

The Lord’s Day – December 7, 2025

Morning Worship - 9:30 A.M.

Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude – “*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*” – “*Birthday of a King*” – “*Joy to the World*”

Welcome & Announcements

Advent Reading and Lighting – Brett and Laura Van Meeteren

Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship: Revelation 7:9-10

*Opening Songs of Adoration - “*Glorious Light*” & “*Angels We Have Heard on High*” (#347)

Standard of Righteousness: Colossians 4:5-6

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

*Song of Gratitude: “*Blessed Assurance*” (#490)

Musical Offering: “*Bethlehem Lullaby*” – Kids’ 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: Isaiah 49:1-7 (p. 1138)

Sermon: “Joyful, All Ye Nations, Rise”

*Song of Response: “*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*” (#345)

Prayer of the Lord’s People

Offering: Christian Education

Offertory Song: “*Joy Has Dawned*”

*Benevolence

*Parting Song: “*Immanuel, Immanuel*”

Next Sunday's Offering: Luke Society

The Lord’s Day – December 7, 2025

Evening Worship – 6:30 P.M.

Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude

Introit – Hans Talsma

Welcome & Silent Prayer

Expression of Dependence

Pastor: Hear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

Congregation: Guard my life, for I am devoted to you. You are my God; save your servant who trusts in you.

*Call to Worship: Psalm 126:1-3

*Opening Song of Honor: “*O Come, All Ye Faithful*” (#340)

Prayer of the Lord’s People

*Song of Gratitude: “*Before the Throne of God Above*”

Scripture Reading: Esther 9:1-10:3 (p. 785)

Sermon: “Reversals are Worth Remembering”

*Song of Response: “*What God Ordains Is Always Right*” (#451)

Prayer for the Offering

Offering: Christian Education

Offertory: Clara Talsma

*Confession of the Faith: The Apostles’ Creed

*Benediction

*Closing Song: “*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*” (#638)

SERMON NOTES – December 7, 2025

“Joyful, All Ye Nations, Rise”
Isaiah 49:1-7

“Reversals are Worth Remembering”
Esther 9:1-10:3

REFORMATION MATTERS: "Few know enough to start each day with a thoroughgoing stand upon Luther's platform: *you are accepted*, looking outward in faith and claiming the wholly alien righteousness of Christ as the only ground for acceptance, relaxing in that quality of trust which will produce increasing sanctification as faith is active in love and gratitude. In order for a pure and lasting work of spiritual renewal to take place within the church, multitudes within it must be led to build their lives on this foundation...not just at the outset of their Christian lives but in every succeeding day." - Richard Lovelace, in *"Dynamics of Spiritual Life"*

THIS WEEK’S OPPORTUNITIES:

Today	9:30 am	- Morning Worship
	NO 6:30 pm	Catechism, Sunday School or Living for the King Class
	6:30 pm	- Evening Worship
Tue	7:00 pm	- Council/Consistory
Wed	9:30 am	- Coffee Break and Story Hour
	5:45 pm	- Adult Bells
	6:00 pm	- Kids of Grace
	6:30 pm	- Coffee Break
		- GEMS- Christmas Caroling and Christmas Party
Thur		- Cadets
	9:30 am	- Christian Fellowship

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES:

Dec 17	6:30 pm	- Youth group and Kids of Grace Christmas Party at 1 st CRC
Dec 18	7:00 pm	- Friendship
Dec 21	6:30 pm	- Christmas Program

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cadets will meet on Wednesday, December 10. 4th graders need to meet at Bethel at 6:00 to head to Sibley, IA to see the model railroad train set up. All other cadets will meet from 6:30-8:30 at Bethel.

We will soon be starting a new book in our Saturday morning men's ministry, "Theology for Breakfast." We will be reading through *"Words from the Cross"* by Ian Hamilton beginning January 10. The church will provide a free copy of the book to any of the men in our congregation who wish to join us. There is a sign-up list for the book outside the Fellowship Hall.

Last year, in order to mitigate the spread of illness, the Council decided to suspend mutual greeting during the service and shaking hands at the doors after the service during the months of December, January, and February. That will be the plan for these months this year as well.

Children will have program practice December 7, 14, and 21—students up to 8th grade **will meet in their classrooms after AM church for cookies**. Then around 10:50 students will practice in the sanctuary till 11:30. 3 year olds are welcome to join the 4-5 year old class (children’s worship room) in the basement after church for cookies or parents can bring their child to practice as well. There will be bell practice in

the balcony 11:30 for students 3rd-8th grade interested in playing bells for the program. Help with risers would be wonderful for those able to assist right after AM church. Kids 3-year-old through 8th grade will meet in the front sanctuary at 10:50-11:20 to go through songs for the Christmas program together. They can have cookies and juice prior to practice since there is no Catechism or Sunday School.

