

THE LORD'S DAY – DECEMBER 26, 2021
MORNING WORSHIP - 9:30 A.M.
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude & Welcome

Silent Prayer

*Mutual Greeting

*Call to Worship: Revelation 4:11 & 5:12

*Opening Songs of Adoration: #243 *"How Lovely Is Your Dwelling"*
"Speak, O Lord"

Standard of Righteousness: Deuteronomy 5:6-21

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

*Song of Thanksgiving: *"There Is a Redeemer"*

At this time, children ages 3-5 may be dismissed for a Bible lesson,
located downstairs in Room 4.

Prayer of God's People

Scripture: Colossians 1:18-20 (p. 1832)

Sermon: "The Excellencies of the Lord Jesus in Redemption"

*Song of Response: #388 *"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"* (vv. 1, 3, 4, 5)

Prayer for the Offering (Alpha Center, Sioux Falls)

Offering

*Benediction

*Closing Song: #620 *"By the Sea of Crystal"* (v. 3)

THE LORD'S DAY – DECEMBER 26, 2021
EVENING WORSHIP - 6:30 P.M.
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude & Welcome

Silent Prayer

Expression of Dependence

Pastor: I lift my eyes to the hills; from where does my help come?

People: Our help is in the Name of the LORD, Maker of heaven and earth.

*Call to Worship: Psalm 86:8-10

*Opening Song of Praise: #618 *"Jerusalem the Golden"*

Bible Reading: 1 John 4:7-21 (p. 1902)

Prayer of God's People

*Song of Thanksgiving: #452 *"He Leadeth Me"*

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:5 (p. 1787)

Sermon: "The Contours of Love - Part Two"

*Song of Response: #568 *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"*

Prayer for the Offering (Alpha Center, Sioux Falls)

Offertory Song: "Away in a Manger" - Shawna and Nicole Sjaarda

*Confession of the Faith: The Nicene Creed

*Benediction

*Parting Song: #630 *"Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God"*

SERMON NOTES – DECEMBER 26, 2021

**THE EXCELLENCIES OF THE LORD JESUS IN
REDEMPTION**

Text: Colossians 1:18-20

THE COUNTOURS OF LOVE – PART TWO

Text: 1 Corinthians 13:5

Reformation Matters

"They call themselves Christians, believers, the church, and boast of having God and His Word, etc. We do the same thing. Both of us use the same words. Here we are in agreement.

But when it comes to substance and understanding, we are as far apart as possible...One must look to see where the doctrine of the Gospel concerning faith in Christ, without additions and supplements, is taught in the right manner and is accompanied by its fruits and true good works in accordance with this Word." - Martin Luther, "Day by Day"

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:

Today 9:30 am - Morning worship
11:00 am - Choir
6:30 pm - Evening worship

FUTURE DATES:

Jan. 4 7:00 pm - Council, Elder, and Deacon meetings
Jan. 9 10:40 am - Kid's Praise, Sunday school, & catechism resume
Jan. 14 6:30 pm - Church game night
Jan. 16 11:00 am - Zoom call with Cornerstone Prison Church
Jan. 30 11:45 am - Potluck

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

The elders have received and approved the membership transfer of Jared and Haley Vis. Jared is joining us from Ebenezer CRC in Leota and Haley is joining from Luverne CRC. Please take time this morning to welcome Jared, Haley, and their daughter Everly!

Thank you for the support you've given us as we welcomed Elizabeth to our family. We are so grateful for all the gifts and meals that we have received as we transition to a family of four. – Collin and Rebecca Vis

Sydney VanHulzen will be traveling to Tanzania (with a group from Dordt) from December 29th- January 10th. As Sydney prepares to leave, she has requested that we join her in prayer for the following: safety as she travels, health of all those going on the trip, for opportunities to share Christ, enough time to treat everyone at each village, and a good relationship to be formed between her group (STEMM) and the communities they go to.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The sound team is looking for a few more members to join them as they seek to serve the Lord and his church by helping with the sound during Sunday worship. If you are willing and able to serve in this important way, please contact Dean Elgersma (507-779-8886).

Next Sundays Offering: Christian Education

Stewardship Verse:

"But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Matthew 6:3-4

Next Sunday morning (1/2), we will install our new elders and new deacons. Those being installed to the office of elder are Wes DeKam, Mike Hulstein, and Greg Talsma. Those being installed to the office of deacon are Kirk Bleyenbug, Levi Mouw, and Marshall Pater.

Due to ongoing health concerns, Dar Schelhaas has given a written request to resign from his role as an elder. With much prayer and lament, the Council has accepted and approved Dar's request. Dar served so well, so faithfully during his term and the Council will greatly miss his voice, leadership, and his love for the people here at First. In order to finish the final year of Dar's term as elder, the Council has decided to place the remaining, approved elder nominations from our Congregational Meeting into the bag and draw one name next Sunday, January 2. This new elder will serve a one year term and will also be installed with his fellow elders the same day.

