

The Lord's Day – December 8, 2024

Morning Worship - 9:30 A.M.

Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candles: Jared and Haley Vis

Silent Prayer

*Greeting One Another

*Call to Worship: Jeremiah 10:6-7

*Opening Song of Adoration: #328 *"O Come, O Come, Immanuel"* (v. 1-4)

Standard of Righteousness: Romans 13:8-10

Prayer of Confession

Covenant Baptism of Myla Rose Pater

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

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

Scripture Reading: 1 John 3:7-10 (p. 1901)

Sermon: "Christmas According to Jesus—Destruction"

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

Prayer of the Lord's People

Offering: Christian Education

*Benediction

*Parting Song: #327 *"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"* (v. 5)

Next Sunday's Offering: Luke Society

The Lord's Day – December 8, 2024

Evening Worship – 6:30 P.M.

Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Introit: *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* - Carolyn Nykamp

Welcome & Silent Prayer

Expression of Dependence: Acts 17:24-25

Pastor: "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temple built by hands."

Congregation: "And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else."

*Call to Worship: Psalm 146:1-2

*Opening Song of Honor: #246 *"Come, Thou Almighty King"*

Bible Reading: Acts 17:1-15 (p. 1722)

Prayer of the Lord's People

*Song of Gratitude: *"Arise, My Soul, Arise"* - Trinity Hymnal #305

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-3 (p. 1837)

Sermon: "A Letter to Unappreciated Christians"

*Song of Response: *"By Faith"*

Prayer for the Offering (Christian Education)

Offertory: *"In Christ Alone"* - Ruby Muilenburg

*Confession of the Faith: The Apostles' Creed

*Benediction

*Closing Song: #621 *"The God of Abraham Praise"* (v. 5)

SERMON NOTES – December 8, 2024

Christmas According to Jesus—Destruction
1 John 3:7-10

A Letter to Unappreciated Christians
1 Thessalonians 1:1-3

REFORMATION MATTERS: "I see in the cross of Christ wisdom and power, peace and hope, joy and gladness, comfort and consolation. The more I keep the cross in my mind's eye, the more fullness I seem to discern in it. The longer I dwell on the cross in my thoughts, the more I am satisfied that there is more to be learned at the foot of the cross than anywhere else in the world." - J.C. Ryle (1816-1900), in *"Old Paths"*

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:

Today	9:30 am	- Morning Worship
Today	10:45 am	- Christmas Program Practice for 3 year olds- 8 th grade until 11:30
	11:00 am	- Choir
	6:30 pm	- Evening Worship
Mon	7:00 pm	- Men's Society
Wed	9:30 am	- Coffee Break and Story Hour
	6:00 pm	- Kids of Grace
	6:30 pm	- GEMS (Christmas Party) & Cadets
	6:30 pm	- Coffee Break
Thur	9:30 am	- Christian Fellowship
	7:00 pm	- Friendship

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES:

Dec 15	6:30 pm	- Christmas Program
Dec 17	7:00 pm	- Consistory Meeting
Dec 18	6:30 pm	- Youth Group Christmas Party with Kids of Grace
Dec 19	7:00 pm	- Friendship Christmas Party

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have the joy this morning of baptizing Myla Rose Pater, daughter of Marshall and Tawni. May the name of the Lord be praised for his wonderful gifts of new life and gospel hope!

Brett and Laura Van Meeteren have recently moved back to the area and rejoined our congregation. The elders have approved the reactivation of both Brett and Laura's confessing membership here at First. Please be sure to welcome them when you see them!

Prayer Warriors: Please meet in the sanctuary after this morning's service to meet quickly before helping set up for Christmas program practice or going to catechism.

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.

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!

Circle #5 will be having a Burger Feed on December 19 from 5:00-7:30. The boys basketball team will be playing HBC at home, so come on out and enjoy a burger before the game, all while supporting SWC. A burger meal will include a burger and all the fixings, chips, homemade bar and a drink for \$8.

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!

Do you have an hour available on Friday mornings? Come join Moms in Prayer. We meet each Friday morning throughout the school year, starting August 23. We meet at 8:15 at SWC High School. We pray over our school, students, teachers and staff. We'd love for you to join us. This is open to all moms, no matter the age of your kids. Join us each week, or whenever a Friday morning works for you. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Kimber Van Essen at 507-220-3465

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!

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 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 8:

Nursery: **AM** – Kim V, Katie F, Ashley Sch, 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

NEXT WEEK- DECEMBER 15:

Nursery: **AM** – Nicole V, Kelsey S, Kaitlyn S, Levi VH, Isaac S

PM- Morgan S, Shawn S, Mara B, Blaire T

Valet: Mark S

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

Sound: AM – Ray S PM- Ray S

Video: Nilson VH

Projection: Orey/Jody

Medical Assistant: Brenda K

Children's Worship: Carmen F & Jaycee K

Praise Team: Mark, Greg, Kirk, Kurt, Brad, Seth

Keyboard: Sarah & Brittany

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