

"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good,  
His love endures forever!" PS. 107:1

Nov. 29, 2020  
Thanksgiving and 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

## **Order of Worship** Morning Service

Welcome and Announcements

We Come to Worship

Opening Prayer

Opening Song ~ Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

CH 11

\*Call to Worship ~ Ps. 100

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!  
Serve the Lord with gladness!  
Come into his presence with singing!

**People: Know that the Lord, he is God!  
It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise!  
Give thanks to him; bless his name!

**People: For the Lord is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.**

\*God's Greeting

\*We Greet One Another

\*Song of Praise ~ "Now Thank We All Our God" CH 788

Special Music: "Thankful"

## We Are Renewed in God's Grace

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

**People: Amen.**

Advent Candle Lighting and Reading/Assurance of Pardon:

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent: **Hope**

Reader: "The Advent wreath is a circle with no beginning and no end. It is a symbol of God's unending love and faithfulness.

Today we light the candle of hope as we anticipate the coming of Jesus, who himself is our hope for today and for the future. We read from Isaiah 40:1-5."

**People: Comfort, comfort my people,  
says your God.**

**Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and proclaim to her  
that her hard service has been completed,  
that her sin has been paid for,**

**that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.**

**A voice of one calling:**

**"In the wilderness prepare**

**the way for the LORD;  
make straight in the desert  
a highway for our God!**

**Every valley shall be raised up,**

**every mountain and hill made low;**

**the rough ground shall become level,  
the rugged places a plain.**

**And the glory of the LORD will be revealed,  
and all people will see it together.**

**For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."**

Reader: "We light this candle as a symbol of our Hope, who has come into the world."

Song~ "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" CH 244

Message for the Children

Congregational Prayer

God's Word for Us

\*Song ~ "Ancient Words"

Scripture Reading ~ Luke 1:15-25

Message ~ "Waiting on God"

Song of Response~ "The Solid Rock" vs. 1-3, CH 526

Prayer

We Depart to Serve

\*God's Parting Blessing

\*Song ~ "The Solid Rock" vs. 4, CH 526

**RUDYARD CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
**THE SUNDAY BULLETIN – November 29, 2020**

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

**Attendants today:** Cynthia English, Alison Cheney, Andrew Borowski, and Ashlyn Mitchell

**Next week:** Emily Hoolsema, Wanda Mitchell, Paige Postma, and Kyle Postma

**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:** Marilyn Hoolsema, Meagan Postma, and Bryce Mitchell

**Next week:** Laura Schippers, Ethan Hoolsema, and Liam Hoolsema

**Sunday School and Catechism** will not meet today. We will resume meeting next week.

**Offering today:** A.M. – Salvation Army

**Next week:** A.M. – General Fund

**2020 Amount Budgeted Weekly for General Fund: \$3745.**

**November 22 Offerings:**

**General Fund: \$1967.**

**THIS WEEK – November 29 – December 6**

**TUESDAY:**

- Revelation Bible Study will meet at 6:30 pm. We will be meeting the next 2 weeks and then break for Christmas. We will be spreading out for social distancing.

**WEDNESDAY:**

- **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.

**FRIDAY:**

- **Happy Birthday** to Jan Essenburg!

**SATURDAY:**

- **Happy Birthday** to Margaret Brown!

**Happy Belated Birthday** to Woody Bandstra!

## **FAMILY NEWS**

Thank you to all who filled a Christmas Shoebox for the Samaritan's Purse. 697 Shoeboxes were collected and sent out from our area!

There will be no regularly scheduled evening services November 29 through December 27th.

There will be a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on December 24th at 6 PM.

Congregational meeting will be December 20 after the morning service. An absentee ballot and materials will be posted online at <https://rudyardcrc.org/church-council> and available in the church narthex. In addition to voting for elders and deacons we will be voting on a proposal to hire an administrative assistant, and to approve the 2021 budget. Absentee ballots must be returned by 10:30AM on December 20 and be in a sealed envelope with the member's signature and address on the outside. A box for depositing ballots will be available in the narthex of the church or they can be handed to any member of council.

Nominees for Elder are: Kim Cheney, Mike Hoolsema, and Kevin Postma

Nominees for Deacon are: Ted Folkersma, Darrel Hoolsema, Doug Schippers, and Tim Hoolsema

Please join our prayer team in the library every Sunday from 9:00 – 9:20 am as we pray for our church, our Council, and our church family.