

Epiphany
January 9, 2022
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
The Reception of New Members

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude

Come With Us, O Blessed Jesus
based on the tune *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* by Johann Shop

Dale Wood

WE APPROACH OUR GOD

The Welcome and Greeting

*The Epiphany Hymn

We Three Kings of Orient Are

KINGS OF ORIENT, John H. Hopkins, Jr.

The Call to Worship

Leader 1: Today we welcome the magi into our Christmas story,

People: A story of wonder and light, of angels and shepherds.

Leader 2: In the midst of darkness, they chose to follow the light.

People: Their story gives us hope that God still sends light for us to follow.

Leader 1: We come today knowing we, too, are on a journey.

People: May we be faithful followers of the light of God so that we too can be bearers of hope and justice for a dark and lonely world.

The Anthem

Welcome to Our World

Chris Rice, arr. Lloyd Larson

The Call to Confession

Leader 1: We've come today to give praise to our God, to continue to celebrate the gift of God's Son, the light of the world.

Leader 2: We want to give God all the praise and glory, but do we?

Leader 1: God may be worthy of it all, but do we give God our all?

Leader 2: God has blessed us, but what have we given in return?

The Prayer of Confession

Leader 1: Eternal Light,

People: shine into our hearts;

Leader 2: Eternal Goodness,

People: deliver us from evil;

Leader 1: Eternal Power,

People: be our support;

Leader 2: Eternal Wisdom,

People: scatter the darkness of our ignorance;

Leader 1: Eternal Compassion,

People: have mercy upon us; that with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, we may seek Your face and be brought by Your infinite mercy to Your holy presence; through Jesus Christ our Light. Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness

1 John 1:5-7

Leader 1: This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all.

Leader 2: If we say that we have fellowship with Him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true;

People: but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from all sin.

*The Song of Response

Who You Say I Am

Ben Fielding, Reuben Morgan

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 43:1-7, Luke 3:15-22

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

The Message

“What Our Baptism Really Means”

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

We Are Called

David Haas

The Reception of New Members

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Invitation

*The Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed

The Communion Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

*The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

(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

Star In the East

The Southern Harmony, arr. Catherine McMichael

*The Thanksgiving

What a Beautiful Name

Ben Fielding, Brooke Ligertwood

*The News of the Church Alive

*The Benediction

*The Postlude

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

Russell Schulz-Widmar

*All who are able, please stand

Worship Leaders: Preaching –Pastor Bud Pratt; Liturgists – Pastor Matt Cook, Kathy Geurink, Jon Hull, Doris Kuipers, Jeff Watson;
Organist – Beth Sweers; Strings – Mal & Marilyn Brannen, Barb Vander Heide; Bassoon – Phil Pratt; Chancel Choir; Praise team

New Members: Joining our faith family today are Sherri and Ryan Roth, and Jordan Hoekstra by letter of transfer, and Maribel Garza by re-affirmation of faith.

Please follow our church social media pages:

Instagram: frcgrandville

Facebook: First Reformed Church

Stewardship Update:

January 2 Collection Plate \$ 6,887.00

Online Giving: \$ 4,947.00

Total Offering: \$ 11,834.00

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

Average weekly offering needed

to make 2022 budget \$ 18,258.00

2022 Annual budget \$949,429.00

Text to Give - 616-208-4301

SPECIAL OFFERING: A special offering will be received on January 16 to help rebuild the total collapse of the Presbyterian Church in Manaus, Brazil due to heavy rains and flooding. This is our partner church in Brazil for the work of our missionaries, Lia and Thiago Dantas, who bring Christ’s love (and medical care) to the indigenous tribes along the Negro and Amazon Rivers.

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

Sunday Children's Programming Schedule:

1st and 2nd Sunday of the month:

Nursery ages - can be dropped off in the nursery when you arrive & picked up after the worship service.

Ages 3 years – Kindergarten can be dropped off in room #113 South when you arrive and picked up after the worship service.

1st Grade-5th Grade can be dropped off in the downstairs Assembly Room when you arrive and picked up after the worship service.

Please note: We are following Grandville Public School Covid guidelines, so masks are required for kids, as well as our volunteers at this time.

Middle School (6th - 8th grades) & **High School** (9th - 12th grades) **Sunday School** meets in the Youth Lounge following worship. Donuts provided.

Middle School youth group meets on Sundays from 4:00pm - 5:30pm in the Youth gym.

High School youth group meets on Sundays from 6:30pm - 8:00pm in the Youth gym.

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Young Life (9th-12th grade) – meets Monday, January 31, at 7:27pm at church. Questions? Contact Jon Hull at jon@firstgrandville.org or 517-803-5686.

WyldLife (7th-8th grade) – on January 18 there will be a combined club. They will be meeting at Rebounderz from 7:00 – 8:00pm. Starting February 1 they meet the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month in the Family Life Center. Contact Paige Corfixsen – 616-710-0865 or Emma Kukla – 616-666-4811 with questions.

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.

Mailboxes – Please place money you would have spent on stamps in the lock box at the end of mailboxes. This money is collected by Esther Circle for The Other Way. Deadline is Wednesday, January 12.

Women in the Word – meets Wednesday mornings at 9:30am in the upstairs adult ed room. The study for this week includes pages 223-232. Questions? Call Marilyn Stelma – 616-450-6008

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!

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 this week is pulled pork sandwiches. 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. We will begin a new adult ed class (taught by Pastor Bud) titled "**GO EAT POP CORN**" (a 10 week study of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians) which starts at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays.

Camp Brochures – 2022 summer camp brochures for both Cran-Hill Ranch and Camp Geneva are currently available in the turnstyle near the welcome desk at church.

Offering envelopes – 2022 offering envelopes have been placed in your mail slots at church.

Hand2hand – We are taking non-perishable food donations for hand2hand. These items need to be in individual packets. Items needed are: popcorn packets, trail mix, pudding snack packs, granola bars, fruit snacks, applesauce/fruit cups, crackers, pretzels, goldfish crackers, any bagged snack, meat sticks, instant cereal, instant mac n cheese, soup. There is a box in the narthex to place your donations. Thank you!

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:

- **Jim Baer**, suffered a broken ankle, knee and shoulder injuries in Florida after a fall.
- **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: Don Ferris, Ted Wierenga, Lois Morehouse, Kay Mekkes, Roy DeJonge, Don Alderink, Karin Dykstra, Curt Stoel, Misty Holwerda, Erica Obi**

We extend Christian sympathy to:

- **Zach & Rachel Kallemeyn**, at the passing of Rachel's grandfather, Frank Carlson, from Merrill, MI on December 27.

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 our church family for all of the support during Glenn's recent heart bypass surgery. The prayers sent up and cards were much appreciated. It means a lot to belong to the gathering family the 'Great Physician' above. **Glenn and Eileen Zwart and family** ...your thoughtfulness and kindness touched my heart. Thank you for the prayers, Christmas cards, and plant. God is good.

Norma Boss

...so much for my caring friends and fellow worshippers, for the visits, the pretty plant and so many cards. I miss having fellowship with you and God's message each week. God bless you all. **Crystal Baum** ...for the thoughtful cards. It reminds me I still have friends here on earth. **Ev Lindhout**

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Lois Kosten	84 on the 11 th	Don Ferris	85 on the 27 th
Marjorie Fisk	86 on the 20 th	Fran Rinkus	92 on the 28 th