

Christmastide
January 3, 2021

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude

O Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go

Albert L. Peace arr. John Purifoy

WE APPROACH OUR GOD

The Welcome

*The Hymn

Angels from the Realms of Glory

James Montgomery
REGENT SQUARE, Henry Smart

*The Call to Worship

God's Promises for a New Year

based on 2 Corinthians 1:20-22

Leader 1: Here we are on the first Sunday of a new year. For many, a new year means a fresh start.

We may have made promises or resolutions for 2021 or perhaps we are hoping to break some bad habits.

Maybe we'll succeed, maybe we'll fail.

Leader 2: Let us be reminded that we are here to worship a God who always makes good on His word.

In Jesus Christ, God has promised us renewal, freedom from the hold of sin, and eternal salvation.

Leader 1: All of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ!

Leader 2: He has anointed us, set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. Let us worship Christ, the newborn King!

*The Songs of Praise

That's Why We Praise Him
How Great Is Our God

Tommy Walker
Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, Ed Cash

The Confession of Sin

Leader 1: For all the things we have done wrong in the past against God and against people, we now ask the Lord and one another for forgiveness.

Leader 2: Lord Jesus, Yours are the seasons and the ages. Give us a new heart and a new spirit: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

Leader 1: Jesus Christ, You are the beginning and the end of all that is, including our lives.

Leader 2: Make a new beginning with all of us: Christ, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader 1: Lord Jesus, You breathe Your Spirit on all creation.

Leader 2: Make our old world new again: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

Leader 1: Have mercy on us, Lord, and let Your forgiveness and love come down on us day after day.

Leader 2: Lord, lead each one of us to life everlasting. Amen.

The Words of Assurance

from Revelation 21:1-6

Leader 1: Behold: there is a new heaven, a new earth and a new city, where the river of life flows, where the tree of life bears fruit in every season.

Leader 2: This heaven, this city, this river, this tree are a vision of your life reborn, restored, and renewed.

All: Thanks be to God!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lesson

John 1:1-18

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Message

"New Beginnings"

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

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS

The News of the Church Alive

*The Sending Song

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Graham Kendrick

*The Benediction

*The Postlude

Toccata

Johann Pachelbel

*All who are able, please stand

Worship Leaders:

Preaching – Pastor Matt Cook; Liturgist – Kathy Carpenter; Organ – Barb Vander Heide; Praise Team

Please follow our church social media pages:

Instagram: frcgrandville

Facebook: First Reformed Church

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:

- **Evelyn Lindhout**, in the hospital following a heart attack.
- **Janet Pofahl**, in Georgia recovering from pneumonia.
- **Helen Dertien**, transferred to Brookcrest Nursing Home.
- **Mike Dertien**, going through radiation.
- **Deb Oskam** (daughter-in-law of Maria Oskam), recovering from cancer surgery.
- Pray for anyone affected in any way by **the Corona virus**.
- **Continued prayers for: BJ Veneklasen, 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.**

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, Bill & Helen Dertien, Arlene Jacobitz, Ev Lindhout, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Dorothy VanderLaan, Evelyn Watson, Mary Zomerlei

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Lois Kosten	84 on the 11 th
Don Ferris	85 on the 27 th
Fran Rinkus	92 on the 28 th
David Kuiper	81 on the 30 th