

NOVEMBER 28

O come O come
Emanuel



Sunday, November 28, 2021

First Sunday in Advent

Order of Worship

Approach to God

Prelude

Advent Candle Lighting – Jon & Gayla Mortenson

Worship in Song and Praise

Hymn #249 (vs.1-3) *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Hymn #245 (vs.1-4) *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Opening Prayer

Announcements

Congregational & Offertory Prayer

Hymn of Preparation #139 (vs.1-3) *Great is Thy Faithfulness*
(General Fund Offering)

Joseph Monologue – Jon Mortenson

Word of God

Message – *Characters of Christmas...Joseph!*

Prayer of Blessing

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Passing of the Bread – Hymn #305 (vs.1-4) *Jesus Paid It All*

Passing of the Cup – Hymn #337 vs.1-3) *Nothing But the Blood*

Response to God

Song of Response #278 (vs.1&3) *Angels We Have Heard on High*
(Special Offering for Mission Fund)

*Benediction

*Closing Song #278 (vs.4) *Angels We Have Heard on High*

*Postlude (*please stand if you are able)

Welcome to worship on this Lord's Day morning! We are glad to have all of you present with us. Today is known as "New Year's Sunday" in the Church Year. It is the first Lord's Day in the Season of Advent, a time when key themes such as Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love are highlighted. Together we are pointing forward to the celebration of the gift of the Savior of the World on Christmas Day.

If you are a visitor today, please fill out a "Welcome to the Family" card located by the sanctuary doors and drop it in the basket on the MOVE table in the Fellowship Hall.

Today we will be celebrating the Lord's Supper together on this First Sunday of Advent. We invite anyone who is in good and faithful standing in their church to partake with us at the Communion Table. For our friends who have special diets, there is gluten free bread on the MOVE table in the Fellowship hall. Feel free to pick up a serving before the service, if possible.

Our Special Offering today is for our Mission Fund which supports our RCA Missionaries around the world and our Classis Dues for Missions. Thank you so much for your support of the various funds of Free Grace.

We invite everyone worshipping with us to come to the Fellowship Hall for coffee and lemonade following the worship service.

Today's Worship Attendants:

Pianist – Irene Schuiteman

Sound Tech – Bryce H

Power Point – Nelva H

Prayer Team – Consistory

Ushers – George M & Chad K

Coffee Maker – Tayla K

Nursery Attendants – Beth K, Maren H, Caden K

Ministry of Music – Beau Wells

No Children & Worship

Thank you to Jon & Gayla Mortenson for lighting the Advent Candle this morning. Also thanks to Jon for portraying Joseph in the monologue. We appreciate your willingness to be a part of our worship service.

PRAYER CONCERNS

- Our sincere sympathy to the family of Kevin and Betty Moss in the loss of Betty's brother-in-law, James Martinus, who passed away last weekend. Funeral services were held at the Fairway Christian Reformed Church, of Jenison, MI, on Monday, Nov. 22. Pray for the extended family of James as they mourn the loss of their loved one.
- Remember the Punt Family and the extended families of Arlene Bidwell who entered her heavenly home recently.
- Also remember Mary Swets in your prayers as she was admitted to the Sioux Center Hospital this past week and that she will recover quickly.

- Pray for Carl Moss who had knee surgery recently and for Nelva Huitink as she heals from her Ball's Palsy virus.
- Pastor Mark as he deals with the blood clot in his leg. Pray for complete healing in the near future.
- Our "home-bound" members of our congregation: Lucille Van Zee, Harriet Vander Zwaag, and Cleo & Joyce Te Slaa.

PRAYER FOCUS OF THE WEEK

Our prayer focus is the Rich Kooiker family. Farming, ranching and going to cattle sales fill Rich's days. He also enjoys riding horse and camping. Nerv stays busy doing mom and grandma things. She enjoys Bible studies, Snap fitness and ranching with her horse. Joe keeps busy farming, ranching and hauling cattle. He enjoys training and riding horses. In the winter he likes to take a trip or two to Wyoming with his snowmobile. Carol is a loan officer at American State Bank in Hull. The highlight of her day is walking to the farm to feed her calves. She also enjoys riding horse, camping and ranching. Andra is employed at Trans-Ova Genetics as a Cattle Production Assistant. In her free time she likes to do some baking and also enjoys riding horse, camping and ranching. The Kooikers are thankful for all the babies being born into our congregation and ask that we all take the promise we make to do our part in teaching the kids about Jesus seriously. They also appreciate all the young people involved in our church and the church growth both spiritually and physically. They are also thankful for the safe and miraculous bountiful harvest. They ask us to join them in praying for the persecuted church, our nation's values, especially the sin of abortion and that we take sin seriously. Also pray that the truth of the scriptures be preached and the Holy Spirit convicts our hearts of the sin in our lives and leads us to repentance. Above all, love each other deeply because love covers over a multitude of sins (I Peter 4:8). Please keep the Kooiker family in your prayers this coming week.

