in truth,
that we may praise
and glorify you
through your Son, Jesus Christ.
Through him
all glory and honor are yours,
Almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church
both now and forever.

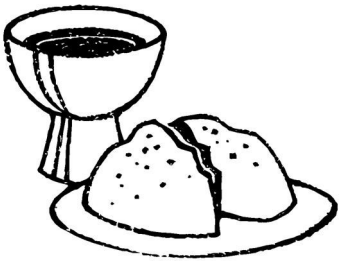
C: Amen

C: 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.

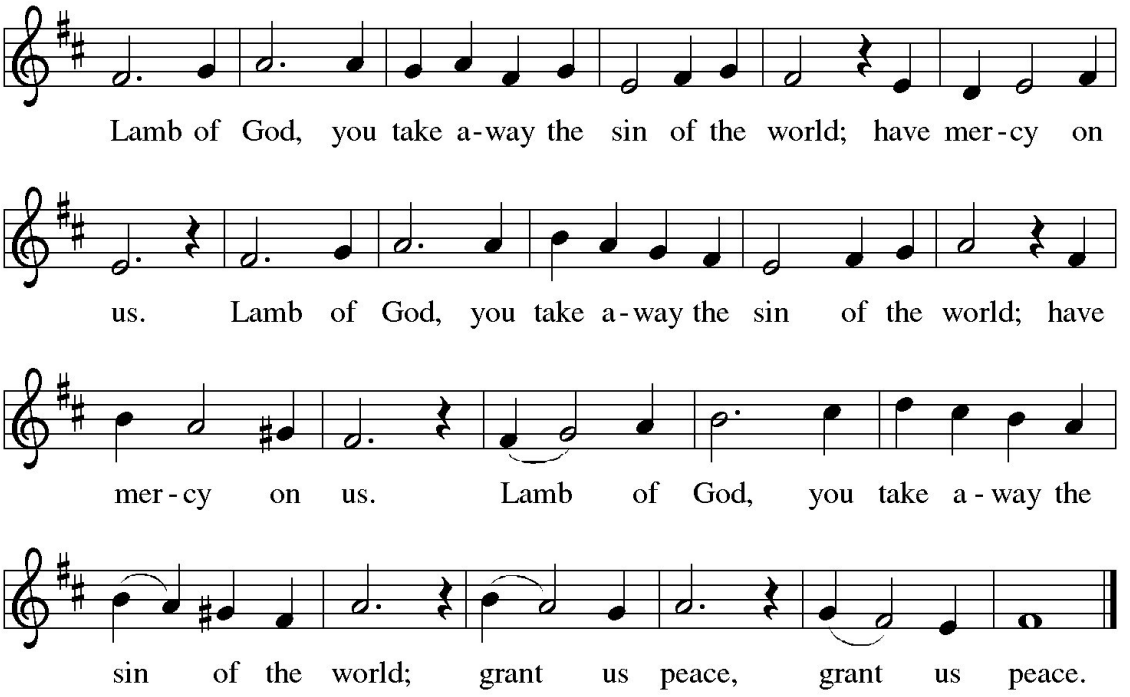
Communion Invitation

We invite all who are baptized in Christ to come forward for communion. All are welcome at the Lord's table. Parents of young children are asked to let the pastor know if they want their child to receive communion or a blessing.

Communion is served by continuous table around the altar, and you are asked to take a place as openings appear.



Communion Hymn *"Lamb of God"*



P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P: God of glory, in this sacrament you unite us in the body of your Son. May we who have been guests at this table grow in love for one another, that through us your light may shine in all the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

Closing Hymn ELW #452 "*Awake O Sleeper, Rise From Death*"

1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.

so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.



Announcements

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son (**+**), and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude "*Festive March In C Major*, Opus #167" by Paul Fey

Today's celebrants:

Pastor: Rev. Nicholas Zook
Deacon: Kim Baratta
Lector: Marne Turner
Greeter: John DeCorah
Section Leaders: Kunying Li, Jade Dasha, Benjamin Bernie, Avery Sujkowski
Choir members: Richard Gaul, Dan Lantvit, Mary-Ann Lupa, Betsy Ries, Wilma Stevens, Linda Storbeck
Organist & Choir Director: Paul Dykstra

Concordia Concerts presents

concordia church
3855 N Seeley Ave
Chicago

Sunday Concert





Dana Brown & Paul Dykstra

duo pianists

performing works by J.S. Bach, Robert Schumann, Darius Milhaud, & William Bolcom

Featuring Cara Schlecker Ketter, Concertmaster; Fiona Chisholm, Horn; and Midtown Strings.

