

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
John3:16

December 20, 2020
Order of Worship
Morning Service

Prelude ~ O Come, All Ye Faithful

Welcome and Announcements

We Come to Worship

Opening Prayer

Opening Song ~ CH 245 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Call to Worship ~ based on Psalm 85:7-13

Leader: Show us your unfailing love, O God, our Savior,

People: and grant us your salvation.

Leader: Listen to what the Lord our God says:

People: He promises peace to his people, who are his beloved saints.

Leader: The Lord will indeed give what is good.

People: Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.

Leader: May the Lord make his holy face to shine upon us in this time of Advent worship.

People: May we see God's face and thus know peace. Amen.

*Song of Praise ~ CH 279 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Reader 1: Today we light the candle of peace, knowing that Jesus alone can bring peace to our hearts and also to our world.

Reader 2: We read from John 14: 25-27.

People: We light this candle as a symbol of the peace that Jesus has given to us—a peace that passes all understanding.

Special Music ~ The First Noel

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Responsive Reading John 1:1-5,14

All: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

Leader: Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

All: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Leader: The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

All: We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Songs of Praise ~ CH 277 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing
CH 278 v 1, 3 Angels We Have Heard on High

Message for the Children

Congregational Prayer

God's Word for Us

Scripture Reading ~ Luke 1:39-45, 57-66

Message ~ The Faithfulness of God

Prayer

*Song ~ CH 139 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

We Come to the Lord's Table

CH 287 v 1-4 A Communion Hymn for Christmas

We Depart to Serve

*God's Parting Blessing

*Song ~ CH 265 v 6 The First Noel

Celebration of The Lord's Supper

The Institution

Leader: Hear the story of how the sacrament began. On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he sat at supper with his disciples. While they were eating, he took a piece of bread, said a blessing, broke it, and gave it to them with the words:

People: "This is my body. It is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me. He took the cup, saying, this cup is God's covenant, sealed with my blood. Drink from it, all of you, to remember me."

Leader: So now following Jesus example and command, take this bread and this cup, the ordinary things of the world, which Christ will use for extraordinary purposes. As he said a prayer before sharing the meal, let us also pray together.

Prayer of Consecration – Conclude with the Lord's Prayer

The Teaching

Leader: We remember in this supper the perfect sacrifice, offered once for all on the cross, by our Lord Jesus Christ for the sin of the whole world.

People: In the joy of the resurrection and in the expectation of his coming again, we offer ourselves to you as holy and living sacrifices.

Leader: Send your Holy Spirit upon us, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be to us the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

People: Being joined together in him, may we attain the unity of the faith, and grow up in all things unto Christ, our Lord.

Our Profession - HC Q&A1

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: That I am not my own, but belong – body and soul, in life and in death – to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that

not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me whole-heartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

The Invitation

Leader: All of you who are sorry for your sins and believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and have professed this in a Christian Church, God calls you to take part in this celebration. For those of you who have not yet made this commitment to Christ, God asks that you wait until a time when you are able to profess Him as your Savior.

Song ~ CH 287 A Communion Hymn for Christmas

Leader: Come then, to the joyful feast of our Lord! O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

All: Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift in Jesus.

The Communion

Thanksgiving

Leader: People of God, since the Lord has fed us at his table, let us lift up His Holy name with Thanksgiving.

People: Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Worthy is the Lamb that was slain who has redeemed us to God by his blood, to receive power and riches, wisdom and strength, and honor and glory and praise. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor, glory and power, forever and ever. Amen! (Rev. 5:12 & 13)

RUDYARD CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
THE SUNDAY BULLETIN – December 20, 2020

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

Attendants today: Kathy Borowski, Donell Beelen, Sara Beelen, and Bryce Mitchell

Next week: Natalie Hoolsema, Hannah Beelen, Meagan Postma, and Jenelle Hoolsema

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, Lauren Borowski, and M.J. Beelen

Next week: Donell Beelen, Eve Cheney, and Kyle Postma

Sunday School and Catechism will not meet today.

Offerings today: A.M. – General Fund

Next week: A.M. – General Fund

2020 Amount Budgeted Weekly for

General Fund: \$3745.

December 13 Offerings:

General Fund: \$5322; Youth Group: \$500; Care Net: \$200.

THIS WEEK – December 20 – December 27

TODAY:

- We will celebrate the Lord's Supper this morning.
- We will have our annual Congregational Meeting after the morning service.

THURSDAY:

- There will be a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 6 PM.

FRIDAY:

- **Merry Christmas!**

FAMILY NEWS

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

Congregational meeting will be today 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