

The Lord's Day – December 1, 2024

Morning Worship - 9:30 A.M.

Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude: *"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" - "Birthday of a King" - "Joy to the World"*

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Steven and Kala Talsma

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

*Greeting One Another

*Call to Worship: Jeremiah 9:23-24

*Opening Songs of Adoration - *"Glorious Light"* & #347 *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

Standard of Righteousness: Hebrews 12:3

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

*Song of Thanksgiving: #329 *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

Musical Offering: *"O Holy One"* - 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 Reading: John 6:37-40 (p. 1657)

Sermon: *"Christmas According to Jesus—Resurrection"*

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

Prayer of the Lord's People

Offering: World Renew—Hunger Relief

Offertory: *"Joy Has Dawned"*

*Benediction

*Parting Song: *"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"*

Next Sunday's Offering: Christian Education

The Lord's Day – December 1, 2024

Evening Worship – 6:30 P.M.

Led by: Pastor Lee Christoffels

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 – Isaiah 21:11-12, 60:1-3

*The Lord's Greeting

*Opening Song of Praise: 244 *"God Himself is With Us"*

Reading: Canons II – *"Christ's Death and Human Redemption"*, Articles 3-4 (p.934)

Congregational Prayer

*Song of Thanksgiving: 527 *"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"*

Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 3:16-21

Sermon: GOD'S WATCHMAN

*Song of Response: 291 *"May the Mind of Christ My Savior"*

Offertory Prayer

Offering and Offertory: World Renew- Hunger Relief

*Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (p. 813)

*Benediction

*Doxology: 329:1,4 *"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"*

SERMON NOTES – December 1, 2024

**Christmas According to Jesus–Resurrection
John 6:37-40**

**God's Watchman
Ezekiel 3:16-21**

REFORMATION MATTERS: "What a privilege it is to have in our hands a book every line of which was given by inspiration of God—to have a divinely given history of the past, the present, and the future! Who can estimate aright such a privilege as this? As a matter of practical experience the strongest single factor making for the persistence of true Christianity and of righteousness in general down through the ages has been a fully trustworthy Bible in the hands of the common people." - Loraine Boettner, in *"The Inspiration of the Scriptures"*

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:

Today 9:30 am - Morning Worship
Today 10:45 am - Christmas Program Practice for 3 year olds- 8th grade until 11:30
11:00 am - Choir
6:30 pm - Evening Worship
Mon 7:00 pm - Men's Society
Tue 7:00 pm - Council/Consistory Meeting
Wed 9:30 am - Coffee Break and Story Hour
6:00 pm - Kids of Grace
6:30 pm - Youth Group
6:30 pm - Coffee Break
Thur 7:00 pm - Friendship

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES:

Dec 11 6:30 pm - GEMS & Cadets
Dec 12 9:30 am - Christian Fellowship
Dec 15 6:30 pm - Christmas Program

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lord willing, next Sunday morning we will celebrate the covenant baptism of Myla Rose Pater, daughter of Marshall and Tawni. May the name of the Lord be praised for his goodness and grace to us in Christ Jesus.

Prayer Warriors: Next Sunday, December 8, we will meet as prayer warriors after the morning service. Please let your prayer partner know ahead of time if you will not be there so you can connect beforehand.

Thank-you for all the kinds words, cards, food, and other expressions of kindness in the recent passing of our Dad and Grandpa, Pete DeKam. We appreciate each one of you so much!
Jan and Randy, Orey and Carmen and girls.

Men's Society: Due to school Christmas Programs, we will only be meeting 1 time in December and that will be THIS Monday, December 2. We will not meet again until January 13, 2025.

We want to thank you all for the prayers, cards, visits & food brought to us in our time of sadness. It's so good to have a church family who showed us so much love. Thanks, Harold and Gert Jasper

In the near future Pastor Scott hopes to begin an evening sermon series from 1&2 Thessalonians. ESV Scripture journals will be available at no cost. The journals have the ESV scripture written on the left page and a lined blank page on the right side for sermon notes, personal study or to write prayers. There is a sign up sheet in the foyer for those who would like to receive one.

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who so graciously filled a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child. Forty one boxes were delivered to First Reformed Church. Thank you again for your generosity.

Christmas Program Practice will be Sunday December 1, 8, and 15. 3-year-olds—8th grade will meet in their individual classrooms for cookies directly after AM church. NOTE: 3 year olds can meet in children's worship room for cookies after church. Once set up is finished classes will be dismissed to practice till around 11:30 in the sanctuary. 3rd-8th Bells will practice in the balcony after that till 11:50. **Volunteers willing to help set up risers after AM church for practice would be greatly appreciated.**

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

We cannot thank our local businesses, churches, community members, and supporters of SWC more! Our to-date money raised from the donation sale is \$165,500! Thanks be to God for his financial blessings on Southwest Christian and for the continued support of this community. Thank you!

SWC 9-12 Christmas Concert on Monday, December 9 at 7:00pm at Bethel Christian Reformed Church, Edgerton. Join the SWC High School students as they help us remember the reason for the season through voice and instruments. The evening will include performances from our High School Concert Band, Eagle and Chamber Choirs, as well as our specialty vocal groups, One Accord, Bel Canto, and Cantare. You won't want to miss this beautiful evening of music focused on the real reason we rejoice!

