

“And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.”  
Luke 2:10

## **Order of Worship**

Morning Service

December 18, 2022 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

### We Come to Worship

Opening Prayer

Opening Song ~ CH 270 v 1, 2 Joy to the World!

\*Call to Worship ~ (Psalm 100:1-2; 95:1; 126:3)

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

**People: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.**

Leader: The Lord has done great things for us!

**People: And we are filled with joy!**

\*Song ~ CH 278 Angels We Have Heard on High

\*God's Greeting

\*We Greet One Another

Advent Reading ~ The Angel's Message of Joy

Song ~ What Can I Give Him?

Lighting of the Advent Candle ~ Joy

Leader: Today we light the candle of joy. In Luke 2:10 the angel told the shepherds, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;

**People: He is Christ the Lord.”**

Leader: Jesus' birth brings us great joy.

*Prayer* ~ Dear God, give us joy in our hearts, now and forever. Help us to tell other people about this joy too. Amen.

Message for the Children

Sunday School Song ~ Oh What a Glorious Night  
(Sidewalk Prophets)

Moment for Missions ~ Eric Hoeksema

### We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Call to Confession

Leader: “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” (Matt 11:28-30)

**People: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:9)

Prayer of Confession (based on Psalm 126)

Leader: God of salvation, in Christ you have done great things, our hearts are filled with joy. By your power you lifted us out of the hopelessness of sin and brought us with joy into your kingdom. Salvation is your gift to us. But we confess that often we try to replace your gift with our own efforts. We try to complete what is already perfect; we try to add to what is already full; we try to earn what we already have.

**People: Forgive us for our foolishness. Help us to focus on your grace. Help us to live grateful lives in the joy of Jesus' name, Amen.**

Assurance (Luke 15:8-10)

Leader: Suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she

finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**People: Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!**

Song ~ CH 277 Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Congregational Prayer

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

God's Word for Us

\*Song ~ CH 272 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Scripture Reading ~ Luke 2:8-20

Message ~ Good News

Prayer

\*Song ~ In Christ Alone

We Depart to Serve

\*God's Parting Blessing

\*Closing Song ~ CH 270 v 4 Joy to the World!

## **Candlelight**

6 PM Service

**RUDYARD CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
**THE SUNDAY BULLETIN – December 18, 2022**

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

**Attendants today:** Laurie Morley, Tammy Folkersma, Kyle Postma, and Trey Ortiz

**Next week:** Cherie Rice, Katie Rice, Ethan Hoolsema, and Quinn Rogers

**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:** Donell Beelen, Raya Morley, and Katie English

**Next week:** Stef Lubben, Lila Tuzinowski, and Becky Borowski

**Sunday School and Catechism** will not meet today.

**Offerings today:**      **A.M. – General Fun**                      **P.M. – Candlelight service**

**Next week:**            **A.M. – General Fund**                      **P.M. – Christmas**

**2022 Amount Budgeted Weekly for General Fund: \$3690.**

**December 11 Offerings:**

**General Fund: \$3714.34; New Building: \$2010; Ukraine: \$500; Christian School: \$1000.**

**THIS WEEK – December 18 - 24**

**TODAY:**

- The Annual Congregational Meeting will follow the morning service.
- The Sunday School will present their program this evening at 5 in the sanctuary followed by coffee and cookies. The Candlelight service will begin at 6.

**MONDAY:**

- **Youth Group** will meet at 7:00 pm.

**TUESDAY:**

- **Bible Study** will take a break over Christmas and will resume again after the first of the year.

**WEDNESDAY:**

- **Women's Prayer Group** will meet in the Council Room at 10:00 am.
- **Women's Bible Study** will not meet until the New Year.
- **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.

## **FAMILY NEWS**

The Council members who have completed their term of service are elders Mike Hoolsema and Kevin Postma, deacons Tim Hoolsema and Doug Schippers. Thank-you for your dedication, input and wisdom in our discussions and decisions.

After 34 years of service cleaning our church buildings, Tammy Folkersma is looking to retire the end of December. The Council is taking applications for the church cleaning position-5 to 6 hours per week. Contact Bruce or any council member as soon as possible. Thank-you, Tammy, for 34 years of faithful service.

### **Christian School:**

~The Christian School is going to be having their "Parent's Night Out" events at the RAS gym on Saturday, January 7 and 21 from 4-8pm. We are looking for volunteers to help supervise and play with the children or donate snacks. Look for the sign-up sheet. See any board member for questions.

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.