

THE LORD'S DAY – DECEMBER 4, 2022

MORNING WORSHIP - 9:30 A.M.

Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude

Advent Reading: Mark and Lori Boeve

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer & 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.

*Call to Worship: Revelation 15:3-4

*Opening Songs of Adoration: *"Joy Has Dawned"*

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Standard of Righteousness: Deuteronomy 5:6-7

Responsive Bible Reading: Psalm 138 (p. 973)

*Song of Thanksgiving: #371 *"Christ, the Life of All the Living"*

Kids' Praise (*"Rejoice"*) and Children's Message

At this time, children ages 3-5 may be dismissed for a Bible lesson,

located downstairs in Room 4.

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25 (p. 1497)

Sermon: "Windows on Christmas—Joseph"

*Song of Response: #337 *"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"*

Prayer of the Lord's People

Offering: Christian Education

*Benediction

*Closing Song: *"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"*

NEXT SUNDAYS OFFERING: Talking Bibles

THE LORD'S DAY – DECEMBER 4, 2022

EVENING WORSHIP - 6:30 P.M.

Led by: Pastor Lee Christoffels

Prelude: *"O Come O Come Emmanuel"* – Judd Prouty

"Low How a Rose is Blooming" – Judd Prouty

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

Expression of Dependence: Psalm 121:1-2

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

People: My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Call to Worship – Psalm 132:1-5

*The Lord's Greeting

*Opening Song of Praise: #238 *"We Come, O Christ to You"*

Congregational Prayer

Confessional Reading: Belgic Confession, Art. 26, part A *"The Intercession of Christ"*

*Song of Thanksgiving: #505 *"For All the Saints"* (vs. 1-3)

Scripture: II Samuel 23:8-39

Sermon: *"The Exploits of Mighty Men"*

*Song of Response: #570 *"Soldiers of Christ Arise"*

Offertory Prayer (Christian Education)

Offertory: *"Silent Night"* – Nicole Sjaarda

*Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

*Benediction

*Doxology: #291 *"May the Mind of Christ My Savior"* (vs. 1,5)

REFORMATION MATTERS: "It is the high honor of the Christian church to consist of children of light who let their light shine by preaching Christ as Saviour and Lord to individuals and nations, and thus presenting Him who alone is able to translate sinners from darkness into light and to dispel the black clouds which envelop the peoples of the earth as a shroud." - R.B. Kuiper, in "The Glorious Body of Christ"

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:

Today	9:30 am	- Morning worship
	10:40 am	- 9-12th grade Catechism
	10:40 am	- Pre-k - 8th graders meet in their classrooms & program practice
	11:00 am	- Choir practice
	11:30 am	- 5 th -8 th grade bells practice (11:30-11:50)
	6:30 pm	- Evening worship
Mon.	2:00 pm	- Mary Guild
	7:00 pm	- Men's Society (lesson 5)
Tue.	7:00 pm	- Council, Elder, & Deacon meetings
Wed.	9:30 am	- Coffee break (lesson 5)
	5:30 pm	- Kids of Grace & Youth Group Christmas Party (1 st CRC Fellowship hall)
Thurs.	7:00 pm	- Friendship
Fri	6:30 pm	- Game night

FUTURE DATES:

December 12	- SWC Christmas Program, grades K-4 (9:30am)
December 17	- Van Soelen/McGuire piano and cello Christmas Concert
December 18	- Christmas Program (evening service)
December 19	- SWC Christmas Concert, grades 5-12 (7:00pm)

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Thank you to all for your prayers before and after my surgery, for the food, calls, visits and messages. It was much appreciated. We thank God above all for His healing. - Donna Vander Kolk

We express our sympathies to the family of Stan Hartog following his recent death. We pray the family would have their eyes lifted to the Lord Jesus, the hope of glory during this time of grief.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today Mark and Lori Boeve will light the Advent Candle of Peace on the Advent wreath. This candle reminds us that Jesus alone can give us peace with God through his salvation.

Prek-8th grade Sunday school & Catechism students are asked to go to their classrooms directly after the morning service today to get their cookies & eat them in their classroom with their teachers. After that they will be dismissed to practice for the Christmas Program until 11:30 am. 5th-8th grade have bells practice 11:30-11:50 am.

Missionary Christmas Cards – Please remember our missionary families this Christmas season with a card or letter to let them know that you are praying for them. There are boxes in the foyer for you to place your Christmas cards in. Please have your cards in by TODAY, Dec. 4 so we can get them sent off. - Thank you, the Mission Committee

Contact Brian Busker for custodial duties December 5th – December 25th. Rod is on vacation time, but you may contact him for setting up church usage dates.

A few able bodied helpers are needed for moving risers immediately after the AM worship service for the next three weeks (December 4, 11, 18). If you are able and willing, please stick around and wait for instructions.

Church game night on Friday evening! If you wish, you may bring a snack to share as well as a few of your favorite games. All ages are welcome for a fun night of fellowship!

Prayer Warriors: We will be meeting after the morning service next week Sunday, December 11. If you will be gone with holiday travel please let your prayer partner know and find another time to connect. Thanks!

