

ADVENT III
December 13, 2020

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Traditional, arr. David Nevue

WE APPROACH OUR GOD

The Advent Call *Shine On Us, O God of Justice* PICARDY, Traditional French melody 17 C.

The Advent Reading (*From the perspective of Zechariah when he can finally share: the King is coming!*) Kevin Kruienza

Hanging the Jesse Tree Ornaments

The Welcome

*The Advent Hymn ***Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*** Charles Wesley, HYFRYDOL
Rowland Prichard, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

*The Call to Worship

Leader 1: The Lord has done great things for us! based on Psalm 126

All: And we are filled with joy!

Leader 2: Our God has turned our weeping into singing, our tears into songs of joy!

Leader 1: O Christ, who is one with God, come anew in our hearts this day,

Leader 2: and grant that Your Spirit will remain in us forever.

All: As we continue our Advent journey, let us praise and worship our triune God - the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*The Songs of Praise ***Hark! the Herald Angels Sing/King of Heaven*** Charles Wesley, Felix Mendelssohn
Paul Baloche, Jason Ingram

Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy

Leader 1: O God, we light the third candle of Advent, the candle of joy.

Leader 2: We look to John, the one You sent, to point us to Your light. The light will come into our world and enlighten us all. May we respond to Your light with deeper faith.

Leader 3: God sent John the Baptizer to prepare the people for the coming of Jesus Christ, the true Light of the world. John called for people to repent of their sins and to live faithfully. He baptized with a cleansing water and proclaimed the new life that Christ, the one who would follow him, would bring.

Leader 1: This Advent, we ask for God's mercy and a joyful new beginning.

Leader 2: Merciful God, we give thanks that You send messengers like John to call us to greater faith. We ask that in these days we prepare for You in prayer and with acts of compassion.

Leader 1: Christ be our light! Amen.

The Advent Song *One Light* Lorraine Nelson Wolf

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 61:1-4, John 1:1-9, 19-28

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Message **"The Voice Crying Out"**

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

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS

*The Carol ***What Child Is This?*** William C. Dix, GREENSLEEVES
English melody, harm. John Stainer

The News of the Church Alive

*The Carol	Good Christian Friends, Rejoice	German/Latin medieval; tr. John M. Neale IN DULCI JUBILO German, 14 th C.
*The Benediction		
*The Postlude	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	French carol melody, arr. Dale Wood
*All who are able, please stand		

Worship Leaders:

Preaching – Pastor Bud Pratt; Liturgists –Kevin Meyer, The Kleinheksel family; Organ – Beth Sweers; Solo – Scott Johnson; Praise Team

Please follow our church social media pages:

Instagram: frcgrandville
Facebook: First Reformed Church

Stewardship Update – December 13, 2020

Week of December 7	
December 6 Collection Plate	\$ 0,000.00
Online Giving:	\$ 4,267.00
Mail in Offering:	\$ 17,195.00
Total Offering:	\$ 21,462.00
December Total:	\$ 21,462.00
December Goal:	\$120,000.00
Thanksgiving Goal:	\$ 20,000.00
Thanksgiving Offering:	\$ 17,905.00
Outstanding Mortgage Balance	\$227,578.00
Text to Give - 616-208-4301	

BIBLE READING ZOOM CLASS

Each Wednesday through the middle of December, Pastor Bud is hosting a ZOOM virtual Bible reading of the Gospel of John at 6:30 PM for 45 minutes or so. Fellowship time is included at the beginning of each session. An all-church email is sent on Tuesdays for you to join us through a ZOOM link.

THANK YOU...

...so much for your care for our family during Jack's illness and recent passing. Your constant prayers, visits, cards, phone calls, and many expressions of kindness and support were such a blessing. We are encouraged and blessed to know that Jack is in the company of our Lord and Savior and is singing with the angels. Warm regards, **The Kosten family**
...to all who donated toys to the **Other Way Christmas Store**. **We collected 510 toys!**

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:

- **Barb Holwerda**, having surgery on torn tendons in her foot on December 16.
- **Betty Isenga**, recovering from a virus
- **Leonora Smit**, at home recovering.
- **Larry Kuipers**, recovering from shoulder surgery.
- **Don Alderink**, diagnosed with non hodgkins lymphoma and is undergoing treatment.
- **Dorothy VanderLaan**, at Brookcrest under hospice care.
- **Mike Dertien**, going through radiation.
- Bryce & Ali Lutke's baby girl, **Emery Jane**, is in the NICU due to premature birth.
- **Henry Vos Jr.** (Eileen Zwart's brother) has Covid and is hospitalized.
- **BJ Veneklasen**, going through a third round of chemo.
- **Jakob Kempema** (Don & Carole Kempema's grandson), undiagnosed illness.
- Pray for anyone affected in any way by **the Corona virus**.
- **Continued prayers for: Karin Dykstra, Emmett Hough, Chuck Duimstra, Roy DeJonge, Curt Stoel, Lois Sweers, Kaitlin Kremers Lyons, Rikki Leanne DePuy.**

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** – Eloise Anderson, Judy Baartman, Crystal Baum, Vern & Norma Boss, Milo Buikema, Bill & Helen Dertien, Arlene Jacobitz, Ev Lindhout, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Dorothy VanderLaan, Evelyn Watson, Mary Zomerlei

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

TODAY from 11:00 AM-12:00 PM (following the online service) we will host another **drive-through event for Medical Workers** on the front lines in the battle against Covid-19. We will be collecting generic Thank-You cards for these workers to be distributed at local hospitals, as well as collecting monetary gifts to purchase a meal for them.

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.

Maple Tree Preschool Fundraisers

Scholastic Book Orders:

Stock up on birthday and Christmas gifts for your grandchildren/children! When you order from Scholastic, it earns Maple Tree rewards including books, preschool toys, manipulatives and classroom supplies for free!

HOME DELIVERY: During the COVID-19 crisis, you can choose at checkout to have book orders shipped to Maple Tree Preschool or to your homes.

Order Online at [Scholastic Book Clubs](#)

Sign in or create an account.

Connect to Maple Tree Preschool by entering our Class Code: P63H2

Books are ordered monthly (September-April).

