

2nd Sunday of Advent

8:50 a.m. December 9, 2018

Welcome members, friends and visitors to our service this morning. We would ask you all to complete the friendship pad located in your pew. Thank you for your help. Welcome Packets for our visitors and guests are available at the Visitor Center.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

PRELUDE Wilson
"We Three Kings"

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE ~Toews family

* HYMN 13
"Prepare The Way"

* OPENING PRAYER

God of peace, who sent light into the world in the coming of Jesus Christ: We confess that we have not followed the light given to us. We have not searched for signs of your love, or trusted the goodness of your good news. We have failed to praise your Son's birth as we have refused his peace on earth. We have expected little and hoped for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew in us all fine desires so we may watch and wait and once more hear the glad story 'of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.'

* GLORIA PATRI 579

CHILDREN'S TIME Jan Bolluyt

HYMN 15
"Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers"

SCRIPTURE READING Malachi 3:1-4
(Page 779 in the Pew Bibles)

ANTHEM Chancel Choir w/John Mayne, cello
"Carol of the Magi"

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:1-12
(Page 783-784 in the Pew Bibles)

SERMON Clint Loveall
Looking for Christmas

* APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of the saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Leader: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them up to the Lord

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God our thanks and praise...

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

OFFERING

Offertory 7th Grade Handbell Choir
"Lift Up Your Heads"

* Doxology

* Prayer of Dedication

* HYMN 66 (vs 1,2,5)
"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

* BENEDICTION ~~Back cover of Hymnal
"Go Now In Peace"

POSTLUDE

* **Those who are able** are invited to stand.

Nursery Available for Pre-K and under

- **Large print "BULLETINS AND HYMNALS" are available from an Usher-**
- **Busy Bags available in the Narthex**
- **Coffee is served immediately following the Worship Service in Fellowship Hall.**

Participating in this morning's Reformed service are: Clint Loveall & Michael Gewecke, Pastors; Youth Sunday, Liturgist; Eulyn Riemersma, Organist; Carol Ayres Stueven, Chancel Choir Director, Barb Mendenhall, Lincoln Larsen & Jada Duis, 7th Grade Handbell Directors; Morgan Fine, Emma Fisher, Aidan McKeever, Payten Murray, Ava Poolman, Elise Richter, Fran Travis, Sydney Wajda & Emma Whiting, 7th Grade Handbell Choir; Ushers are Ron Niebruegge, Gene Ringsdorf, Bob Peterson & Doug Johnson; Greeters are Warren & Barb Jager; Jackie Jenkins, Mike Reekers & Tom Ditsworth, Sound; Dan Vicker, Video; Angie Peterson is in charge of the Nursery; Ron Jenkins, Larry & Sharee DenHerder prepared our coffee.



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Thank You's

Thank you everyone for the kinds words of sympathy, the cards, and for the prayers extended to me during this time of grieving from the loss of my sister, Alvina. God bless!

JoAnn Asa

Thank you to Brett and Nancy Thacker and family for sponsoring our Radio/TV broadcast this week. This broadcast is in loving memory of Glen Hundley, Nancy Thacker's Dad.

Advent Sermon Series

The Music and Message of Christmas

This year we will be letting some favorite songs of Christmas guide our advent journey. Each week, we will use a song that highlights a particular part of the Christmas story and tie it to the part of the Bible that inspired the music. Hopefully, not only will it mean you get to hear and sing your favorite Christmas Hymn, we also get to learn something from the scene it describes. Hope you can join us as we begin our path toward the manger.

Dec. 9th – Looking for Christmas – “We Three Kings”

Dec. 16th – A Christmas you didn't expect – “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Dec 23rd – Everyone's Invited – “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Dec 24th – What happens when Christmas arrives? – “Silent Night”

Progressive Nativity

You and your family are invited to experience the story of the Nativity in a new way. Start by driving to Calvary Methodist Church in Arnolds Park and then make your way through 3 other churches including FPC and experience scenes from the story of Advent. The Nativity will include inter-active story-telling and songs from local congregations. Please join us for the Progressive Nativity December 16th, 5-6:30pm. At the final stop, Grace Lutheran Church and First Presbyterian Church will host hot chocolate, apple cider and holiday goodies.

