

# First Reformed Church of Cary

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas

January 1, 2017

Jennifer Legg, Mdiv.  
Dr. Lonieta Cornwall, Music Director

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## The Approach to God

Prelude

Hand Bell Ensemble

Congregation Concerns

Votum

Introit

*"Bless the Lord"*

Chancel Choir

Call to Worship

(Psalm 148)

Praise the Lord.

**Praise the Lord from the heavens; Praise him in the heights above.**

Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

**Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.**

Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.

**Let them praise the name of the Lord, for at his command they were created, and he established them forever and ever—he issues a decree that will never pass away.**

He has raised up for his people a horn, the praise of all his faithful servants, of Israel,  
the people close to his heart.

**Praise the Lord!**

\*Hymn of Praise #526

*"Ring out the Old, Ring in the New"*

\*Salutation

Prayer of Confession

(unison)

Eternal and merciful God, you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding, and you have set us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake; yet, we have strayed from your way; we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, through what we have done and what we have left undone, and we have wandered from your pathway. As we remember the cleansing water of baptism, O God, we praise you and give you thanks that you forgive us yet again. Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin, and to rise daily to new life in Christ, who lives and reigns with you, and in whose strong name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Response: Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

**Prayer of Assurance Hymn #527**

*“Great God, We Sing Thy Mighty Hand”*

**The Word of God**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture**

**Revelation 21:1-6a**

**Sermon**

**“The New Jerusalem: A New Beginning”**

**Our Response to God**

**\*Confession of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

(Page 12 Hymnal)

*We are and will continue to be a community that loves and worships God in the Reformed tradition for the purpose of being known as a congregation that actively cares for those in need around us.*

**Reception of Gifts and Offerings**

**Ministry of Music**

*“Glory Hallelujah to our Newborn King”*

**\*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

**Intercessory Prayer and Lord's Prayer**

(Page 12 Hymnal)

**\*Hymn #111**

*“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”*

**\*Benediction and Response**

**\*Postlude**

\*The congregation may stand.

At our Annual Congregational Meeting you elected John Ferris to an Elder position and Ethel Yarter to the office of Deacon. The Book of Church Order requires us to publish the names of those elected on 3 consecutive Sundays before their installation/ordination. If you have a legitimate objection to their assuming office, please contact Vice President of Consistory, Dave Pynaker or any Consistory Member.