

## The Response to God

### A Word About the Offering Offertory

Deb Tiemens  
The Conference Choir

### \*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Christ all creatures here below.  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore.  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

We praise and thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your table. Grateful and mindful of all your gifts, we especially thank you for the progress that has been made toward equality for all who are marginalized, and for the courageous saints who have gone before us to show us the way.

**We praise and thank you, O God.**

God of compassion, we offer our prayers for the world that you love and came to redeem. Hear our prayers:

For young LGBTQ people who are rejected or discriminated against by their families, their peers, their teachers and administrators, their communities and their churches. Especially we pray for trans people of color whose lives are in constant danger.

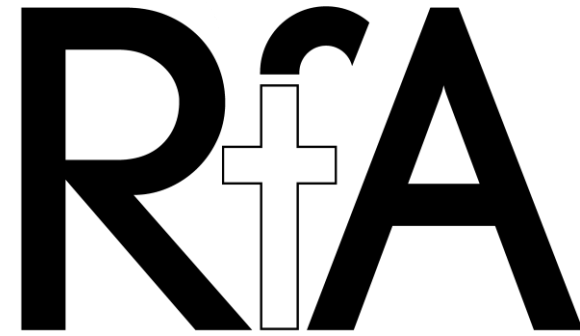
**Come, Lord Jesus.**

For aging LGBTQ people who learned to live in the shadows and are still afraid to claim the light of a new day. Especially we pray for those in hospitals and nursing homes.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Hear our prayers for your church, and especially for the Reformed Church in America. Open our minds and hearts, break down fences around pulpit, font and Table. We pray especially for our denominational leadership, that they might embrace your new day. Led by your Spirit, empower your church toward the transformation to which we are called through the inclusive love of Jesus Christ, in whose name we are made bold to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. 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, now and forever, Amen!**



## **Making Room for All** From Sorrow to Celebration

October 22-25 • Grand Rapids, Michigan

**Closing Worship**  
Saturday October 24, 2015

## The Approach to God

### Prelude

### Votum

Our help is in the name of the Lord  
Who made heaven and earth. Amen.

Psalm 124:8

### Call to Worship

Creating God, blessed is this time and place. Thank You for Your people gathered here.  
**We are here! Being the Church! We have not retreated! We are standing in praise!**

Reconciling Redeemer, You are the mender of our souls and the healer of our painful wounds.  
You lift us up, strengthen and sustain, nurture and nourish, heal and help.  
**Holy Fire, ignite a new spark in the heart of each one gathered here.**

Light our way. Warm our bodies. Inspire our tongues to speak a new word, to shout another  
praise, and to sing an amazing song that will bring to us, life and to You, glory!

### \*Opening Hymn

*There's a Spirit of Love in This Place*

*(insert)*

### Prayer of Confession (unison)

These stories have been told to us, and out of our fear, our pride, our need for revenge, we  
confess that we have sometimes told them to "the other": *You are not fit for this. You cannot  
have the love you seek. You cannot come in.* But in You, God of abundant mercy, we are fit.  
We are loved. We are welcome. We belong. Forgive our forgetting. Remind us that we are  
not singled out for Your love, and give us the grace to break down barriers of our own making,  
that all may come in.

### Assurance of Pardon

Is. 49:15, 66:13

Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb?

**As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you, says the Lord.**

Believe this good news, and go forth to live in peace.

**We are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen!**

## The Service of the Word

### Prayer for Illumination

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 11:17-29

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### Sermon

*How the Broken Body Heals*

Rev. Renee House

### \*Hymn #333

*Seek Ye First the Kingdom*

### The Sacrament of Holy Communion

This is the joyful feast of the people of God! They will come from east and west and north  
and south, and sit together at table in the kingdom of God.  
**Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.**

This table does not belong to this congregation or to the universal church. This is the Lord's  
Table and by Christ's invitation, you are all welcome here. Gather us in Lord, gather us in.  
**Trusting in Christ, we come to share the feast that has been prepared for all God's  
children.**

The Lord is with you!  
**And also with you!**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift our hearts to the Lord.**

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

Holy and right it is.... we worship and adore your glorious name:  
**Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

Most righteous God.... Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:  
**Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

### The Words of Institution

### \*Hymn of Thanksgiving after Communion

*Lord We Praise You (insert)*

verses 1-3

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