Thank you to all who participated in Operation Christmas Child. This year we were able to send 29 shoeboxes to bless the children. The Samaritans Purse Ministry partners in more than 100 countries and distributes your gift boxes during Gospel focused events where they share about the Lord Jesus Christ, Gods greatest Gift.

– The Mission Committee

War in Ukraine - New Life Church Land Opportunity – As the war in Ukraine continues, Vasya and Maranda Heytsi would like to purchase 5 acres of cropland to begin raising fruit and vegetables next spring to facilitate a long term solution to their food needs instead of relying solely on donations to feed the 100+ refugees that have settled in their village and joined their church. Please contact Deacon Nick Sjaarda with any questions (507-227-5736).

If you are a *current* student (or the parent of one) attending one of the colleges or universities endorsed by the Christian Reformed Church and would like to apply for a scholarship grant from Classis Minnkota, please speak with Pastor Scott or with Ryan Blom to receive an

application. We have paper copies of the application, but it can also be emailed.

The Van Soelen/McGuire piano and cello Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 17 at 7 pm will be live streamed on First CRC's YouTube Channel and refreshments will be served afterwards in the fellowship hall. The designated free will offering is for Southwest Crisis Center HOME | sowecc (mnsbcc.org).

COMMUNITY & MISC

Angel Tree: During this Holiday season, we would love to bless some families in our local community. There is an Angel Tree set up in the entryway of First Reformed Church. Feel free to grab a tag, and spread some joy to a local food shelf family. Donations can be dropped off in the tote, and will be accepted until December 11.

2023 Prayer Catalyst Gathering: The Classical Interim Committee is seeking the name of an individual who would represent Classis Minnkota at a prayer gathering to be held in southern California on February 21-22, 2023. This would be two days of prayer, worship and fellowship to pray for the CRCNA. If you or someone you know is willing to consider taking this opportunity or desire more information, please contact Rev. Roger Sparks by Monday, November 28, 2022 at rdsparks1981@hotmail.com

Biblical Study Tour to Italy (May 22 - June 2, 2023): Visit the Vatican with its Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Cathedral; the impressive monuments of ancient Rome; Pompeii and Mt. Vesuvius; Assisi (home of St. Francis); Florence; Ravenna; and St. Mark's Basilica in Venice. Join Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, for this inspirational tour. Contact Dr. Weima at weimje@calvinseminary.edu or 616-328-3110.

Justice for All is having a meeting with information about Service & Learning Trips at Justice for All ministry center on Tuesday January 10, 2023 at 6:30pm. Address is for the ministry center is 1335 Valley Drive Rock Valley, IA 51247. There will be light refreshments available. With questions please contact Nick at Justice for All 712.476.2804. Consider going on a trip this year to work alongside others in a different community.

Justice For All is planning a KENTUCKY BUS TOUR, focusing on our 4 major ministry partners: Grace Covenant Ministries, Annville, KY; Helping Hands, Hyden KY, Appalachia Reach Out Inez, KY; and Appalachian Mission of Hope, Berea, KY. The dates are April 12-18, 2023. Join us, learn, and see how God is using beautiful ministries to share HIS love and hope to those who live in very poor communities throughout Kentucky. We'll be exploring the rich history, culture and stories of the mountain 'hollers', coal, and horses! And God's amazing creation will also be on display! If you are interested or want more information, please contact Pat Vander Pol at JFA (patvp@jfa-nwiowa.org – 712-476-2804).

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

TODAY:

Nursery: AM – Shawnie Veldhuizen, Nicole Vis, Kim Van Hofwegen, Becky Schelhaas, Sydni Vander Haar, Kylee Brands

PM – Kim Veldhuizen, Tanya Talsma, Tyler Sjaarda, Judd Prouty

Valet: Nathan Stoel

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

Medical Assistant: Barb Obbink

Children's Worship: Jackie Ward & Vera Prouty

Praise Team: Howie & Aiden Schaap, Greg & Jacob Masselink, Brian & Grant Busker

Keyboard: Brittany Forness

NEXT WEEK – DECEMBER 11:

Nursery: AM – Kirk & Megan Bleyenbarg, Nick & Shawna Sjaarda, Parker Bleyenbarg, Zachary Moss
PM – Thea Nykamp, Brigette Pap, Tyler Pap, Kaden Schmidt

Valet: Coleton Hilarides

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

Medical Assistant: Brenda Kooi

Children's Worship: Alisha Ekkel, Blaire Talsma

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

Pastor Scott Muilenburg, 507-215-3590, scott.muilenburg@gmail.com
Associate Pastor LeRoy Christoffels, 605-254-5590, leechristoffels@gmail.com
Secretary..... Tawni Pater, 507-442-6701, firstcsrcsec@yahoo.com
Treasurer Jan Schelhaas, 507-227-4667, frcrcjan@gmail.com
Custodian & Building Use Contact Rod Obbink, 507-227-7619
Music Chairman Jonathan Schmidt, jandschmidt@gmail.com
4th Quarter Special Music Coordinator..... Shawna Sjaarda
Work Groups..... Karen Fey, 507-227-6392 and Gloria Roemeling, 507-227-0071
Website..... www.firstcsrcgederton.com
Radio Broadcast..... KLOH Pipestone 1050 AM
<http://www.christensenbroadcasting.com/cms/kloh-radio>