

HOPE PEACE JOY LOVE

Advent I

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

November 27, 2022

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Partita on Picardy - Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Setting by Albert Zabel

The Prelude

WE APPROACH OUR GOD

The Welcome and Greeting

*The Call to Worship

Leader: The Spirit of the Lord is upon us

People: to bind up the broken-hearted,

Leader: to proclaim liberty to the captives,

People: to release the prisoners,

Leader: to comfort all who mourn,

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!

*The Advent Hymn

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley, HYFRYDOL

Rowland H. Prichard, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope

The Advent Song

Christ Be Our Light

Bernadette Farrell

The Prayer of Confession (*spoken in unison*)

It is never easy for us to confess our sins.

There are the hurts we have caused to our families and friends, which we would like to forget.

There are those we believe are impossible to love, so we don't even try.

There are people crying for help and we ignore their cries.

Forgive us, Emmanuel, God with us.

Teach us Your truth and renew the hope that is revealed to us in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Come let us reason together says the Lord.

People: Though your sins be as scarlet

Leader: They shall be as white as snow

People: Though they be red like crimson

Leader: They shall be as wool.

*The Song of Praise

Hope for Everyone

Matt Maher, Jason Ingram

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.

Matthew 24:36-44

The Message

“The Hope of the 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

Now Thank We All Our God

Johann Crüger, arr. Mona Williams Coalter

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Invitation

The Meaning of the Sacrament

*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

Christ Be Our Light

Bernadette Farrell

Jesus, Messiah

Daniel Carson, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves

What Child Is This?

William Dix, GREENSLEEVES, harm. John Stainer

The Thanksgiving

The News of the Church Alive

*The Benediction

*The Postlude

Festival Prelude on HYFRYDOL – Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Alfred V. Fedak

*All who are able, please stand

Worship Leaders: Preaching – Pastor Bud Pratt; Liturgists – Kathy Geurink, Pastor Matt Cook, Jon Hull; Pianist – Barb Vander Heide;

Organist – Patty Pratt; Praise Team

Image - Hope, Peace, Joy, Love © 2022 Nicholas Markell | Eyekons

Advent Candle Lighting liturgy - © Carol Penner

Please follow our church social media pages:

Instagram: frcgrandville

Facebook: First Reformed Church

Stewardship Update:

Nov. 20 Collection Plate \$ 22,751.00

Online Giving: \$ 5,447.00

Total Offering: \$ 28,198.00

Average weekly offering needed

to make 2022 budget \$ 18,258.00

2022 Annual budget \$949,429.00

Text to Give - 616-208-4301

Thanksgiving offering through 11/21/22 \$ 5,116.00

TODAY at FRC

Welcome to First Reformed Church in Grandville. If you are visiting, a warm welcome to you. Our prayer is that this worship service will usher you to the throne of grace. Pastor Bud Pratt brings the morning message. If you are searching for a church home and would like more information about First Reformed Church, please stop at the Welcome Desk near the main entrance. We would love to meet you. Please join us for coffee time following the service in the room to your left.

11:00am-11:45am – **Final Thoughts class** with Pastor Bud in the upstairs adult ed room. Pastor Bud will be holding a class on two Sundays, November 27 and December 4 from 11-11:45 AM to share some final thoughts, answer your "burning questions" and help us process the transitions that First Reformed Church is experiencing.

Sunday Children's Programming Schedule:

Nursery (birth – 3 year olds) - can be dropped off in the nursery when you arrive and picked up after the worship service. Nursery will also be available during adult Sunday school if you plan to attend.

No Children in Worship or Sunday School this week for 3 year olds to 5th grade. (Nursery will be available Kindergarten and under during the service).

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

No **Middle School** (6th - 8th grades) & **High School** (9th - 12th grades) Youth Group today.

ADVENT FESTIVAL - TODAY from 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm with crafts, live nativity, and a meal in the Youth gym.

LOOKING AHEAD

Handbell choir – Tuesday, 5:15pm

Praise Team – Wednesday, 5:30pm

Chancel Choir – Wednesday at 6:30pm

Esther Circle – meets Tuesday, December 6 at 9:30am. All women are welcome to meet for a time of coffee, fellowship, mission interests and an informal Bible study. We are discussing the Twenty Third Psalm. Copies of the lesson will be available. Looking forward to meeting you. Contact Karen Diekema – 616-644-0820 if you have any questions.

FOCUS meets on Wednesdays beginning at 5:30pm with a meal followed by programming for grades Kindergarten – 5th grade. This week they will be serving chicken tenders.

Women in the Word - meets on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 -11:00am in the upstairs adult education room. This fall we turn our attention to the book of Hebrews. Books will be available for \$10. If anyone needs an alternative form of the book we would be happy to assist. Marilyn Stelma – 616-450-6008.

Men's Bible Study - will meet every second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2:30pm. We meet at Marge's Donut Den at 1751 28th. St. SW. David Bast will discuss the book which he authored on the Psalms. Mark Davis will lead the discussion on some of the Psalms not covered in David Bast's book.

MegaMen Bible study - meets every Wednesday at 6:00am in the Youth Lounge. If you would enjoy fellowship with other men that dig into the Word, come join us. Contact Dave Lidgard – dlidgard@hpseagles.net or Bob Stelma - mstelmau78@yahoo.com if you have questions.

