

**Advent I**  
November 28, 2021

**WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP**

The Prelude

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*  
(Based on the tune by Rowland H. Prichard)

arr. Gregg Sewell

**WE APPROACH OUR GOD**

The Welcome and Greeting

\*The Advent Hymn

***Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus***

Charles Wesley, HYFRYDOL  
Rowland H. Prichard, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

\*The Call to Worship

Leader 1: What are you waiting for?

Leader 2: We wait in HOPE for the Lord;

**People: But if we HOPE for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.**

Leader 1: Where is your HOPE?

Leader 2: The grace of God appears to all people.

Leader 1: It teaches us to live in this present age while we wait for the blessed HOPE – the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**People: But as for me, I watch in HOPE for the LORD. I wait for God my Savior.**

\*The Song of Praise

***Hope for Everyone***

Matt Maher, Jason Ingram

The Advent Candle Lighting

Reader 1: Advent is a time of waiting.

Reader 2: We wait in anticipation of Christmas, the celebration of Christ's birth.

Reader 1: We wait in expectation and hope for the day when Christ comes again.

Reader 2: Today, we light the candle of hope. As we wait, let us be people of hope.

The Advent Song

***Come, Messiah King***

Randy Vader

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lesson

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Luke 21:25-36

The Message

**"A Future World"**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS**

The Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Song

***Jesus, Messiah***

Daniel Carson, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation

The Meaning of the Sacrament

\*The Affirmation of Faith

The Communion Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

The Apostles' Creed

(Today we will come forward to receive the bread and cup, and bring our communion offering.  
Please come forward using the center aisle and return using the side aisles.)

The Communion Music

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming  
Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Traditional, arr. David Nevue  
*Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, arr. Jay Rouse  
Rowland H. Prichard, arr. Jay Rouse

\*The Thanksgiving

**Your Name (Christmas Version)**

Paul Baloche, Glenn Packiam

\*The News of the Church Alive

\*The Benediction

\*The Postlude

*Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*

Philip Nicolai, arr. John Carter

\*All who are able, please stand

**Worship Leaders:** Preaching – Pastor Bud Pratt; Liturgists – Kathy Geurink, Pastor Matt Cook, The Donker Family; Organist – Beth Sweers; Praise Team

**Please follow our church social media pages:**

Instagram: [frcgrandville](#)

Facebook: First Reformed Church

**Stewardship Update:**

November 21 Collection Plate	\$ 6,405.00
Online Giving:	<u>\$ 4,942.00</u>
Total Offering:	\$ 11,347.00

Average weekly offering needed to make 2021 budget	\$ 16,975.00
2021 Annual budget	\$882,740.00

**Text to Give** - 616-208-4301

Budget Update as of October 31, 2021

Offerings received	\$643,496.00
Expenses paid	- <u>\$647,083.00</u>
	(\$ - 3,587.00)

**TODAY'S HAPPENINGS**

**No Sunday Children's Programming today.** It will resume next week.

**No Middle School & High School Bible study and youth group today.** It will resume next week.

**YOUTH HAPPENINGS**

**Young Life** (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) – meets Monday, November 29, at 7:27pm at the Brinks home – 3936 Hall St. Questions? Contact Jeff Watson at [jeffw@firstgrandville.org](mailto:jeffw@firstgrandville.org) or 616-250-7148.

**WyldLife** (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade) – meets the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month in the Family Life Center.

**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.

**OTHER HAPPENINGS**

**Adult Sunday school** – December 5 following worship. Denominational discussion with Bob Stelma and Kathy Carpenter. Talking about and reflecting on recent activity and issues within the denomination.

**ADVENT FESTIVAL** - We will be having our annual Advent Festival **TODAY** from 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm

**Women in the Word** – meets Wednesday mornings at 9:30 in the upstairs adult ed room. The study for this week includes pages 197-209. Questions? Call Marilyn Stelma – 616-450-6008

**Anna Circle** – meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month from 9:30am – 11:00am in the upstairs small adult ed room. We are studying the book *Winning the War in Your Mind*.

