

THE LORD'S DAY – DECEMBER 3, 2023
MORNING WORSHIP - 9:30 A.M.
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship: 1 Timothy 6:15b-16

*Opening Songs of Adoration: *"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"*

"Glorious Light"

Standard of Righteousness: Deuteronomy 5:6-21

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

*Song of Thanksgiving: #260 *"Not What My Hands Have Done"*

Musical Offering: *"Peace on Earth"* - Kid's Praise

Children's Message

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

Scripture: Micah 5:1-5 (p. 1445)

Sermon: *"A Thrill of Hope—The King We Need"*

*Song of Response: *"O Holy Night"*

Prayer of the Lord's People

Offering (Christian Education)

*Benediction

*Parting Song: *"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"*

Next Sunday's Offering: Reformed Youth Services

THE LORD'S DAY – DECEMBER 3, 2023
EVENING WORSHIP – 6:30 P.M.
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude

Welcome & Silent Prayer

Expression of Dependence: Isaiah 40:11

Pastor: He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms,

People: And carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

*Call to Worship: Nehemiah 9:5b-6

*Opening Song of Honor: #460 *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

Bible Reading: Exodus 20:1-6; 32:1-8

Prayer of the Lord's People

*Song of Gratitude: *"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"*

Confession of Faith: The Belgic Confession, Article 35 (selected portion)

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 (p. 1782)

Sermon: *"The Lord's Supper—Part One"*

*Song of Response: #502 *"The Church's One Foundation"*

Prayer for the Offering (Christian Education)

Offertory: Jayden Brands

*Confession of the Faith: The Apostles' Creed

*Benediction

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

SERMON NOTES – DECEMBER 3, 2023

A Thrill of Hope-The King We Need

Text: Micah 5:1-5

The Lord's Supper-Part One

Text: 1 Cor. 10:14-22

REFORMATION MATTERS "When we shall come home and enter to the possession of our Brother's fair kingdom, and when our heads shall find the weight of the eternal crown of glory, and when we shall look back to pains and sufferings; then shall we see life and sorrow to be less than one step or stride from a prison to glory; and that our little inch of time - suffering is not worthy of our first night's welcome home to heaven." - Samuel Rutherford (1600-1661), in *"The Loveliness of Christ"*

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:

Today	9:30 am	- Morning Worship
	6:30 pm	- Evening Worship
Mon.	7:00 pm	- Men's Society -Note Date change
Tues.	7:00 pm	- Council/Consistory Meeting
Wed.	9:30 am	- Coffee Break
	6:00 pm	- Youth Group and Kids of Grace Christmas Party
	6:30 pm	- Evening Coffee Break
Thurs.	7:00 pm	- Friendship Class

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas program practice: 3-8th grade Christmas practice today right after church on the sanctuary front steps. (No catechism class) After practice, the 5-8th graders interested in playing bells will meet.

Christian Fellowship Women's Bible Study will be meeting on December 14 and 28 instead of the previously scheduled December 7 and 21.

Each week we are reminded of our dependence on our Heavenly Father and we give thanks for His provisions to our congregation. As a response to Christ's regenerate work in our heart we cannot help but to live a life of gratitude. The Deaconate wishes to report yet another year of heartfelt giving from the congregation. Last week's Thanksgiving offering totaled \$62,547.50. Divided among: Building addition - 33,695, Global missions & specified missionaries – \$12,448.5, Christian Ed – \$5,721, Luke society \$3,250, General fund – \$2,053, and \$5,380 distributed over 15 other worthy local organizations. May God be Glorified in the giving and in the work of His people.

Youth Group: We get to bless the Kids of Grace kids in our community with a meal and Christmas party this week Wednesday, December 6. Please be at church before supper starts at 6:00. We will do a meal, Bible story, songs and activity. Please check your email for what food you are in charge of bringing to help out with this event. If you can't make it feel free to trade food items with someone else who can. If you have any questions, please let Nicole Vis know. Thanks!

Prayer Warriors: We will meet next week Sunday, December 10 after the morning service. Please let your prayer partner know ahead of time if you know you will not be here so you can find another time to connect this month.

Notes from Building Addition Finance: We made a request and you responded in a big way. During the month of November, which includes our portion of the Thanksgiving Offering, we received \$53,784.48! That amount, added to our prior account balance, allows us to pay down our Personal Loan Balance by \$80,000. We are twice blessed. Once by the addition to our building, and again by your very generous support. Many Thanks!

