

**THE LORD'S DAY – DECEMBER 25, 2022**

**MORNING WORSHIP - 9:30 A.M.**

Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude Hymn Sing: *"The First Noel"* (v. 1)

LUYH #95 *"What Child Is This"* (v. 1)

#353 *"Infant Holy"* (v. 1, 2)

*"Birthday of a King"* (v. 1, 2)

The Lighting of the Advent Candles - Rodney & Heather Bleyenbergh & family

Welcome

\*Call to Worship & God's Greeting

\*Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

**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.**

\*Opening Hymn: #356 *"Go, Tell it on a Mountain"* (v. 1, 3)

Standard of Righteousness

**The First Lesson** - Genesis 3:8-15 (Pastor Scott)

God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Carol: *"Joy to the World"* (v. 3, 4)

**The Second Lesson** - Genesis 22:15-18 (Lois Schmidt)

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.

Carol: #328 *"O Come, O Come, Immanuel"* (v. 4)

**The Third Lesson** - Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7 (Denise De Kam)

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

Carol: #345 *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* (v. 3)

**The Fourth Lesson** - Micah 5:2-4 (Shawna Sjaarda)

The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.

Carol: LUYH #88 *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"* (v. 1)

**The Fifth Lesson** - Luke 1:26-35 (Brian Busker)

The angel Gabriel visits the Virgin Mary, foretelling the birth of Jesus.

Carol: *"Breath of Heaven"* - First CRC Choir

**The Sixth Lesson** - Luke 2:1-7 (Collin Vis)

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Carol: #344 *"Silent Night"* (v. 1, 2)

**The Seventh Lesson and Sermon** - Luke 2:8-16 (Pastor Scott)

*"Windows into Christmas—The Angels"*

\*Song of Response: #347 *"Angels We Have Heard on High"* (v. 1, 3)

**The Eighth Lesson** - Matthew 2:1-14 (Kathryn Prins)

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Carol: *"O Holy Night"*

**The Ninth Lesson** - John 1:1-14 (Randy Fey)

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Carol: #340 *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"* (v. 1, 3)

Prayer of the Lord's People and for the Offering (CRC of Cuba)

Offertory: #354 *"Angels From the Realms of Glory"* (v. 1, 4, 5)

Those who would like to join in singing *"The Hallelujah Chorus"* may come to the front during verse 4 of this song.

\*Benediction

\*Doxology: *"The Hallelujah Chorus"*

Postlude

**Next Sundays Offering:** New Life Treatment Center

**THE LORD'S DAY – DECEMBER 25, 2022**

**EVENING WORSHIP – 6:30 P.M.**

Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude

Welcome and Silent Prayer

Expression of Dependence

**Pastor:** I lift up 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 96:1-3

\*Opening Song of Adoration: #170 *"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"* (v. 1-4, 6)

Bible Reading: Deuteronomy 4:32-40 (p. 281)

Prayer of the Lord's People

\*Song of Thanksgiving: #489 *"When Peace Like a River"*

Scripture: 1 Peter 2:9-10 (p. 1888)

Sermon: "The Church's Being and Doing—Part 1"

\*Song of Response: #508 *"Jesus, with Your Church Abide"*

Prayer for the Offering (CRC of Cuba)

Offertory: *"The Hallelujah Chorus"* - Lydia and Clara Talsma

\*Confession of the Faith: The Apostles' Creed

\*Benediction

\*Parting Song: #181 *"Exalt the LORD, His Praise Proclaim"* (v. 1)

## SERMON NOTES – DECEMBER 25, 2022

### WINDOWS INTO CHRISTMAS – THE ANGELS

Text: Luke 2:8-16

### THE CHURCH'S BEING AND DOING – PART 1

Text: 1 Peter 2:9-10

**REFORMATION MATTERS:** "The Christ who appears on earth in the fullness of time is...not a man as other men are, not a founder of a religion and a preacher of a new moral law. His position is unique. He was from eternity as the only-begotten of the Father. He was the Creator, Sustainer, and Governor of all things. In Him was the life and the light of men. When He appears in the world, He comes to it not as a stranger, but as its Lord, as one who is related to it." - Herman Bavinck, in "The Wonderful Works of God"

### THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:

Today 9:30 am - Morning worship

6:30 pm - Evening worship

Thur. 6:30 pm - Friendship Christmas Caroling and Party (Verdoes Room)

### FUTURE DATES:

January 8 - Catechism and Sunday school resume

### OUR CHURCH FAMILY

The elders have received and approved the membership transfer to First CRC of Steven and Kala Talsma, along with their family. The Talsmas join our church family from Cornerstone CRC in Pella, IA. Please welcome the Talsma family to First when you see them!

### CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Giving Envelopes for 2023 are in your church mailbox. Please use the giving envelopes for designations to specific funds (General Fund, Christian Education, etc). Unspecified contributions not received in a giving envelope are applied toward the special offering of the day. If you have questions, please ask a deacon. Thank you for your generosity!

You are warmly called to gather for combined evening worship services on both December 25 and January 1. The combined service on 12/25 will be held at First CRC in Edgerton and the service on 1/1 will be held at Bethel CRC in Edgerton. These services will both begin at 6:30 P.M.

During the morning worship service on January 1, we will install our newly elected elders and deacons. The new elders are Ron Nykamp, Randy Pater, and Mark Sorenson. The new deacons are Brian Schelhaas and Kurt Talsma.

Nursery Volunteers Needed. Coffee Break Bible Study and Story Hour is in need of caring individuals to help out in the nursery on Wednesday mornings from 9:15 - 11:00 starting in January 2023. You do not need to be available every Wednesday. Even if you can help only once a month it would be great. Coffee Break finishes its current session at the end of March. Contact Thea Nykamp (507-227-9513) for more information.

On January 2, Ligonier Ministries is beginning a new podcast devotional for 2023. Dr. Sinclair Ferguson will be seeking to show how eternal, unseen realities shape the way Christians are to live in a difficult world (see 2 Cor 4:16-18). The podcast is called "Things Unseen" and can be found here: <https://Ligonier.org/thingsunseen>

**COMMUNITY & MISC**

The Dordt University Concert Choir from Sioux Center, Iowa, invites you to a concert at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10, at Bethel Christian Reformed Church in Edgerton. This free concert is part of a spring tour with performances scheduled in Iowa, Minnesota, and North Dakota. Directed by Dr. Rob Hobgood, the Dordt University Concert Choir will perform a wide variety of choral music including hymn arrangements, spirituals, classics from the modern choral repertoire as well as past centuries including Gabrielli, Handel, and Clausen, and several compositions written within the last decade by talented young composers. The concert is free, with a freewill offering received to help defray tour expenses.

**CRC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Tour the Biblical Lands of Israel - March 6 – March 17, 2023. Experience a refreshing renewal of your faith, and gain a deeper understanding of the Bible, as you tour the biblical lands with teaching host, Pastor Peter Tuininga, and Sindbad Tours of Israel. See many of the biblical places (Jerusalem, Galilee, Caesarea, Jericho, and much more), and gain spiritual and historical insights which will make the Bible come alive for you. For complete information, cost, and registration, go to [toursofisrael.wordpress.com](http://toursofisrael.wordpress.com) or call Peter Tuininga: 1 289 877 8433 or e-mail: [peter.tuininga@gmail.com](mailto:peter.tuininga@gmail.com)

Groundwork: Jesus, Shepherds, and Angels: A Savior is Born - The story of Jesus Christ’s birth is wonderfully familiar, but slowing down to read and study it again brings comfort and renewed hope. Join Groundwork as we read and discuss the good news of Jesus’ birth and the magnificent message the angels delivered to the shepherds in Luke 2:1-20. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

At-home Faith Formation Tip - Today we light the Christ candle to remind ourselves that the light of Christ has come into the world. Light a Christ candle in your own home today as you celebrate. Consider lighting a candle at each mealtime in the coming week (or year!) to remind you that Jesus is always with you. (Tip from Faith Formation; [bit.ly/CRCFaithFormation](http://bit.ly/CRCFaithFormation))

**MEMBERS IN SERVICE**

**TODAY:**

Nursery: AM – Phil & Katie Feikema, Kirk & Megan Bleyenburgh, Jorja Holm, Lydia Talsma  
PM – Lois Schmidt, Lori Schelhaas, Jayden Brands, Brooklyn Talsma

Valet: Randy Pater

Ushers: Jim Van Hofwegen, Brian Schelhaas, Brett Kroeze, Duane Vandenberg

Medical Assistant: Gord Prins

Children’s Worship: No lesson

**NEXT WEEK – JANUARY 1:**

Nursery: AM – Evon VanHofwegen, Jen Brands, Justin & Daci Moss, JT VanHulzen,  
Levi VanHofwegen

PM – combined service at Bethel CRC

Valet: Dan Huisken

Ushers: Rod Corbin, CJ Veldhuizen, Aidan Schaap, Clayton Blankers

Medical Assistant: Barb Obbink

Children’s Worship: No lesson

**MISSIONARIES**

Margaret Njuguna  
En-Gedi Children’s Home,  
Kenya

Sos and Kara Maletougou  
Christian Reformed World Missions  
West Africa

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

K & K  
Global Serve International  
Central Asia

Cornerstone Prison Church  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

**CHURCH INFORMATION**

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