THANK YOU

Thank you for all the donations for Operation Christmas Child. We were able to bless 43 children with your generous donations. Thank you to the Jr. RCYF for packing our boxes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Note: Starting this Wednesday, Christmas Program practice for the 2nd-6th graders will end at 8:15pm on Wednesday evenings. Please not this time change.

From the Consistory:

- The nominated candidates for the 2022 Consistory are Jon Mortenson, George Miller and Mike Buyert for the Elder positions. Justin Draayer, Ryan Bakker, Jordan Kooiker and Eric Mulder are the nominated candidates for the Deacon position. We will be selecting two elders and two deacons at our annual Congregational Meeting by casting of lots. These four men will then be presented to the membership for affirmation at the meeting. Be in prayer for these men and for God's leading throughout this selection process.
- Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held tomorrow evening, Monday, Nov. 29, at 7:00 PM. We will be selecting new consistory members for 2022 and review the business of our church. A time of fellowship will follow the meeting.
- New Member's Luncheon on next Sunday, December 5th, 10:45AM to 1:00 PM (right after the worship service). This luncheon is for anyone in the church that hasn't formally become a member of Free Grace Reformed Church. Pastor Mark will share important information about the church and answer any questions that you may have. Then the Elders of Free Grace will join us as we share a special noon meal together. Your children can join us after the Sunday School time. If you are interested, please sign up on the MOVE table.

From the Mission Outreach Committee: There are extras of pig-in-a-blankets available. Please contact Andrea Wielenga or Joyce Vander Wilt if you would like to purchase some for your holiday gatherings.



MEN! Are you looking for some good ideas on how your life can make a difference for Jesus? “Mendistry” men will find the ways as they meet in a barn, garage, shop, or office.

THIS WEEK:

Monday, Nov. 29 @ 7:00 PM – Annual Congregational Meeting.
See Consistory Information above for details.

Tuesday, Nov. 30 – Tuesday AM Bible Study.

Wednesday, Dec. 1 -

6:00 AM – Men’s Bible Study.

9:00 AM – Ladies Bible Study at Lucille’s home. Lunch Host is Sue Kooiker.

6:15-7:00 PM – Wednesday Night Family Supper. Menu includes variety of casseroles. Everyone is invited to come for fellowship and good home cooked food.

7:00 PM - Wednesday Night Activities. Reminder: 2nd-6th graders will be practicing the Christmas Program and will be dismissed at 8:15 PM.

NEXT SUNDAY, December 5 -

Pastor Mark’s Message – *The Character of Christmas...Mary*
Offering – General Fund

Special Offering – Christmas Candy Offering

Worship Attendants:

Pianist/Guitarist – Emily Schwartz

Sound Tech – Dilan M

Power Point – Nelva H

Ushers – Mikah S & Kevin O

Prayer Team – Kevin M & Joe K

Children’s Message – Pastor Mark

Ministry of Music – Loren Te Slaas

Coffee/Cookies – Kate B & Jan VM

Nursery Attendants – Deb TS, Jasmine DJ, Brayson K

Children & Worship – Rainbows (1st-2nd grade)

Storyteller – Mary S

Helper – Jocelynn O

Greeters – Gayla M & Lana O

10:45 AM – New Members’ Luncheon.

NEXT WEEK:

Monday, Dec. 6 – Consistory Transitional & Regular Meeting.

Tuesday, Dec. 7 @ 9:00 AM – Tuesday AM Bible Study.

Wednesday, Dec. 8:

6:00 AM – Men's Bible Study

7:00 PM – Wednesday Night Activities.

LOOKING AHEAD:

Sunday, December 12, 2021 – Christmas Caroling Evening.

Friday, December 24, 2021 – Christmas Program

Saturday, January 15, 2022 – Mendistry Gathering.

March 4-5, 2022 - IF:2022 Women's Gathering.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Saturday, Dec. 4 @ 7:00 PM AND Sunday, Dec. 5 @ 3:00 PM –

You are invited to Northwestern College's Christmas Vespers presented by the music department in the Christ Chapel. This year's performances will center on the theme of light, as it is revealed in Christ and shared by those who follow him. Both concerts are free and open to the public.



Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 AM

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