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 Sunday, Dec. 3 so we can get them send off. – Thank you, the Mission Committee

If you missed the congregational meeting and are interested in seeing it. Please contact Orey Fey orey.fey@gmail.com. or call him at 507-227-3552 to get access to the video.

A portion of the Classis Minnkota ministry share for Christian Higher Education received during the previous year is awarded in February to Christian college students in the form of scholarship grants. Any current student attending a CRC-endorsed Christian college who completes an application form by the December 24 deadline is eligible. Contact Pastor Scott for an application or provide him with the student's email address and a form will be emailed directly to the applicant.

COMMUNITY & MISC

Pastor Mark Groen from First Reformed Church in Edgerton is going on a mission trip to Africa to train Ethiopian pastors. He will teach an intensive class on "Christ-Centered Preaching" for a week in January. To help with travel expenses, there will be a pancake and sausage supper at First Reformed Church on Wednesday, December 13, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

"A Night of Christmas" Music Recital - December 22, 2023 at 7:00pm - First CRC Edgerton - Join us for a fun evening filled with a variety of Christmas music. The recital will feature Benjamin Feikema on Cello, Brittany Forness on Piano, and Katherine Feikema on Flute.

The Minnkota Deacons Association is seeking applicants for the Volunteers in Mercy Coordinator position effective January 1, 2024. Responsibilities include coordinating referrals from SW MN and SE SD agencies with diaconal outreach, initiating bi-monthly MDA/VIM

board meetings, and submitting Classis reports and yearly newsletters. Please contact Ray Talsma at 507-227-1660.

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. Please grab an ornament tag, and spread some joy to a local food shelf family. Donations can be dropped off in the tote by the tree. Donations will be accepted from November 19 - December 13. Thank you!

CRC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Ponder this quote from Mother Teresa: "This Christmas when Christ comes, will he find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own concern." How might you and your family love and serve others during this season? Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

God's Love at Christmas - As we begin the Advent season, share the warmth of God's love with a person living in poverty through your donation for World Renew's Gift Catalog. Give a life-changing gift to a family that is facing hardship and hunger in the year ahead. Donate today at worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-552-7972.
ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: The Prophet's Message of Hope - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. The devotion is all about how the prophet Isaiah talked about how light shining in the darkness gave people comfort. We know Isaiah 9:2 is about Jesus coming to earth and dying on the cross for our sins. How amazing is that! The hope we have is a person! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Bible story podcast "The Story of the Prophets."

Devotions for a Blue Christmas - In the midst of hard times, find strength and encouragement through God's word. A set of fourteen encouraging Today devotions reassure you that even during the darkest of Christmas seasons, you're not alone. Receive this free email series and ebook when you subscribe to Today at todaydevotional.com/bluechristmas

Groundwork: Jesus: Our Wonderful Counselor - The prophet Isaiah calls the coming Messiah a 'Wonderful Counselor.' Join Groundwork as we explore Isaiah 9:6, Proverbs 1:1-7, 1 Corinthians 1:18-24, and Colossians 1:15-19 to discover what this title communicates to us about Jesus and its connection to the biblical wisdom tradition. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

TODAY:

Nursery: AM – Ben & Macy H, Jackie W, Brigette P, Kalli B, Victoria P
PM – Tanya T, Lori S, Megan B, Jessica S

Valet: Nathan S

Ushers: Tyson B, Logan B, Lester S, Steve E

Sound: AM – Dean E PM – Jesse VH

Video: Kevin VH

Projection: Orey F/Jody DK

Medical Assistant: Brenda K

Children's Worship: Becky S, Isaac S

Praise Team: Jen B, Kylee B, Vonda T, Brooklyn T, Jody S, Kaitlyn S

Keyboard: Brittany F

NEXT WEEK – DECEMBER 10

Nursery: AM – Mindy B, Jan F, Marshall & Tawni P, Tyler P, Levi VH
PM – Jen B, Rosann VB, Mara B, Blaire T

Valet: Coleton H

Ushers: Tyson B, Logan B, Lester S, Steve E

Sound: AM – Cory S PM – Cory S

Video: Jacob M

Projection: Jan/Jonathan

Medical Assistant: Kim V

Children's Worship: Melissa M, Carli S

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