Urbana 2022 - Urbana Missions Conference is happening this December 28-31 in Indianapolis, Indiana. For high school seniors, college students, and grad students. Cost is \$615 for students and \$715 for non-students. Support is available from Missions Endowment Fund for students. Contact Kin Ma (makinm67@gmail.com), Jon Hull (jon@firstgrandville.org), or Jeff Watson (jeffw@firstgrandville.org) for more information. Deadline for sign up is November 30.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Aleksandar Smiljic	88 on the 14 th	Jerry Hart	81 on the 26 th
Lois Morehouse	81 on the 15 th	Ruth DeJonge	83 on the 27 th
Joyce VanderMarkt	90 on the 17 th	Sheryl Tusch	86 on the 29 th
Jane Krombeen	80 on the 19 th	Carol Hoffman	87 on the 30 th

UPCOMING EVENTS

- On the Second Sunday in Advent (December 4) Pastor Melanie will bring the Word of God and we will present the **Christmas Cantata "Joy Has Dawned!"** Part One. This worship service will be followed by a very brief **Congregational meeting** to share the budget proposed for 2023.
- On the Third Sunday in Advent (December 11) Pastor Jeff will bring the Word of God and our **children's choirs will present the musical "A Lamb's Tale."**
- On the Fourth Sunday in Advent (December 18) Pastor Bud will bring the Word of God and the second half of the **Christmas Cantata "Joy Has Dawned!"** will be presented (as well as a **celebration** of Bud and Patty's ministry among us).
- On **Christmas Eve** (December 24th at 11:00 PM) we will gather for our traditional Lessons and Carols celebration of the Lord's birth. Pastor Bud, preaching.
- On Christmas day (Sunday, December 25 at 10:00 AM...**NOTE THE TIME CHANGE**) we will gather for a less formal **family friendly worship service** where the simple story of our Savior's birth will be shared with all children participating in the story.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Grandville High School Young Life – Monday, November 28, at 7:27pm at church. Contact Jon Hull – jon@firstgrandville.org or 517-803-5686.

Grandville Middle School WyldLife – December 6 at 7:27pm at the Mann's - 3166 Coronation Ave. Byron Center

Youth Mission Trip fundraiser:

Pop can drive - There will be a labeled trash can in the Youth Lounge all year for you to drop off your empty cans.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE OR SERVE

Other Way Christmas Store - We are also collecting new unopened toys for this ministry (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 4, NEXT SUNDAY.

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 7th.

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 by December 14.

Hand2hand – Since we have started to deliver to Century Park Learning Center the number of kids we deliver to has increased. We are now up to 43 kids. With the holiday break coming up we will be sending them home with a little extra food. Along with the other items we need we would like to include a 16 oz. jar of peanut butter. 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 oatmeal, cereal, instant mac 'n cheese, soup, canned pasta, yogurt pouches. These items need to be in individual packets There is a box in the narthex to place your donations. Thank you!

THANK YOU...

... for the cards and prayers during my surgery/recovery. **Joelle Smith**

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:

- **Sue Kehr**, at home recovering from a broken ankle.
- **Vern Hoffman**, dealing with arthritis.
- **Maria Oskam**, undergoing further testing and awaiting surgery.
- **Pat Lantinga**, home recovering from a fractured sternum.
- **Ron See**, continues to rehab and recover at home.
- **Carmen Rivas** (Jose's mom), is struggling with hypertension and a cancer battle.
- **Beverly VanDuinen** (Jeff's mom), is under the care of hospice.
- **Arvin Bleyenbergh** (Lila VacaGuzman's dad), who is going through chemo for an aggressive cancer.
- Pray for the people of **Ukraine**.
- Pray for anyone affected in any way by **the Corona virus**.
- **Continued prayers for: Jeff Muller, Ev Lindhout, Wayne Veneklasen, Terry Jolink, Joyce VanderMarkt, Lois Morehouse, Roy DeJonge, Don Alderink, Karin Dykstra, Sydney & Ellie Hollen, Bob Waters, Kathy VanRiper.**

We extend Christian sympathy to:

- **Family and friends of Curt Stoel**, who passed away November 20.

Please keep all our military troops in your prayers, especially:

- **Jeremy Stegehuis, Jeff Shuck & Tony Shuck** (Betty Isenga's grandsons), **Edward Peter Tolhurst** (Pat Bird's nephew), **Ben Westrick, Ben DeRuyter** (Jack and Jackie's grandson)

Please keep in your hearts and minds:

- Our **Family at Home members** – Eloise Anderson, Crystal Baum, Mary Lou Besteman, Dorothy Cook, Helen Dertien, Marilyn DeVree, Karin Dykstra, Arlene Jacobitz, Ev Lindhout, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Bob & Lois Morehouse, Janet Pofahl, Art Tusch, Bob Verburg, Trudie Wierda, Mary Zomerlei
FAH Birthday – November 29 – Pat Marcusse - Lakeside Vista, 340 W. 40th St., Holland, MI 49423

In case of an emergency and no one is at church you may call Pastors Bud Pratt - 708-302-5645, Jeff Watson – 616-250-7148, Matt Cook - 616-893-4189, Pastor Melanie Kilgore – 269-330-0155 or consistory vice president Bob Stelma - 616-822-3859, or any of the other elders.