

Christmastide
December 29, 2019

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude
Still, Still, Still by Barbara Boertje (based on the Austrian carol)
Sing We Now of Christmas/He is Born, the Divine Christ Child Barbara Boertje

WE APPROACH OUR GOD

The Welcome
*The Carol
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*The Call to Worship
Leader: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
People: On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.
Leader: Jesus Christ is our life and light.
People: In His name and in His power, let us worship God!

*The Carols
***Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
The First Noel***

*The Greeting

The Song
Light of the World L. Daigle, P. Duncan, P. Mabury arr. Galbraith

The Prayer for God's Presence
Leader: O Immanuel,
People: O Wisdom from on high,
Leader: O Lord of might,
People: O Branch of Jesse's stem,
Leader: O Key of David,
People: O Bright and Morning Star,
Leader: O King of nations,
**People: We rejoice and are glad during this Christmas season, for truly You have come,
full of grace and truth.**
Leader: Even now, come into our hearts again.
People: Show us the path of knowledge.
Leader: Comfort us in our mourning.
People: Save us from our sin.
Leader: Open wide our way to heaven.
People: Turn our darkness into light.
Leader: End our sad divisions and be our King of peace,
**People: so that every creature in heaven and on earth will join in a chorus of praise,
and shout with joy to You, our Lord. Amen.**

*The Songs of Gratitude
***Here I Am to Worship
Christ Be Our Light***

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lessons
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Isaiah 63:7 - 64:1, Matthew 2:13-23

The Message
"The Reality of It All"

The Song of Reflection
One Still Night Neil and Kate DeGraide

The Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS

The Offering
The Offertory Prayer
The Offertory
Sonata C.P.E. Bach

The News of the Church Alive

*The Sending Carol
Go Tell It

*The Benediction

*The Postlude

*All who are able, please stand

Worship Leaders:

Preaching – Lorie Jonkman; Liturgists – The Doug Diekman family; Organ – Beth Sweers; Saxophone - Jeffrey Allardyce, Barbara Boertje DeVries; Soloist - Susie Jolink; Praise Team

NEXT SUNDAY: "Jesus Christ is Seizing Us!"; John 1:1-18

PRAYER TEAM

Elders will be available at the front of the sanctuary following the service to pray with you or listen to your needs or concerns.

TODAY at FRC

Welcome to First Reformed Church in Grandville during Christmastide! We bask in the glory of our Lord's birth and welcome Lorie Jonkman to the pulpit today. Lorie is a recent Western Seminary graduate currently seeking a call to pastoral ministry, as well as a member here at FRC. Welcome, Lorie! If you are visiting, a warm welcome to you as well. If you are searching for a church home and would like more information about First Reformed Church, please stop at the Welcome Desk near the main entrance. A time for coffee and fellowship follows our service in the room to your left. Hope to see you there!

HELPERS TODAY

Nursery Today: Infant: Marlene McKian, Ellie Kleinheksel
Toddler: Phil & Nicole Malnar, Aiden Adams
Nursery Next Week: Infant: Stephanie Lancto, Eva VanEck
Toddler: Kristin Russell, Matthew Singer, Ben Smitley

Ushers Today: Duane Frens Dan Wolma Steve Sweers Jim Danek
Ushers Next Week: Bob Holwerda Mark Donker Tim Kooima Nate VanDyk
Today Next Week
Coffee Servers: Ed & Mary Jo Messenger Karen Diekema
Kevin & Bobbi Meyer Don Scovel
Greeters: Gordy & Carol Waddell Curt & Carol Stoel
Ed & Mary Jo Messenger Karen Diekema

Stewardship Update – December 29, 2019

Dec. 22 Offering: \$ 24,670.00
Dec. 22 Online Giving: \$ 3,700.00
Dec. 22 Miscellaneous Offering: \$ 14,750.00
Total Offering for week Dec. 22: \$ 43,120.00
December Total: \$103,481.00
December Goal: \$140,000.00

Outstanding Mortgage Balance \$372,711.00

Text to Give - 616-208-4301

A detailed financial report is available in the church office.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jack Kosten 84 on the 2nd Fran Rinkus 91 on the 28th
Lois Kosten 83 on the 11th David Kuiper 80 on the 30th
Don Ferris 84 on the 27th

The **Food Pantry** is in need of jelly, peanut butter, pancake mix, syrup, cereal, and juice. You may leave your donations in the grocery cart in the Activity Center. Thanks!

In case of an emergency and no one is at church you may call Pastors Bud Pratt - 708-302-5645,
Matt Cook - 616-893-4189 or consistory vice president Kevin Meyer - 616-719-9652, or any of the other elders.