Christmas Eve Usher Needed

We are still in need of 1 Usher on Christmas Eve at the 6pm Candlelight Service. See the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Hanging of the Greens

You won't want to miss our Annual Hanging of the Greens on Wednesday, December 12th at 4pm. See you there.

PW Christmas Luncheon Workers Needed

Ladies, please check the sign-up sheet in the narthex to see where you can help with our annual PW Christmas Luncheon. Invite all your friends to the luncheon on Thursday, December 13 at 12:30pm.

Attn: Women

Any Women available to pack goodie boxes for our local concerns please meet in Fellowship Hall on Friday, December 14th at 9am. Many hands make light work.

Congregational Life trip to Algona

The Congregational Life Committee would like to invite you to visit the Algona P.O.W. museum and nativity Saturday, December 15th. We will leave the church parking lot at 2pm. We should arrive at the museum about 3:30. After about an hour at the museum we will go and see the nativity scene constructed by the German P.O.W.'s while they were held at Camp Algona during WWII. Viewing of the nativity scene will be followed by dinner and fellowship at a nice restaurant in Algona. Each person will pay for their own dinner and admission to the museum is \$3 per person. Please RSVP in the church office or to tonyjill.jennings@gmail.com



Youth Christmas Program

The Christmas program featuring students from PreK-8th grade will be held during the second worship service (at 11:15am) on December 16th. The Christmas celebration will be held throughout the entire service of worship and will feature the full Adult Chancel Choir, student led music and much more. We sincerely hope that you and your family will join us for this Christmas celebration!

Parents of Sunday School children are invited to bring their children to Youth Christmas Program practice during Recharge on the next two Wednesdays, Dec 5th & 12th.

Christmas Goodies Await You!

Congregational Life invites you to a Christmas Fellowship, Sunday, December 16th at 10 between services. Enjoy a Hot Chocolate Bar, Apple Cider, Christmas Goodies, music and of course, coffee! This fellowship will be while the youth are preparing to bring us their Christmas message at the 11:15 a.m. service. Thanks for joining us!

ILCC Holiday Handbell Concert

You won't want to miss the ILCC Holiday Handbell Concert, being held on Thursday, December 13th at 7:30pm at First Presbyterian Church in Spirit Lake. The concert will feature a handbell ensemble as well as a brass ensemble, community handbell group, and Rachele Gewecke, pianist.

Christmas Caroling

The congregation will be sharing Christmas carols with shut ins and community members on December 19th starting at 6:00pm. All students and families are invited to join us for our pizza dinner starting at 5:30pm and join us as we share Christmas favorites with others!

High School Christmas Party

This year's High School Christmas Party will be held on December 19th starting at 7:00pm. Join us for the annual gingerbread house competition, a white elephant exchange (\$10 maximum), Christmas music, Christmas goodies, and Christmas related games. It will be a night full of fun and fellowship, we look forward to seeing you there!

RECHARGE

Wednesday, December 12th

Meal: Chicken & Biscuits

Meal Crew: **Meal Crew Helpers Needed**

Sound, Audio & Video Volunteers

If you are interested in learning more about our new system or are currently volunteering, please contact Tom Ditsworth at 336-1649 or tom@fpcspiritlake.org for information on upcoming training sessions on the new system.

Advent Poinsettias

This year we will be supporting the Cherish Center as our Mission Project. If you are willing to share a poinsettia with us and donate to the Cherish Center, the cost is \$15. For a poinsettia only \$11.75. Please contact the office at 336-1649 and let us know if this poinsettia is in memory of, or honoring someone.

Attention Sewers

The children's and lap quilts are now in the fellowship hall and ready for completion. Please take them home and complete one or as many as you like. These quilts have been given in the past to CAASA, Dickinson County Public Health for the "New Moms" program, Lakes Regional Healthcare for the new babies, Gentiva Hospice and Hilltop Care Center. Your help with this project provides warmth to many members of our community and beyond.

2nd Service Ushers/Greeters Needed

We are in need of Ushers/Greeters for our 2nd Service. Responsibilities include distributing bulletins and greeting worshippers at the center sanctuary doors as well as taking a head count of worshippers (including praise and worship team and those in the nursery). A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex.

Rides to and from church for this week is Sharon Ringsdorf ~ 330-2540, next week is Vernice Wahl ~ 858-4568.