**Bells of Joy** – Tuesdays, 6:30pm.

**Chancel Choir** – Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:00pm

**FOCUS** – Wednesdays - Dinner (with covid protocol) begins at 5:30 PM. Dinner will be chicken enchiladas. Classes for kids and adults begin at 6:30pm. Chancel choir meets from 7:00-8:00pm. Masks will be encouraged throughout the evening as we begin gathering in close quarters.

### **WAYS OF GIVING**

We are collecting new unopened toys for the **Other Way Christmas Store** (unwrapped with prices still attached). You can find a list of needed items in your mailslot. The Christmas Store makes these gifts available to low income families at greatly reduced prices. There are boxes in the narthex for your toy donations. The toy drive ends on December 5.

**Missionary Christmas cards** - Want to send our Missionaries in the field a reminder of our love and appreciation for them this Christmas season? Our Missionaries often tell us how meaningful the Christmas cards are that they receive from First Church every year. There is a list of our missionaries in your mailslot. Please use this to label your cards and place them in the mailbox next to the congregation mailboxes by Wednesday, December 8th.

**Family at Home Christmas Cards** - Sharing the joy of Christmas with our Family at Home members is a gift you can give them by sending a card. Knowing their church family remembers them during this season is truly a gift. Simply write the member's name on the envelope. You can find a list of the Family at Home members in your mailslot. Maybe add a personal note to your card and sign your name. These cards can be dropped in the basket in the Activity Center.

### **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:**

- **Karen Diekema**, having outpatient foot surgery November 30.
- **Orlene Porte**, a patient at Blodgett following a stroke.
- **Glenn Zwart**, recovering from open heart surgery.
- **Misty Holwerda**, Bob & Barb Holwerda's daughter, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and being treated.
- **BJ Veneklasen**, under the care of hospice at her daughter's home.
- **Chuck Duimstra and his family**, as he faces ongoing and declining health issues.
- **Sarah Farney**, having surgery for subglottic stenosis on December 3 at the University of Michigan.
- **Sheri Cook** (Brian Cook's mom), under the care of hospice in the final stages of liver failure.
- Pray for anyone affected in any way by **the Corona virus**.
- **Continued prayers for: Ron Cook, Kay Mekkes, Roy DeJonge, Don Alderink, Karin Dykstra, Curt Stoel, Erica Obi, Jakob Kempema**

#### **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), **Ben Westrick**

#### **Please keep in your hearts and minds:**

- Our **Family at Home members** – Eloise Anderson, Judy Baartman, Crystal Baum, Norma Boss, Ron & Dorothy Cook, Helen Dertien, Karin Dykstra, Arlene Jacobitz, Ev Lindhout, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Bob & Lois Morehouse, Janet Pofahl, Evelyn Watson, Mary Zomerlei  
**November FAH birthdays:** 11-27 – Helen Dertien, Sunset Manor, 725 Baldwin #2046, Jenison 49428  
11-29 – Pat Marcusse, Lakeside Vista, 340 W. 40<sup>th</sup> St., Holland 49423

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 Bob Stelma - 616-822-3859, or any of the other elders.

## **THANK YOU...**

... We received this thank you note from Paula (Cards for Prisoners/70x7). This ministry is one of our Thanksgiving Offering recipients this year.

"Thank you and First Reformed for inviting me last night (Focus Night 11/17) and for all the help with the cards. I put them on my desk this morning and am amazed at how much was accomplished! I am very grateful for all your help and the love you show to everyone!"

## **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Aleksandar Cmiljic	87 on the 14 <sup>th</sup>
Lois Morehouse	80 on the 15 <sup>th</sup>
Joyce VanderMarkt	89 on the 17 <sup>th</sup>
Jerry Hart	80 on the 26 <sup>th</sup>
Ruth DeJonge	82 on the 27 <sup>th</sup>
Sheryl Tusch	85 on the 29 <sup>th</sup>
Carol Hoffman	86 on the 30 <sup>th</sup>