

Christmastide
December 26, 2021

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Music of the Season

The Prelude

WE APPROACH OUR GOD

The Welcome and Greeting

*The Carol

Angels from the Realms of Glory

James Montgomery
REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart

*The Call to Worship

Leader: Praise the Lord from the heavens.

People: Praise Him!

Leader: All His angels, praise Him, all His host,

People: Praise Him!

Leader: Sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars,

People: Praise Him!

Leader: Let us praise the name of the Lord as we continue to worship Him today.

People: PRAISE THE LORD!

*The Carol

Joy Has Dawned Upon the Earth with Angels We Have Heard on High

Stuart Townend, Keith Getty, Traditional French carol, GLORIA, arr. Edward S. Barnes

We Confess Our Shortcomings

Leader: His parents knew before He was born that Jesus was the Son of God.

People: Yet they didn't understand why He needed to be "in my Father's House".

Leader: We have been reading and hearing about celebrating the birth of Christ for many, many years.

People: Yet we don't always fully understand the role and position Jesus Christ should have in our lives.

Leader: Help us all to learn from Mary, His mother, who saw all that Jesus did and said as a child,
and treasured all these things in her heart.

The Carol

What Child Is This?

William C. Dix, Traditional English melody
GREENSLEEVES, harm. John Stainer

We Hear Words of Assurance

Leader: There are many lessons given to us through the Christmas Story.

People: We know we are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved.

Leader: Fill yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience.

People: Help us, dear Father, to fill ourselves with love which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Leader: And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

People: PRAISE THE LORD!

*The Carol

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Macaronic carol, para. John M. Neale
IN DULCI JUBILO, Traditional German melody

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:41-52

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

The Message

"Glory Be to God"

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

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS

The Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts
The Offertory Prayer
The Offertory

The News of the Church Alive

*The Sending Song *Go Tell It on the Mountain* John W. Work, Spiritual, arr. Donald P. Hustad

*The Benediction

*The Postlude *Fantasy on Joy to the World* ANTIOCH, G. F. Handel, Michael Helman

*All who are able, please stand

Worship Leaders: Preaching –Pastor Bud Pratt; Liturgist – Rebecca Hollen; Organist – Patty Pratt; Saxophone – Jeffrey Allardyce; Praise team

Please follow our church social media pages:

Instagram: frcgrandville

Facebook: First Reformed Church

Stewardship Update:

December 19 Collection Plate	\$ 24,283.00
Online Giving:	\$ 5,177.00
Total Offering:	\$ 29,460.00

Thanksgiving offering as of 12/22 \$ 20,111.00 Thank you for helping us reach our goal!

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 November 30, 2021	
Offerings received	\$713,245.00
Expenses paid	- \$709,956.00
	\$ 3,289.00

OFFICE HOURS – The office will have limited hours next week (December 27 – 31), so please call ahead. There will be someone in the office Thursday, December 30, from 9:00am – noon to receive any year end offerings.

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

No Sunday school programming until January 9. Nursery will be provided.

Jr. High & High School Bible study and Youth group will resume January 9.

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

High School Winter Retreat – Spring Hill – January 14-16. Cost is \$155. Email Jeff if you are interested - jeffw@firstgrandville.org

Jr. High Winter Retreat – TimberWolf Lake – January 28 – 30. Cost is \$165. Email Jeff if you are interested jeffw@firstgrandville.org

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

Anna Circle – meets the 2nd and 4th 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*.

Esther Circle – meets the 1st Tuesday of the month at 9:30am in the upstairs adult ed room. We are studying the Twenty Third Psalm.

Men's Bible Study meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2:30 PM. We meet at Marge's Donut Den, 1751 28th St., Wyoming, MI. Our leaders are David Bast and Mark Davis. All are welcome!

FOCUS will be done meeting until January 5, 2022.

The **Voices of Victory** male gospel music quartet will present a concert on December 31 from 8:00-11:00pm. The concert will be held here at church. You are invited to come and go as you please any time throughout the night. We will be joined from 8:45 – 9:30pm by the Hope Heralds, a GR area men's chorus. A free will offering will be taken for Georgetown Harmony Homes. Coffee and cookies will be provided. To God be the glory!

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:

- **Ben Smitley**, recovering from surgery for a torn meniscus.
- **Ted Wierenga**, at home recovering from a severely broken elbow.
- **Chuck Duimstra and his family**, as he faces ongoing and declining health issues.
- Pray for anyone affected in any way by **the Corona virus**.
- **Continued prayers for: Lois Morehouse, Glenn Zwart, Kay Mekkes, Roy DeJonge, Don Alderink, Karin Dykstra, Curt Stoel, Misty Holwerda, Erica Obi**

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, Dorothy Cook, Helen Dertien, Karin Dykstra, Arlene Jacobitz, Ev Lindhout, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Bob & Lois Morehouse, Janet Pofahl, Evelyn Watson, Mary Zomerlei

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...

... To all our First Reformed friends: Thank you so much for the wonderful Christmas cards, they meant a lot. We miss you all, but are in a wonderful place and well taken care of. Many blessings to you all. **Bob & Lois Morehouse**

...to everyone that wrote notes and cards for the FAH members. They are very much appreciated!

...to all who gave blood. Here are the results:

Goal: 22

Number of Donors: 9

Successful Donations: 5 whole blood, 1 double red = 7

No first time or milestone achievers this time.

Lives saved in our community: 17

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Lois Kosten 84 on the 11th

Marjorie Fisk 86 on the 20th

Don Ferris

Fran Rinkus

85 on the 27th

92 on the 28th