

# REFORMATION COVENANT CHURCH

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*Loving the Triune God, Loving our Neighbors, Transforming the Fallen World*

LORD'S DAY SERVICE  
Advent IV  
24 December 2023



# Welcome to Reformation Covenant Church

We are glad to have you visit us. If this is your first time visiting, here are some helpful things to know:

**Worship Service.** Our weekly service follows a responsive pattern of worship found in Scripture as a dialogue or conversation between the Lord and His people. Here God meets with us, speaks to us, and blesses us; we speak and respond back to Him in praise, thanksgiving, and renewed commitment.

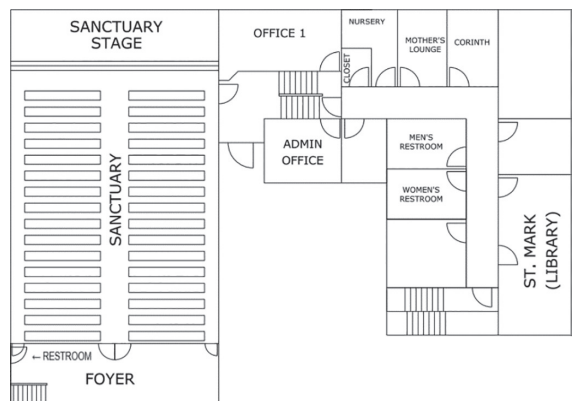
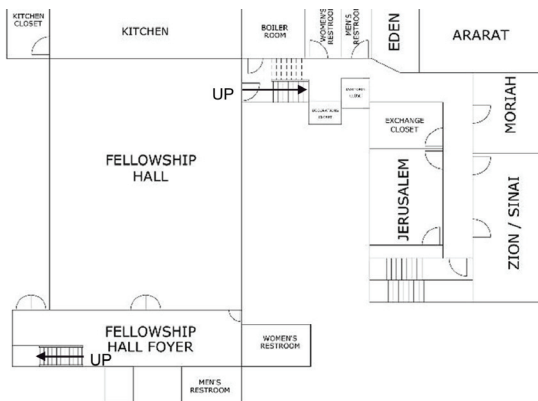
**Communion.** Each week at RCC we celebrate the Lord's Supper, receiving bread and wine as covenantal tokens of Jesus' body and blood. Christians – young or old – who are baptized, and are in good standing in Christ, are invited to partake. To facilitate Communion distribution, we encourage a representative of each household or group to come forward using the outer aisles to receive the Communion elements. Gluten-free bread is available as the smaller loaf on the distribution plate.

**Nursery.** We love having children involved in the whole service. Please don't worry if someone with you is wiggly – we are glad to have you all worshipping with us! During the sermon, the nursery room is available for children three and under. There is a Nursing Mother's room located adjacent to our Nursery, if you feel you need quiet or privacy. A video feed of the service can be viewed here, as well as in the Fellowship Hall below the sanctuary.

**Restrooms.** Restrooms are located down the stairs from the Foyer and in the educational wing.

**Weekly Meal.** Every week RCC hosts a weekly Agape meal after the service (served as a potluck). We always have plenty of food, and would love for you to join us for fellowship after worship!

**Contact.** If you would like us to contact you this week, please leave your name, phone number, and/or email on a visitor card, and give it to one of our Greeters, Deacons, or Elders.





# Call to Worship - THE LORD CALLS US BEFORE HIS PRESENCE

*The people shall rise.*

## Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come

ANTIOCH (C.M.)  
Lowell Mason, 1836

Isaac Watts, 1719

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re - ceive her King;  
2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; Let men their songs em - ploy;  
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in - fest the ground;  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the na - tions prove

Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him room,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
He comes to make His bless - ings flow  
The glo - ries of His right - eous - ness,

And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His

And heav'n and na - ture sing, And

sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,



Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!  
All: **Amen!**  
The LORD be with you!  
**And also with you!**  
Behold the days are coming, declares the LORD,  
**When will I fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel!**  
I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David,  
**And he shall execute justice and righteousness!**

## Confession of Sin - THE LORD CLEANSSES US IN CHRIST

“He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.” John 1:10–11

### Silent Confession

### Corporate Confession

**Most merciful God, I confess to you that I am by nature sinful and unclean, and that I am most miserably helpless before my adversaries. I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires that I am not able to understand, but which are all known to you. For this reason, I flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your forgiveness and deliverance, through my Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### Assurance of Pardon

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:12–14



James B. Jordan

*ff* Hal - le - lu - yah! Praise to God the Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Spir - it!

Glo ry to You, O Lord, both now and for - ev - er, Hal - le - lu - yah!

