

"As for me, I will always have hope;
I will praise you more and more."
Psalm 71:14

December 1, 2019

Order of Worship

Morning Service

Welcome and Announcements *Please stand if you are able
CH = Celebration Hymnal (Gray) PH = Psalter Hymnal (Blue)

We Come to Worship

Opening Prayer

Advent Reading

*Call to Worship ~ (based on Psalm 130:5-7)

Leader: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope.

People: My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.

Leader: O people, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is unfailing love, and with him is full redemption.

People: There is no darkness with you, O Lord. Our hope is in you.

Leader: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

*Song ~ CH 244 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

Baptism of Oliver Hoolsema

Song ~ Nobody (Casting Crowns/Matthew West)

God's Will for Our Lives

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Merciful God, always with us, always coming: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season.

People: Forgive us, God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us.

Leader: Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming.

People: Our hope is in you Lord. Amen.

Assurance

Leader: Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

People: He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Leader: Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:28-31)

People: Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Lighting of the Advent Candle ~ Hope

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord. Today we light the candle of hope. The hope promised by prophets

long ago; the hope of a coming Savior, Jesus. The Hope born to bear our sin. The hope for a future provided by Jesus' sacrifice. The assurance that we can know God personally.

People: Our hope is in you Lord. Thank you for the gift of your son, our Savior, Jesus.

Song ~ CH 245 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Message for Children

Congregational Prayer

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

God's Word for Us

*Song ~ Fullness of Grace (Getty/Townend)

Scripture Reading ~ 2 Corinthians 9:15

Message ~ An Indescribable Gift

- 1) It's Costliness
- 2) It's Grace
- 3) Transforming Power

Prayer

*Song ~ CH 506 I'd Rather Have Jesus

We Depart to Serve

*God's Parting Blessing

*Closing Song ~ CH 270 v 1 Joy to the World

RUDYARD CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
THE SUNDAY BULLETIN – December 1, 2019

Nursery is provided in the Educational Building for children up to age three.

Attendants today: Katie Rice, Kathy Borowski, Gannon Smith, and Bryce Mitchell

Next week: Jan Hadfield, Tammy Folkersma, Paige Postma, and Leah Beelen

Junior Worship is provided in the Educational Building for 3, 4, and 5 year olds not yet in school. They will be dismissed before the morning sermon.

Helpers today: Stef Lubben, Kaitlyn Folkersma, and Austin Hoolsema

Next week: Colee Cheney, Gannon Smith, and Ethan Hoolsema

Sunday School and Catechism will not meet today.

Offerings today: **A.M. – General Fund** **P.M. – No Service**

Next week: **A.M. – General Fund** **P.M. – No Service**

2019 Amount Budgeted Weekly for General Fund: \$3473.

November 24 Offerings: **General Fund: \$3717; General Fund: \$115.**

THIS WEEK – December 1 – December 7

TODAY:

- There will be no evening service today as we are all invited to join the Bible Church for their annual Christmas Sing at 6:00 pm.

MONDAY:

- **“Sewing and More”** will meet at 10:00 am. Bring whatever projects you are working and enjoy the fellowship of other crafters.

TUESDAY:

- **Women’s Bible Study** will meet for our Christmas lunch. We will meet at church to go to Kings Fish Market in Moran. Bring a friend!
- **Dark Clouds, Deep Mercy Study group** will meet at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Hope you can join us.

WEDNESDAY:

- There will be a Luncheon for widows and single ladies at noon in the fellowship hall. Come join us for food and fellowship.
- **GEMS** (Grades 1-8) will meet at the church from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.
- **CADETS** (Grades 1-8) will meet at the church from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.
- **Happy Birthday** to Jan Essenburg!

THURSDAY:

- **Christian School Christmas Program** at 7:00 pm. We hope you can join us and the students in celebrating the season.

FAMILY NEWS

Pastor John and Arla will be on vacation next Sunday, allowing Pastor Dave Kroon to fill the pulpit for the am service. There will be no evening service.

Our annual congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, December 15, immediately after the morning service to elect elders, deacons, and adopt the budget for the upcoming year. Elder candidates are Jeff Case, Mike Hoolsema and Ray VanSloten. Deacon candidates are Glenn Cheney, Ben English, Ted Folkersma, Billy Mitchell, and Jerry VanSloten. Voting procedure will be to vote for one candidate with highest vote getter elected, second candidate will be drawn from remaining nominees. Please prayerfully consider your choice for these offices.

Our outgoing elders are Bruce Berkompas and Ken English, deacons are Loren Hoolsema and Justin Hoolsema.

For the month of December there will be a box in the narthex for food donations to the New Hope Food Pantry. Please consider donating to this community need.

Christmas trees are once again available at Tim and Marilyn Hoolsema's.

Thank you to all who supported Operation Christmas Child by filling a Shoebox. The Rudyard Relay sent 323 shoeboxes, the Upper Peninsula total was 9295 boxes! Praise the Lord for the wonderful response to this ministry!

There are carpet remnants available from the education building for use as runners, deer blinds, fish shacks, etc. See Bruce Berkompas if interested.

The RCRC Youth Group will be hosting a bottle/can drive to help raise money for our annual SERVE mission trip. We will take any returnable cans or bottles you have from now through after your New Year's Party! Donations can be dropped at the RCRC (can is in the entryway) or possible pick-ups can be arranged (see any one of the youth group). If you have a larger donation, please let Ryan or Stef know.

Advance notice:

- ~ The Annual Rudyard Bible Church Christmas Sing will be held on Sunday, December 1st.
- ~ Caroling on December 14 from 6-7:30 pm. Hot chocolate and cookies following.
- ~ Candlelight service will be on December 15 at 5:00 pm with refreshments following.
- ~ Community Choir concert will be on December 22 at 7:00 pm with refreshments following.

From the Christian School:

- ~ Thank you to everyone who supported the craft fair, especially Beth Ortiz and Becca English who worked tirelessly in organizing it.
- ~ Please keep the students in your prayers this month as they begin their Read-A-Thon.
- ~ The next Board Meeting is Tuesday, December 17th, at 6:00 pm.