Phone: 534-5465
Prayer Line: 534-0113



Email: mail@firstgrandville.org
Fax: 534-1185

Radio Broadcast Sunday mornings at 9:30am - WFUR - 102.9

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH PRAYERS & CONCERNS

For prayer updates during the week, please call the **Prayer Line** – 534-0113

We extend prayers of healing & comfort for:

- **Marie Roos**, recovering from surgery for a broken femur at Medilodge.
- **Dave Timmerman**, home recovering and preparing to see a pulmonary specialist.
- **Judy Baartman**, a patient at Butterworth.
- **Doug Koster**, recovering from back surgery.
- **Jeff VanDuinen**, recovering from hip surgery.
- **Continued prayers for: Roy DeJonge, Jack Kosten, Joyce Bolthouse, Ed Kingma, Brian Kehr, Shirley Ghysels, Charlie Cobb, Curt Stoel, Kaitlin Kremers Lyons**

Please keep all our military troops in your prayers, especially:

- **Dustin Lambries, Jeremy Stegehuis, Jeff Shuck & Tony Shuck** (Betty Isenga's grandsons), **Edward Peter Tolhurst** (Pat Bird's nephew)

Please keep in your hearts and minds:

- Our **Family at Home members** - Nelly Baak, Judy Baartman, Vern & Norma Boss, Milo Buikema, Sharon Bouwman, Bill & Helen Dertien, Arlene Jacobitz, Kathy Kermeen, Joyce Kooman, Ev Lindhout, Kay Mekkes, Dorothy VanderLaan, Bea Verburg, Evelyn Watson, Lois Wing, Mary Zomerlei

THANK YOU...

...to everyone who took the time to send me Christmas cards this year. It touched my heart. **Evelyn Watson**

THIS WEEK

The office will have limited hours this week so please call ahead. The office will be closed on Wednesday, January 1. The office will be open Tuesday, December 31, from 9:00am - noon for any last minute financial gifts.

FRIDAY

9:30am MomBreak - Diane Katsma - Mombreakmk@yahoo.com or 616-291-2443

Advanced Calendar

Jan. 5 - A Workshop" Overconsumption and How We Can Fight Back - we will focus on our homes - heating and cooling.

Jan. 7 - Esther Circle - Joyce Bolthouse - 643-8223

Jan. 7 - WyldLife - Abbie Chamberlain - abbie.chamberlain@harborchurches.org

Jan. 8 - Blood Drive

Jan. 8 - Global Mission Council - Jeff Muller - 889-5187

Jan. 13 - Facilities Council - Steve Westrick - 893-6838

Jan. 13 - Worship Council - Denise Poll - 340-5325

Jan. 14 - Anna Circle - Lynne Rosema - 901-5784

Jan. 19 - All church lunch following worship

Maple Tree Preschool's 2020-2021 registration opens on January 1!

Tell your friends, neighbors, and family about Maple Tree Preschool! Classes for ages 3-5 are available in a two, three, four, or five half day format. To find out if Maple Tree Preschool is the right fit, invite families to our open houses on Saturday, January 11, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm and Monday, February 3, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm. Registration is available online and at the open house. For online registration and a virtual tour, go to www.mapletreepreschool.org.

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CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

There will be no **Children in Worship or Sunday School** until January 12.

There will be no more **FOCUS** until January 8.

ADVANCE NOTICE - Since camp registration for summer opens up in January and for those of you starting to plan dates for your kids and your family summer vacations....mark in your calendar VBS for the week of June 22nd.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Jr. & Sr. High - No Sunday School until January 12.

Collision (5th & 6th graders) - February 2 from noon to 1:30pm.

Jr. High Youth Group (7th & 8th graders) - on Christmas break. We will resume January 8.

Sr. High Youth Group (9th - 12th graders) - We will be on Christmas break and resume on January 5 for sledding at Johnson Park. Meet at 6:15 at the Youth Lounge for pizza. Bring your own sled.

Please fill out and turn in the Spring Hill Retreat form to Jeff ASAP.

Youth mission trip - The high school youth group is going to Washington D.C. June 14th - 20th. Please pray for them as they plan for the trip.

Youth Mission Trip fundraisers:

- **Pop can drive** - There will be a labeled trash can in the Youth Lounge all year for you to drop off your empty cans.

Please follow our Jr. High & Sr. High Social Media pages:

Instagram - First_Reformed Youth

Facebook - First Reformed Youth

Camp registrations to **Camp Geneva and Cran Hill Ranch** are available in the kiosk.

LOOKING AHEAD

Blood Drive - We will be hosting a blood drive on Wednesday, January 8, from 3:30pm-7:00pm in the Parlor. You can sign up to give blood at the Sign Up Center, call 866-642-5663 or schedule directly at:

https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/127367

VOLUNTEERS, DONATIONS & MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Mission trip to Annville, KY - If you are interested in going on the mission trip to Annville April 5-11, please put your name on the sheet at the sign-up center or contact Paul Brinks, Terry Jolink, Larry Kuipers, or Steve Watson. The cost is \$250 per person and includes meals and lodging.

Hat & Mitten collection - The Esther Circle will be collecting hats and mittens to be distributed to different agencies for needy children. There is a collection box under the mailboxes.

Matthew's House - Is in need of men's and women's coats. Place donations in the box under the mailslots. Questions? Contact Karen Diekema - 644-0820 or Carol Bernson - 667-8821.

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