## Consecration and Ascension - THE LORD BRINGS US INTO THE HEAVENLIES

Sursum Corda

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is pro - per and right to do so.



## Sanctus

*fff* Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Lord, God of Hosts.

Hea - ven and earth are full of Your glo - ry! Ho - san - na in the

High - - - est! Bless - ed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - - - est!



## Song of Praise

### Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN (7777.7777.77)

Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

arr. William Hayman Cummings, 1855

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;  
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
3. Come, De - sire of na - tions, come, Fix in us Thy hum - ble home;  
4. Ad - am's like - ness, Lord, ef - face, Stamp Thine im - age in its place;  
5. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness!

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time, be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Rise, the wom - an's con - qu'ring Seed, Bruise in us the ser - pent's head.  
Sec - ond Ad - am from a - bove, Re - in - state us in Thy love.  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,  
Now dis - play Thy sav - ing pow'r, Ru - ined na - ture now re - store;  
Let us Thee, though lost, re - gain, Thee, the Life, the in - ner man;  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
Now in mys - tic un - ion join Thine to ours, and ours to Thine.  
O, to all Thy - self im - part, Formed in each be - liev - ing heart.  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"



# Good Christian Men Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO(6 6. 7 7. 7 8. 5 5.)

German melody, 14th century

arr. W. D., 1918

Medieval Latin

tr. John Mason Neal, e 1853

1. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice With heart and soul and voice; —  
2. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice With heart and soul and voice; —  
3. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice With heart and soul and voice; —

Give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
Now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
Now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

Earth and heav'n be - fore him bow, And he is in the man - ger now.  
He hath oped the heav'n - ly door, And man is bless - ed ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all To gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! — Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! — Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!



**The Psalm**  
*The people shall sit*

## Psalm 85

Tone F



1. LORD, You were favorable | to Your land;  
You restored the fortunes of | Jacob.
2. You forgave the iniquity of Your | people.  
You covered | all their sin.
3. You withdrew | all Your wrath;  
You turned from your hot | anger.
4. Restore us again, O God of our sal- | vation,  
And put away Your indignation | toward us!
5. Will You be angry with us for- | ever?  
Will You prolong Your anger to all gener- | ations?
6. Will You not revive | us again,  
That Your people may re- | joice in You?
7. Show us Your steadfast love, | O LORD,  
And grant us Your sal- | vation.
8. Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,  
For He will speak peace to His people, to His saints;  
but let them not turn back to | folly.
9. Surely His salvation is near to those who | fear Him,  
That glory may dwell | in our land.
10. Steadfast love and faith- | fulness meet;  
Righteousness and peace kiss each | other.
11. Faithfulness springs up | from the ground,  
And righteousness looks down | from the sky.
12. Yes, the LORD will give | what is good,  
And our land will yield its | increase.
13. Righteousness will go be- | fore him  
And make his foot- | steps a way.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son  
And to the Holy | Spirit  
As it was in the be- | ginning,  
Is now, and will be forever. | Amen



## Sermon Series: The Gospel of Luke

### Sermon Title: Glory Laid in a Manger Brittain Brewer

#### **Proclamation of the Word**

*The people shall rise*

OT Reading: Isaiah 33:13–22

NT Reading: Luke 2:1–20

This is the word of the LORD

**Thanks be to God!**

*The people shall sit*



## Response to God's Word - Tribute Offerings

*The people shall bring their tithes and offerings.*

### What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES (8 7. 8 7. 6 8. 6 7)

English melody, 16th century

Traditional English carol, before 1642

adapted by William Chatterton Dix, c. 1865

1. What Child is this, who laid to rest On Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?  
2. Why lies He in such mean es - tate, Where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3. So bring Him in - cense, gold and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to own Him;

Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings, Let lov - ing hearts en - throne Him.

This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you.  
Raise, raise a song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.

Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!



## The Prayers of the People

*Following each praise or petition, the leader and the people shall say*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

## The Lord's Prayer

Music: Traditional, very ancient

Text: *Holy Bible, King James Version, 1611*

*Cantor* *Congregation*

8 <sup>9</sup>Our Fa ther who art in Heav - en, Hal - low - ed be Thy name. <sup>10</sup>Thy king-dom come.

5  
8 Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heav - en. <sup>11</sup>Give us this day our dai-ly bread,

8  
8 <sup>12</sup>And for-give us our tres-pass-es as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us.

10  
8 <sup>13</sup>And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil;

12  
8 For Thine is the king-dom and the pow'r and the glo - ry, for ev-er and ev - er. A - men.



## Communion - THE LORD DINES WITH US AT HIS TABLE

### Preparation for Communion

Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared His table for all who love and trust in Him for their salvation. All those who have repented of their sins, have been baptized, and are in good standing in the Church of Jesus Christ are welcome at His table. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.