Burger and Hot Dog Feed: Friday, December 13 come on out to SWC gym and watch the boys play Edgerton Public and the girls play HBC. Both the elementary gym and the high school gym will be in use all night. Circle #10 will be having their burger feed at the high school cafeteria that night. Serving from 5:00 -7:30. The meal will include a burger (\$7) or hotdog (\$6), chips, bar and a beverage. Come out for a fun night of basketball and enjoy a great meal also!

SWC K-8 Christmas Concert on Monday, December 16 at 7:00pm at SWC Elementary Gym. The SWC Elementary and Junior High students invite you to a night of Christmas joy! The evening will include a variety of lively and elegant musical selections all focused on our Lord and Savior born to us in a manger. A few of these selections are: What Child is This, Go Tell It On the Mountain, In The Bleak Midwinter, and Carol of the Bells. We look forward to an evening spent sharing our student's God-given gifts!

SWC Adult Tour to D.C. - The Senior class at SWC has just completed another successful class trip to Washington D.C. to see the many wonders of our nation's capital and now it is your turn! Arlington,

Holocaust Museum, Capitol Building, Mt. Vernon, National Cathedral, plus all of the monuments and memorials is just a glimpse of what you will see and experience. I have heard for years now from parents, alumni and community members about wanting to experience a trip like this and now you can! This spring, just after the famous cherry blossoms bloom, from April 22-April 26 you can join Mr. Busker as he leads an adult trip to D.C. It will be as close of an experience as the kids get but at a slightly more relaxed pace and with a few better meal options. A good amount of walking will still be required. Enjoy a guided experience from a seasoned veteran. Cost is expected to be around \$2,000 per person (or less) depending on your desire to room with others or not. There is only room for a maximum of 30 people. Don't hesitate to sign up in the high school office with Daci if you are interested and feel free to reach out to Mr. Busker with any questions you may have. Please sign up by December 11 so planning may begin. You've been wanting to see and experience D.C. for yourself for a while and now is your chance!

COMMUNITY & MISC

Edgerton Food Shelf Angel Tree: We invite you to participate in our 3rd Annual Angel Tree/Gift Drive at First Reformed Church. The tree, located in the entryway, is decorated with ornaments, each representing a gift request or need. Simply take an ornament, purchase the item listed, and place the unwrapped gift in the tote beside the tree. We will be collecting items from Nov. 25 - Dec. 18. By doing so, you'll help us bring a little extra holiday cheer to local Food Shelf members in need. Let's make this season brighter together!

As we approach the week of Thanksgiving, ATLAS for Life would like to express our thanks and gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His continued provision. And with that, our thanks to church and community members who have supported ATLAS in 2024. Your prayers, presence in our building, support of the Always Growing Greenhouse, the Christmas rummage, memorial gifts, grants received, volunteer hours, and general gift giving have assisted in touching many lives for Christ. We covet your continued prayers and support as we close out this year and look forward to what the Lord has planned for us in 2025.

Phil. 4:4- "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" The Edgerton Food Shelf is blessing 80-130 people every month on the 3rd Saturday morning at the First Reformed Church. On Saturday, November 16 and December 31, we will be giving out turkeys and hams, in addition to the canned goods, peanut butter, jelly, applesauce, hamburger, cereal, milk, bread, margarine, mac & cheese, and toilet paper. If you know of anyone with a need, please contact Shar Miedema- 507-820-0225 or Brenda Kooi – 507-227-5174.

Edgebrook Care Center will be working to put together a cookbook in memory/honor of past and present residents of Edgebrook. If you are interested in submitting a recipe, they ask that you include the recipe name, the residents name of who the recipe is in honor/memory of and if you have a baking memory to go with it. You can drop the recipe off at the business office, mail it to Edgebrook Care Center, Attn: Cookbook Committee, 505 Trosky Road W, Edgerton MN 56128 or by emailing cassandra.schelhaas@good-sam.com. Please also include if you would be interested in purchasing a cookbook as this will give them a better idea of how many to make. The deadline to have your recipe included is January 15, 2025.

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

TODAY- DECEMBER 1:

Nursery: AM – Kim VH, Kala T, Megan Bley, Max VH, Kevin VH

PM- Christa B, Andrea L, Devin S, Zachery B

Valet: Duane VB

Ushers: Rod C, Steve E, Tadd P, Bob S

Sound: AM – Jeff S PM- Jeff S

Video: Jacob M

Projection: Jan/Jonathan

Medical Assistant: Carmen F

Children's Worship: Macy H & Vera P.

Praise Team: Mark, Lori, Kurt, Vonda, Tadd, Erica

Keyboard: Kaitlyn S

NEXT WEEK- DECEMBER 8:

Nursery: AM – Kim V, Katie F, Ashley S, Carter B, Judd P

PM- Dana H, Jackie W, Nilson VH, Clint S

Valet: Nathan B

Ushers: Rod C, Steve E, Tadd P, Bob S

Sound: AM – Jesse VH PM- Jesse VH

Video: Kade F

Projection: Kirk-Justin

Medical Assistant: Barb O

Children's Worship: Andrea L & Hartley B

MISSIONARIES

Margaret Njuguna

En-Gedi Children's Home,
Kenya

Sos and Kara Maletoungou

Christian Reformed World Missions
West Africa

Rev. William & Aletha Green

Latin Amer. Fellowship of Reformed
Churches, Costa Rica

CHURCH INFORMATION