Hospital Deacon: Sharon Ringsdorf
Week of December 16

Reformed Worship Service

Liturgist: Erin Davelaar

Ushers: Ron Niebruegge, Gene Ringsdorf, Bob Peterson & Doug Johnson

Greeters: Warren & Barb Jager

Nursery: Amy Webber

Video: Milt Nolting

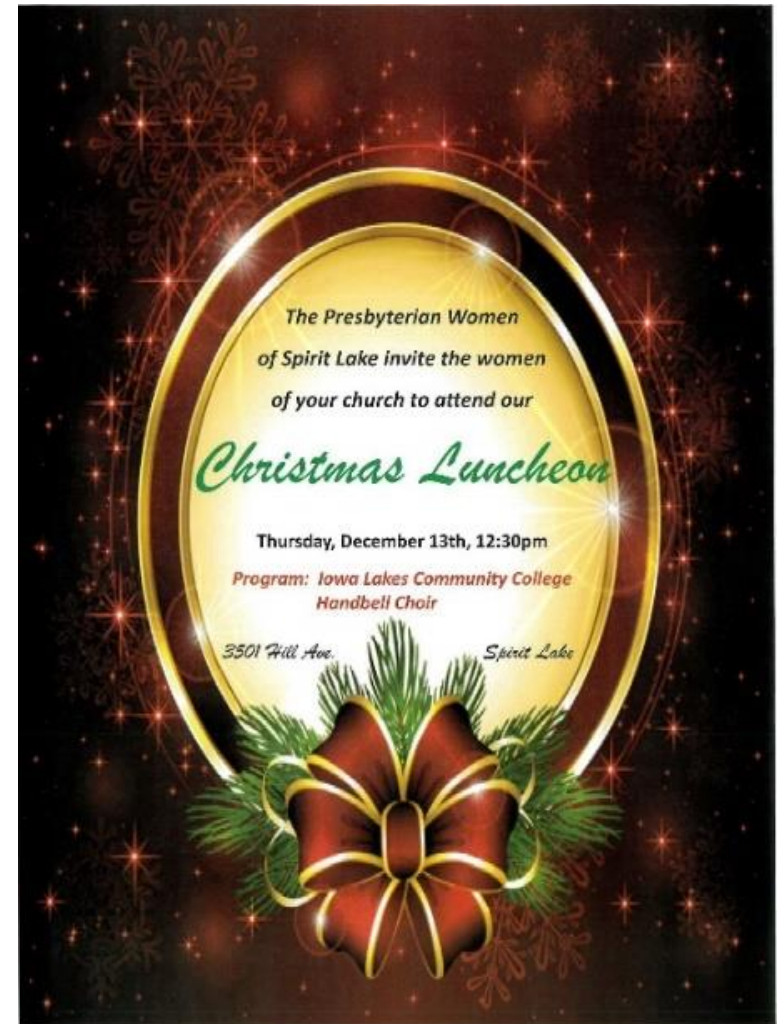
Sound: T Ditsworth, J Jenkins, & M Reekers

Coffee: Ron Jenkins, Dan & Peg VanBeek

Reforming Worship Service

Nursery: Milly & Claire Tillotson

Sound & Power Point: Chris & Logan Sill



Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 9

8:15am-Prayer in the Chapel
8:50am-Reformed Worship Service
10:00am-Coffee and fellowship
10:15am-Sunday School
10:15am-Confirmation Class
10:30am-Adult Ed
11:15am-Reforming Worship Service
2pm-Worship Service at Accura

Monday, December 10

No PW Sewing
6:30pm-Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, December 11