## Confession of Faith - The Apostles' Creed

*The people shall rise.*

Leader: Christian, in whom do you believe?

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the virgin, Mary;  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
He descended into Hades;  
The third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body;  
and the life everlasting.

Amen.



*The people shall come forward to receive the bread and wine and return to their seats, and we will all partake together.*

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL (8 8. 8 8. 8 8)  
13th century plainsong  
arr. Thomas Helmore, 1856

Latin antiphon, 12th century

1. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - ders all things  
2. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to your tribes on  
3. O come, Thou Root of Jes - se's tree, An en - sign of Thy  
4. O come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our  
5. O come, O Day - spring, from on high And - cheer us by your

might - i - ly, To us the path of know - ledge show; And  
Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst give the law In  
peo - ple be; Be - fore Thee ru - lers si - lent fall; All  
heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And  
draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, And

teach us in her ways to go,  
cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
peo - ples on Thy mer - cy call. Re - joyce! Re - joyce! Em -  
close the path to mis - er - y.  
death's dark shad - ows put to flight.

man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - - - ra - el.

6. O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
O bid our sad divisions cease,  
And be for us our King of peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel

7. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

### The Mystery of Faith

As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ is reigning, and Christ will come again. Amen.



# Commission - THE LORD SENDS US OUT TO DO HIS WILL WITH HIS BLESSING

## God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

GOD REST YE MERRY (8 6. 8 6. 8 6. 8 4 8)

English carol, 18th century

English melody, 18th century

1. God rest ye mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may,  
2. In Beth - le - hem, in Is - ra - el, this bless - ed Babe was born,  
3. From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came,  
4. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you a - fright;  
5. The shep - herds at those ti - dings re - joic - ed much in mind,  
6. Now to the Lord sing prais - es all you with - in this place,"

Re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas Day,  
And laid with - in a man - ger up - on this bless - ed morn;  
And un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought ti - dings of the same;  
This day is born a Sav - ior of a pure vir - gin bright,  
And left their flocks a - feed - ing in tem - pest, storm and wind,  
And with true love and broth - er - hood each oth - er now em - brace;"

And went to Beth - le - hem straight - way this bless - ed Babe to find.  
This ho - ly tide of Christ - mas all oth - ers doth de - face."/>

To save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray;  
The which His moth - er Mar - y did noth - ing take in scorn.  
How that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.  
To free all those who trust in Him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."  
And went to Beth - le - hem straight - way this bless - ed Babe to find.  
This ho - ly tide of Christ - mas all oth - ers doth de - face."

O ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy;

O ti - dings of com - fort and joy.



## Benediction and Recessional

### Nunc Dimittis

Based on Psalm Tone 5

arr. Valerie Lortz

Luke 2:29-32

Lord now let-test Thou Thy ser-vant de - part in — peace, ac-cord-ing to Thy Word, For mine

eyes have seen Thy sal-va-tion; which Thou hast pre-pared be - fore the face of all peo-ple, a Light to

ligh - ten the Gen - tiles and the Glo - ry of Thy peo-ple Is - - - ra - el.

Glo - ry — be to the Fa-ther, and to — the — Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

As it — was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

*You are invited to join us in the fellowship hall after the service for our weekly Agape Feast.*



## Service

**Next Week's Sermon:** "King of Jubilee: The Consolation of Israel" Brittain Brewer

**Nursery:** Kerilynn & Margo

**Greeters:** Lisa & Mike

**Usher:** Dave

**Ed Wing Monitor:** Sara Fukuda

**Safety Contacts:** Tim & Brenton

**Next Week:** Ana & Monica

**Next Week:** Paul & Sally

**Next Week:** Eric

**Next Week:** Michael Hughes

**Next Week:** Tim & Brenton

## Agape

**Agape Set Up:** Carolyn Keeton

**Next Week:** Sarah Ashworth

**Agape Cleanup:** K&L Poindexter, Lortz, Spears, Briggs, Collver, R&J Jones, P&J Edmonds, Alvarado, West, DeWitt

**Next Week:** D&A Hayes, Barnard, Coombs, Brooks, E. Evans, Coy, P, Jones. Traub, Cambridge, Dowling

**Dishwasher Today:** Group 3

**Next Week:** Group 1

## Families

**Expectant Mothers:** Susannah Mahar (due 02/17), Kerilynn Wilson (due 02/24), Heidi Brown (due 03/24), Rhiannon Hayes (due 04/24), Lauren Fan (due 06/24)

**New Mothers:** Catie Poindexter, Sarah Cools

**New Members:** Esther Poindexter, August & Esther Fan

**Engaged Couples:** Jared Unger & Olivia Hanson

**Newlywed:** Tyler Cone & Courtney Urban

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### This Week

**Sunday, December 24:** Bob Evans

**Tuesday, December 26:** Eliana DeWitt

**Thursday, December 28:** William Forster

### Next Week

**Saturday, January 6:** Pam Forster

♥ **January 6:** Dylan & Jessica Milroy



## Upcoming Events:

### Sunday, December 24:

No Sunday School.