Classis Minnkota is excited to once again offer a scholarship grant to its confessing members who currently are full-time or part-time students attending one of institutions endorsed by the CRC (US institutions include Dordt University, Calvin University, Kuyper College, and Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights). If you are a current student enrolled at one of these schools, please talk to Pastor Scott for an application. ***The deadline to apply is December 20, 2025.***

There will be a change to the December 21 offering. The offering will now be for Cadets instead of New Life Treatment Center.

Lori Fey will be holding a violin recital for students from Bethel CRC and First CRC on TODAY at 3:00 at Bethel CRC. All are welcome to attend.

Please DO NOT place large objects on the mailboxes. If the mailbox won't shut, please place the item on top of the mailboxes and place a note in the mailbox. Large items in the boxes make it hard for others to get mail in and out of the boxes.

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Papa Murphy's Fundraiser – December 8

Circle #11 is excited to once again offer Papa Murphy's Take & Bake Pizzas! Pizzas will be made fresh and available for pickup Monday, December 8, from 3:15–5:00 PM in the high school cafeteria. Choose from: Cheese, Pepperoni, Cowboy, Sweet Swine, Garlic Chicken, or 3-Meat — all for \$15 each. Can't make it on Monday? No problem! You can text Daci (507-227-8540) your order, and arrangements can be made for pickup at the high school later in the week.

Additional pickup opportunities:

- Tuesday, December 9 – after the varsity basketball game
- December 16 & 18 – as pizzas remain available

Thank you for supporting Circle #11 and SWC!

Frozen Christmas cookie cut outs are still available! They come in 3 different shapes, ready to bake and let you, your kids or grandkids decorate. It's a delicious activity for Christmas break! Don't wait, they are going fast!

Available Tuesday, Dec 9th, following the boys basketball game, in the cafeteria, or contact Michelle Moosey 507-351-9562. Cost: \$7 for 1 dozen \$20 for 3 dozen.

Looking for a way to support the choir's trip to New York and Carnegie Hall? Not looking forward to the hassle of wrapping your Christmas presents this year? Great news! The choir kids and their families will wrap your gifts for you! Simply bring your gifts and a free-will donation to the high school cafeteria on Wednesday, December 10th, from 4:00-8:00 PM. Tell us your preference, and we'll label your wrapped

gifts with a name or a description of the item. Stay and wait, or go and run some errands while your presents are wrapped. Let the choir help make your holidays less stressful while you help fund their spring trip! Wrapping paper, ribbons, bows, gift tags and even boxes will be provided. For questions, please contact Greg Masselink.

The High School Christmas Program **“Promise of Light”** will be **performed at 7:00 PM on Monday, December 8th at Bethel CRC**. Join our bands and choirs as they sing and play songs that remind us of the fulfilled promise of a Savior who would be a light and Savior to the World. Notable inclusions include a unique Celtic arrangement of a “What Child is This?” alongside the crowd favorite “Sleigh Ride” performed by the SWC concert band. The choirs are preparing a variety of pieces including a student favorite thought-provoking piece performed by One Accord titled, “Let the Stable Still Astonish”, the addition of 2 more movements to Elaine Hagenberg's “Illuminare” prepared by the Chamber Choir, and the full combined choirs singing of the longing for a promise fulfilled in “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”.

The **SWC K-8 Band & Choir Christmas Concert** is just around the corner, on Monday, December 15, at 7:00pm at the SWC Elementary gym. Our students are busy preparing a joyful celebration of the season just for you! You can expect a heart-warming blend of classic Christmas tunes and songs that point us to the real hope and wonder of Jesus' birth. It's always a highlight of the year—an evening filled with music, smiles, and the sweet sound of children sharing the Good News! Please join us as we rejoice in the Savior's birth this Christmas season.

The concert will also be live streamed at <https://christensenbroadcastnetwork.com/sports/>

COMMUNITY & MISC

Edgerton Food Shelf Angel Tree: We invite you to participate in our 4th 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. 29 - Dec. 17. 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!

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

TODAY- DECEMBER 7:

Nursery: **AM** – Alex & Shannon N, Evon VH, Hartley B, Jaycee K
PM- Katie F, Carrie T, Mara B, Shelbi K
Valet: Dale M
Ushers: Lester S, Judd P, Steve E, Rod C
Sound: AM – Ray S PM – Ray S
Video: Jacob M
Projection: Jan/Jared
Medical Assistant: Nick S
Children’s Worship: Mindy B & Isaac S
Praise Team: Kirk, Brad, Mark, Kurt, Seth, Greg
Keyboard: Brittany

NEXT WEEK- DECEMBER 14:

Nursery: **AM** – Marshall & Tawni P, Lexi G, Kinley S, Carli S
PM- Haley V, Macy H, Vera P, Blaire T
Valet: Dan H
Ushers: Lester S, Judd P, Steve E, Rod C
Sound: AM – Jesse VH PM – Jesse VH
Video: Kade F
Projection: Kaden/Jonathan
Medical Assistant: Brenda K
Children’s Worship: Kelsey S & Lily M

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
A&K L. Global Serve International South East Asia		

CHURCH INFORMATION