SUNDAY
JANUARY 25
2pm

Free admission

concordiafaith.org/concerts

Bringing our neighbors together to experience God's love through inspiring music.

Announcements

Blankets needed

We are currently looking for donations of new or gently used blankets for some families in our community. If you have gently used blankets at home (free of stains or tears) that you are willing to share, or if you are able to purchase new blankets, we have many local families who could make good use of a warm blanket this winter. Please bring any donations to the church. If you have any questions, reach out to Desirae at dcontreras@concordiafaith.org.

Sunday School resumes

Sunday School is back! All children are invited to Sunday School next week - Sunday, January 18th - during the worship service. The lesson will focus on the Parable of the Lost Sheep and will teach children how God never stops looking for us. Children will hear the children's message with Pastor Zook and will then join their teachers in the gym for the lesson. Children ages 4-11 years old are invited!

Council Meeting

The next council meeting is Sunday, January 25th following worship. Council members are encouraged to mark this date on their calendars and plan to attend.

Piano Benches - FREE!

Concordia Church has 2 piano benches that are free to a good home! We no longer have need for these and would love to see them get some use. Please speak with Pastor Zook or Desirae if you are interested in one of them.

Year-End Giving Statements

Giving statements for 2025 will be issued soon. We are counting and entering final gifts in order to issue accurate records to everyone. Please reach out to Desirae (dcontreras@concordiafaith.org) with any questions.

Important Dates to note:

- January 11th: 'Executive Team meeting following worship
- January 18th: Sunday School during 10am worship
- January 25th: Council Meeting at 11am
  Concert at 2pm

Support the **ministries of Concordia Church** through your offerings. There are multiple ways for you to give:

1) Mobile: Text 'Concordia' to 73256 and follow the link or scan the QR code here
2) Online: Visit www.onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
3) Via cash or check left in the offering plate or mailed to the church at:

   3855 N Seeley Ave
   Chicago, IL 60618



concordia church

Love God. Love Your Neighbor.

www.concordiafaith.org

773-281-1225

Concordia on Seeley

3855 N. Seeley

Sunday mornings:

10:00am Worship (In-person & virtual options)

Join the 10:00am livestream on Sunday mornings or view recordings of our past services on our YouTube channel.

YouTube **Concordia Church Chicago**

Welcome, and thank you for worshipping with us this morning.

Holy Communion happens at every service and is open to all baptized.

Restrooms are located in the fellowship hall; exit the sanctuary through the back and follow the stairwell downstairs.

Masks and hand sanitizer are located in the back of the sanctuary should you need either.

Questions? Contact Desirae, Parish Admin, at dcontreras@concordiafaith.org

Copyright Information:

Below is a list of all the songs that we are using in today's liturgy with their copy right information located with them.

Opening Hymn — **ELW #453 "*Baptized and Set Free*"**

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956
Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner
Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

Gospel Acclamation — **"*Alleluia*" Setting 4**

Hymn of the Day — **ELW #800 "*Spirit Of God Descend Upon My Heart*"**

Text: George Croly, 1780–1860
Music: MORECAMBE, Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841–1897

Offertory Hymn — **ELW #188 "*Create in Me a Clean Heart*"**

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Communion Hymn — **"*Lamb of God*" Setting 4**

Closing Hymn — **ELW #452 "*Awake O Sleeper, Rise From Death*"**

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829
Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Notes on the Liturgy:

1. All liturgical music is from ELW, Setting 4
2. The Liturgy is printed from **The Evangelical Lutheran Worship** and is used with permission.
3. The offertory prayer, introduction to the prayers and conclusion are taken from **Sundays and Seasons**, Augsburg Fortress, 2019, and used with permission: license number 23952.
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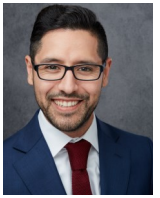
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Marisa Mladenovic, Music Director
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Paul Dykstra, Organist & Choir Director
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