Would you like to know more about the mission of the Cornerstone Prison Church? On January 21, 2022 you have the opportunity to worship with the men behind the walls of the South Dakota State Penitentiary. This opportunity is open to anyone 18 and older. All visitors must fill out clearance forms before attending the worship service. Please talk to Ron or Thea Nykamp to receive the forms that need to be filled out and get your name on the list. The group will be limited to 25 and all forms must be submitted no later than December 29.

COMMUNITY & MISC

Justice For All is planning a UTAH BUS TOUR, focusing on our ministry partners Great Commission Utah and Grace Reigns. The dates are April 5-11, 2022. Join us, learn, and see how God is using these amazing ministries to share His love and grace to those within the FDLS communities in Utah. We will be spending time in Salt Lake City and Hildale, UT/Colorado City, AZ. We will also enjoy some of the amazing beauty of God's creation in UT. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Pat Vander Pol at JFA (patvp@jfa-nwiowa.org – 712-476-2804).

Cornerstone Prison Church, Sioux Falls, Faith Fellowship Weekend. Friday, February 18 – 6:00-8:00pm-Kick Off Worship Service. February 19 and February 20 – 7:15am-4:00pm each day. The theme for the weekend is RENEWAL. Scripture texts come from Zechariah 4:6-10 and John 15:7, 10-12 &15. Join us for worship, large group talks and small group discussions. The deadline for signing up is Thursday, January 27. We would be happy to have you join us for part of the weekend or all of it. If you would like more information or to sign up, please contact us at office@cornerstonepcsd.org or call 507-215-3670. Thank you for considering this wonderful ministry opportunity.

CRC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Family Fire - is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

Christmas: Jesus Has Changed Everything! - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Advent is about waiting for the Messiah to come. Do you ever wonder if Jesus eagerly awaited his appointed time to arrive? Did our rescuer see the hurt in the world and long to save us? Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content, including The Gifts of Kindness Advent Calendar and the KC parent blog too.

Groundwork: Christmas Hope: Mary and Christ's Birth - Discover a God and a Savior who does not move away from our sin and pain, but draws close and redefines righteousness. Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 1:15-25, Galatians 4:4-7, and Ephesians 3:17b-19 to study the true wonder of Christmas and find comfort in God's grace and great love through Mary's story. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Faith Practices Reflection Tip - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Hospitality: Read Luke 10:38-42 and ponder or discuss the following questions. Do you identify more with Martha or with Mary? Why? What do you think Jesus meant by saying “Few things are needed—or indeed only one”? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject)

Give Thanks for Abundant Life - Thank you for sharing God's hope and love through the World Renew 2020-2021 Gift Catalog in 2021. Your gift of a chicken, a water filter, or a goat holds transformational power, creating miracles in communities that face poverty, disaster, and injustice. You can still give online at worldrenew.net/gifts or call 1-888-WRLD-RNW.

For Christmas Day: Share God's Love Today - As we share gifts with our loved ones today, remember Jesus Christ gives us salvation and calls us to share His great gift of love and hope with others, especially the hungry and vulnerable. Please give generously today to World Renew, changing the story of poverty all over the world. You can give to the World Renew 2021-2022 Gift Catalog online at worldrenew.net/gifts or by calling 1-888-WRLD-RNW.

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

TODAY:

Nursery: AM – Evon Van Hofwegen, Kim Van Hofwegen, Kade Fey, Jonathan Sjaarda
PM – Kim Veldhuizen, Carrie Top, Lydia Talsma, Makenna Moss

Valet: Kirk Bleyenburgh

Ushers: Greg Talsma, Arlan Schmidt, Micah Schaap, Ben Hanson

Medical Assistant: Kim Veldhuizen

Children's Worship: No lesson

NEXT WEEK – JANUARY 2:

Nursery: AM – Ruth Corbin, Lori VanEssen, Grant Busker, Kaden Schmidt
PM – Nick Sjaarda, Marshall Pater, Clint Schelhaas, Tyler Pap

Valet: Ryan Veldhuizen

Ushers: Ray Schelhaas, Jamie Pap, Justin Moss, Kurt Talsma

Medical Assistant: Gord Prins

Children's Worship: No lesson

MISSIONARIES

Friendship Community Church
Christian Reformed Home Missions
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa

Sos and Kara Maletougou
Christian Reformed World Missions
West Africa

Rev. William & Aletha Green
Latin Amer. Fellowship of Reformed
Churches, Costa Rica

Margaret Njuguna
En-Gedi Children's Home,
Kenya

Cornerstone Prison Church
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

CHURCH INFORMATION

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Associate Pastor LeRoy Christoffels, 605-254-5590, leechristoffels@gmail.com
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Treasurer Jan Schelhaas, 507-227-4667, frcjan@gmail.com
Custodian & Building Use Contact Rod Obbink, 507-227-7619
Music Chairman Jonathan Schmidt, jandkschmidt@gmail.com
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