1:30pm-Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, December 12

4pm-Hanging of the Greens

4:45pm-Weekly Prayer

5:30pm-Recharge

7pm-Handbell Practice

7:15pm-HS Youth Group

8pm-Choir Practice

Thursday, December 13

9am-Men's Bible

11:53am-ACT II

12:30pm-PW Christmas Luncheon

7:30pm-ILCC Holiday Handbell Concert

Friday, December 14

9am-Women Pack Goodie Boxes

Sunday, December 16

8:15am-Prayer in the Chapel

8:50am- Reformed Worship Service

10:00am-Coffee and fellowship

10:15am-Sunday School

10:15am-Confirmation Class

10:30am-Adult Ed

11:15am-Reforming Worship Service

Youth Christmas Program

5pm-Progressive Nativity

Each week we remember

First Pres families in prayer, this week please pray for

Mark, Joy, Jeremiah & Jonah Eldridge
3206 Keokuk Ave., Spirit Lake

Gary & Pam Rouse
1128 Hwy 71, Spirit Lake

Please pray for our members and friends of this church family who are facing various health concerns: Maddie DeWitt, Chris Koehler, Jody Ferguson, Judy Arens, Mary Smith, Barb Hanisch, Pat Dalton, Lori Johnson, Pat Kelly, Mike Wiley, Marj Roseberry, Kathy Huitink, Denice (Wiersma), Bart Duncan, Laurie Phillips, Nan Woods, Travis Sweissburger, Rod Johnson, Laura Fagen's Mom, Pat, Tomy Norman, Margaret Plunkett, Heath Huberg, Reba Williams, Kevin Grems mother, Vicki, John Knabe's nephew, Dietrich, Kathy Nygaard, Wilma Clauson, Steve Thompson, Blake Smith, Mandi Rodger, Larry Gearke, Jim Watts, Sr., John Heim, Jan Richards, Macy Jennings, Elaine DenHerder, Paul Ostendorf, Jennie Heathcote, Melody Peyton, Dave Fagen, Peter Knabe, Brenda Wilson, Adam Dreeszen, Kristen Martin, Marty Jenkins, Patti Meyer, Dorothy Fiala, Marcia Hill, Bill Cramer, Gary Eaton, Jack Burrell, Pauly Eaton, Beth Primavera, Gloria Ditsworth, Jim Ellingson, Gary Hansen, Bev Quail, Dave Bartels, Keith Swancutt, Craig Cobb, Scott & Elaine Greer, Connie Rohlk, Sherry Fuhrman, Pat Lamoroux, Jay Anderson, Donna Rieck, Jeri Lowry, Brent Kasson, Heidi Brittain

Please pray for our members and friends who serve in the Armed Forces: Staff SGT **Jamie Lewis**, 1st LT **Whitney Lewis**, 7017 Arnold Ave., Unit A, JBER, AK 99506; SFC **Frederick, Jesse**, 975 Culverson Ct., Clarksville, TN 37040; 1st Class PO **Billy Joe Travis**, 8583 Aero Drive, Apt 2043, San Diego, CA 92123; PFC; **Colton Petersen**, 1st LT **James Fliss**, , CPL **Kenten Murray**, MSG Detachment, Unit 6010, Box 10, DPO AB 09825-6010

Missionaries

Mark and Betsy Davidhizar
3212 125th Ave
Allegan, MI 49010

mdavidhizar@beechpoint.com

Mark is the Executive Director and Betsy is the Special Project Coordinator/Staff Encourager at Camp Beechpoint, Inc. Camp Beechpoint has been a Christian Children's Camp since 1959. Mark and Betsy began their ministry there in 1987. Beechpoint's mission is to serve urban and under-resourced youth from Chicago and urban and rural areas of Michigan. Four years ago, they began a camp partnership with a ministry in NE India to train local Bible College students to use the tool of camping in reaching and evangelizing children in India. They also assist the students in running a week of camp for children in a rural (mainly Muslim) community. They are sending another team to train the students and expand with another camp location in India. Betsy is the granddaughter of Earl and Fleta Rose, long-time members of Spirit Lake First Presbyterian Church. We have supported Mark and Betsy since 1993.

*Jim and Amy Trewin
13738 Canopus Dr.
Orlando, FL 32828*

trewinfamily@gmail.com

After nearly 35 years ministry mostly to students, we are excited to be joining Campus Crusade or Cru's Ministry with the Jesus Film. This will ultimately have us based out of Florida. The Jesus Film has been translated in over 1500 native languages and has been directly involved in launching over 1 million local churches. But there are still people who haven't heard of the name of Jesus. A revised strategy is to translate the Jesus Film to the next 500 smaller language groups finding narrators who can translate the story of Christ. Because of consistent security threats, it is more prudent to have smaller showings using tablets and small projection equipment for ongoing showings of the life of Jesus. Jim and Amy have three children. Jim and Amy have been indirectly supported by First Presbyterian through ministry partners from the congregation for nearly 30 years and became part of the First Presbyterian mission budget in 1998.