



THE WOODLANDS REFORMED CHURCH

December 22, 2024

*The Woodlands Reformed Church exists to glorify God by making
disciples of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.*

THE SERVICE OF ENTRANCE

* Invocation

Psalm 117:1-2

Minister: Praise the LORD, all nations!
Extol him, all peoples!

**People: For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
Praise the LORD!**

* Advent Candle Lighting

Minister: The first candle reminds us of our hope of salvation, The second candle reminds us of the peace we enjoy with God and with one another. The third candle reminds us of the joy that is ours in Christ. The fourth candle reminds us of God's love, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

All: Let us sing and celebrate the coming of God into the world!

* Hymn #214

Angels We Have Heard on High

* Prayer of Adoration

* The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Corporate Confession

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.

Amen.

** Please stand if you are able*

Private Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Romans 1:16-17

Minister: For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

People: Amen!

Minister: Our help is in the name of the Lord

People: the maker of heaven and earth

Minister: O Lord, open our lips

*** Doxology**

Praise God from who all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures, here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Amen!

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

*** Prayer of Thanksgiving & Illumination**

*** Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 40:1-5

Minister: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

** Please stand if you are able*

*** Gloria Patri**

**All: 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.**

THE SERVICE OF THE TABLE

*** Affirmation of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

** Please stand if you are able*

*** Prayer of Reliance on God's Mercy**

Minister: You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:
Lord, have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: You bring pardon and peace to the sinner:
Christ, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Minister: You bring light to those in darkness:
Lord, have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: Christ is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Through him and in him, God has mercy on us, forgives us our sins, and brings us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

*** The Passing of The Peace**

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you!

Minister: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Fencing of the Lord's Table

* The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God!

People: It is right and just to do so!

Minister: It is truly right and just, our duty and blessing, always and everywhere, to give you thanks, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For by his righteous life, atoning death, and glorious resurrection, he has forever delivered us from the yoke of sin and death, and together with you, he has sent us the Holy Spirit, to call us out of darkness, and into your marvelous light. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, saying:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest.**

* The Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

The Words of Institution (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

The Invitation to the Lord's Feast

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Minister: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.
Come and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

* Hymn #211

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

* Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

Minister: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: Thanks Be to God. Amen!