Christmas Agape Feast!

Christmas Eve Service at RCC at 6 PM.

Christmas Eve Fellowship at M&L Lortz at 7 PM (after the Christmas Eve Service).

### December 26-29:

The church office will be closed for Christmas. Merry Christmas!

### Saturday, December 30:

The Men's Book Study will meet at Coffee Rush at 7:30 AM, studying *On Earth As It Is in Heaven* by Peter Leithart.

### Friday, January 5:

The Men's Bible Study will meet at RCC at 6 AM, continuing the study on Colossians.

### Sunday, January 7:

The McLaughlin Place Music Ministry will meet at 2 PM.

### Monday, January 8:

YABS will meet at RCC at 6:30 PM.

Watchmen will meet at RCC at 7:30 PM.

### Sunday, January 14:

The first Q&A for Deacon candidate Jordan Edmonds will be in the sanctuary at 1:30 PM.

### February 23-24:

Women Encouraged! For registration and more details see the flyer or the Realm event.

## Community Groups:

### Sundays:

Brittain Brewer. Meets every other Sunday 4:30 PM (D&K Forster) South OC

### Tuesdays:

Jordan Edmonds. Tuesdays at 6 PM (Cogbill/Edmonds) OC

Michael Lortz. Tuesdays at 6 PM (Lortz) OC

### Thursdays:

Jon & Kenny Hangartner. Thursdays at 5:30 PM (Hangartner/Hangartner) OC

Peter Mahar. Thursdays at 5:30 PM (Mahar) Gladstone

Daniel Wilson. Thursdays at 5:30 PM (Rotating) OC

Matt Dau. Thursdays at 5:30 PM (Dau) OC (East)

Brenton Ashworth. Every other Thursday at 5:30 PM (Ashworth) South OC/Canby

### Fridays:

Bert Coombs. Fridays at 5:45 PM (B. Hangartner/Nolder) OC

*Contact the elders if you would like to join a community group!*

REFORMATION COVENANT CHURCH PRESENTS

WOMEN ENCOURAGED

# Unashamed: Death to life in Christ

FEBRUARY 23-24, 2024

FRIDAY 5:30PM-9PM

SATURDAY 9AM-4PM

TICKETS: \$50

REFORMATION COVENANT CHURCH

1201 JQ ADAMS ST, OREGON CITY

JOIN US FOR A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP, TEACHING &  
REFRESHMENT AS WE ENCOURAGE WOMEN TO GROW CLOSER  
TO CHRIST JESUS, FINDING THEIR IDENTITY IN HIM AND  
BEING SHAPED BY HIS WORD.

TICKET INCLUDES: FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP SUPPER,  
SATURDAY BRUNCH, KEYNOTE SESSIONS & MORE!

ONLINE REGISTRATION:

SCAN HERE ---->

QUESTIONS: CONTACT ALICE BARNARD

WOMENENCOURAGED@REFORMATIONCOVENANT.ORG



*Keynote Speaker*  
JENN CHEN



*Keynote Speaker*  
KATIE MORIN



*Music*

BROOKE BUBNA



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# REFORMATION COVENANT CHURCH

A Member of  
Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches  
1201 JQ Adams St., Oregon City, OR 97045

[www.reformationcovenant.org](http://www.reformationcovenant.org)  
Church Office: (503) 656-9444, [office@reformationcovenant.org](mailto:office@reformationcovenant.org)

Pastor: Bo Cogbill, [bo@reformationcovenant.org](mailto:bo@reformationcovenant.org)  
Associate Pastor: Brittain Brewer, [brittain@reformationcovenant.org](mailto:brittain@reformationcovenant.org)  
Chief Musician: Joseph Forster, [joseph@reformationcovenant.org](mailto:joseph@reformationcovenant.org)  
Administration: Ruth Dahlin, [office@reformationcovenant.org](mailto:office@reformationcovenant.org)  
Administration: Lauren Shearer, [lauren@reformationcovenant.org](mailto:lauren@reformationcovenant.org)

Elders: Brittain Brewer, Bo Cogbill, Michael Lortz, Gary Barnard (Sabbatical), Roger Payne, Matt Dau  
Deacons: Bryan Hangartner, Daniel Forster, Adam Hayes