

January 1, 2023
Christmastide

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude

WE APPROACH OUR GOD

The Welcome, Call to Worship, Prayer

*Song of Worship

O Come All Ye Faithful

*The Greeting

*Worship Set

***He Shall Reign Forevermore
King of Kings***

The Prayer of Confession & Assurance

Leader: Join me in this prayer of confession and assurance.

Congregation: Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.

Leader: Lord, help us to be a church that loves you and loves our neighbors. Help us bring your love to the broken places in our neighborhoods, schools, work places, families, and community.

Congregation: May we be a church that reflects the heart of the father, the love of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the encouragement of the Spirit.

Leader: Today, we begin anew. Today, and every day, God offers us life and hope.

Congregation: Here, now, forever - we are forgiven and healed.

Leader: As we step into a new year, may our hearts be renewed by your grace and mercy. May this be a year of growing closer to you. Amen.

*Song of Worship

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

Message

"Days of Darkness"

Scripture

Exodus 1:8-22

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS

The Offering of Our Tithes, Gifts & Prayers

Song:

All Glory Be to Christ

Announcements

*Final Song

Lord I Need You

*Benediction

Postlude

**All who are able, please stand*

Worship Leaders: Preaching – Pastor Jeff Watson; Liturgists – Melanie Kilgore, Organists – Nancy Ryskamp, Praise Team

Please follow our church social media pages:

Instagram: frcgrandville

Facebook: First Reformed Church

Stewardship Update:

Dec. 25 Collection Plate	\$ 0.000.00
Online Giving:	\$ 6,841.00
Total Offering:	\$ 6,841.00

Average weekly offering needed to make 2022 budget	\$ 18,258.00
2022 Annual budget	\$949,429.00

Text to Give - 616-208-4301

WELCOME to 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 Jeff Watson 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.

THIS WEEK: Today we begin our sermon series on the book of Exodus. Pastor Jeff Watson will bring the message from Exodus 1:8-22 titled "Days of Darkness."

NEXT WEEK: We will celebrate the Lord's Supper and continue our series on the book of Exodus. Jeff Watson will bring the message from Exodus 2:1-14 titled "Preparing for Salvation."

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.

There will not be any Sunday school for 3 year olds to 5th grade today. It will resume on January 8.

No Middle & High School Sunday School or youth group. It will resume on January 8.

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:

- **Maria Oskam**, recovering from surgery.
- **Dennis Hodges**, recovering from surgery for a mass on his kidney.
- **Dale Scholtens** (Mary Cook's & Pastor Matt's father), hospitalized with blood clots.
- **Beverly VanDuinen** (Jeff's mom), is under the care of hospice.
- Pray for the people of **Ukraine**.
- Pray for anyone affected by the different illnesses this season.
- **Continued prayers for: Pat Lantinga, Sue Kehr, Jeff Muller, Ron See, Terry Jolink, Joyce VanderMarkt, Lois Morehouse, Roy DeJonge, Don Alderink, Karin Dykstra, Sydney & Ellie Hollen, Bob Waters, Kathy VanRiper.**

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

THANK YOU...

...so much for the flowers and cards at Christmas. They are brightening my room and I feel your love.

Karin Dykstra

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

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Carol Bernson	81 on the 2nd
Lois Kosten	86 on the 11th
Marjorie Fisk	88 on the 20th
Don Ferris	87 on the 27th
Fran Rinkus	94 on the 28th



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

Grandville, Michigan

Phone: 534-5465
Prayer Line: 534-0113

Email: mail@firstgrandville.org
Fax: 534-1185

THIS WEEK

TUESDAY

5:15pm Bells of Joy

WEDNESDAY

6:00am MegaMen Bible Study

6:30pm Chancel choir

THURSDAY

9:00am Zumba

LOOKING AHEAD

FOCUS (Wednesday night meal and programs) will resume January 11.

Adult Sunday School – Pastor Jeff will be teaching about his time in Israel in the upstairs Adult Ed Room on January 8 and 15.

Esther Circle (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE) – will be meeting Tuesday, January 10, at 9:30am in the upstairs Adult Ed Room. A warm welcome awaits you for a time of fellowship and an informal Bible study. We will begin our new study titled, Women and Identity. Books will be available if you do not have one. Contact Karen Diekema - 616-644-0820 – with any questions you may have.

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.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE OR SERVE

Hand2hand – Each week we deliver food for 43 kids to Century Park Learning Center so the kids will have food to eat for the weekend. We are receiving non-perishable food donations. 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 or cheese sticks, instant oatmeal, cereal, instant mac 'n cheese, soup, canned pasta, yogurt pouches.

These items need to be in individual packets Please place your donations in the box in the narthex. Thank you!

Food pantry needs – crackers, cereal/oatmeal, canned meats, Jello, pudding, canned tomatoes, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, canned beef stew, canned pasta (SpaghettiO's), rice, stuffing, boxed potatoes, hamburger or tuna helper. Please leave donations in the cart in the Activity Center.

Greeters – We are looking for two families every Sunday to greet at the north and south ends of the narthex. If you would be willing to sign up for 1 or more Sundays please sign up at the sign up center.