

ADVENT IV
December 20, 2020

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard
Arr. Linda R. Lamb

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 a shepherd as the angels proclaim that the King is near!*) Kevin Kruienza

Hanging the Jesse Tree Ornaments

The Welcome

*The Advent Hymn ***My Soul Cries Out*** based on *Magnificat*, Rory Cooney
STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional

*The Call to Worship based on Psalm 89, Luke 1:46-50
Leader 1: I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make Your faithfulness known through all generations.

All: Our souls magnify the Lord! Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

Leader 2: I will declare that Your love stands firm forever, that You have established Your faithfulness in heaven itself.

Leader 1: The mighty One has done great things for us! Holy is God's name!

Leader 2: For God is our Maker and our Redeemer; from generation to generation God gives mercy.

All: As we continue our Advent journey, let us praise and worship our Maker and our Redeemer.

*The Songs of Praise ***Adore with O Come All Ye Faithful*** Graham Kendrick, Martin Chalk
Tr. C. Frederick Oakeley, ADESTE FIDELIS, John Francis Wade

Lighting the Advent Candle of Love

Leader 1: O God, we light the fourth candle of Advent, the candle of love.

Leader 2: We hear Your angel Gabriel and witness the faith of Mary. Fill us with Your grace and light.

Leader 3: Mary was a young, strong, spiritual woman. Even though her life was not easy, she heard God's voice and said "yes". Her song was a prayer that would uplift those who were downtrodden. Her words shattered the proud and called the world to change. She would bear within her the promised Child, Jesus, the light of the world.

Leader 4: This Advent, we respond to God's calling to us.

Leader 5: Revealing God, visit us and fill us with Your Spirit. Bring Your good news to life within us. Give us courage to carry Your light into the injustices and shadows of the world.

Leader 6: Christ be our light! Amen.

The Advent Song *One Light* Lorraine Nelson Wolf

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Message **"When God Becomes Small"**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

The Bell Carol

O Little Town of Bethlehem Arr. Linda R. Lamb
ST. LOUIS Lewis H. Redner, STILLE NACHT Franz X. Gruber

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS

The News of the Church Alive

*The Carol

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA Traditional French carol
Arr. Edward S. Barnes, Richard E. Gerig

*The Benediction

*The Postlude

Intonation on Mendelssohn

Jan Bender

*All who are able, please stand

Worship Leaders:

Preaching – Pastor Bud Pratt; Liturgists – Tony Williams, June Williams, the Dragicevich family; Organ – Beth Sweers; Solo – El Zwart; Bells of Joy; Praise Team

Please follow our church social media pages:

Instagram: frcgrandville

Facebook: First Reformed Church

Stewardship Update – December 20, 2020

Week of December 14

December 6 Collection Plate \$ 0,000.00

Online Giving: \$ 14,887.00

Mail in Offering: \$ 21,796.00

Total Offering: \$ 36,683.00

December Total: \$ 58,145.00

December Goal: \$120,000.00

Thanksgiving Goal: \$ 20,000.00

Thanksgiving Offering: \$ 17,605.00

Outstanding Mortgage Balance \$207,578.00

Text to Give - 616-208-4301

THANK YOU...

...to all who donated cards and money for our medical workers! We collected 72 cards and \$620.00!

... for the prayers and cards during my recent recovery from shoulder surgery. **Larry Kuipers**

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).



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**, recovering from surgery on torn tendons in her foot.
- **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.
- **Deb Oskam** (daughter-in-law of Maria Oskam), has pre cancer of the uterus and needs a hysterectomy.
- Pray for anyone affected in any way by **the Corona virus**.
- **Continued prayers for: Betty Isenga, Leonora Smit, Don Alderink, Dorothy VanderLaan, Karin Dykstra, Emmett Hough, Chuck Duimstra, Roy DeJonge, Curt Stoel, Jakob Kempema, Kaitlin Kremers Lyons, Rikki Leanne DePuy.**

Congratulations to:

- **Jeff & Jeanna Watson**, at the birth of a baby boy, Dominic James, on December 12.

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

