



MIDDLEBURG FREE GRACE

# REFORMED CHURCH

*Knowing Jesus and making Jesus known*



Pastor Mark Schwarz

# WELCOME

WE ARE SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE TO WORSHIP WITH US!

# WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023

**Prelude** - Nevonne Stoker

**Lighting of the Advent Candle** - Jasmine DeJong & Olivia Kraayenbrink

**\*Praise & Worship**

Joy to the World

Emmanuel

Here With Us

**\*Prayer**

**Children's Message** - Kaylee Moss

**Announcements**

**Congregational & Offertory Prayer**

**General Offering**

**Hymn #705** - It Is Well (vs. 1,3,4)

*No Children & Worship*

**Message** – Hope for the Hurting

**Prayer of Blessing**

**Communion**

**Bread:** Hymn #488 - Just As I Am (1-4)

**Cup:** Hymn #508 - Love Lifted Me (1-3)

**Hymn #337** - Nothing but the Blood (1-3)

**Special Offering** - Mission Fund

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

## FELLOWSHIP WITH US

A special welcome to our visitors! If you are a visitor, we would like to make contact with you. Please fill out a "Welcome to the Family" card located by the sanctuary doors and leave it on the table or put it in Pastor Mark's church mailbox. Thank you for coming! Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall today to enjoy cookies, coffee, and lemonade.

*\* Please stand if you are able*

*Greetings in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ! In Romans 15:7 we read these words of instruction for the faith community. "Accepting one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God." Today we will be celebrating Holy Communion, we remember that Jesus welcomes sinners to the table of grace. Gathering at the Lord's Table we remember the words, "Come, for all things are now ready." May we genuinely welcome our Christian brothers and sisters today and every time we gather for worship and fellowship.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Christmas Choir**

We are putting together a choir for the Christmas morning service. Practices will be at 7:00 PM on Dec. 4, 11, and 18. Please sign up on the MOVE table or contact Kaylee Moss today if you would like to join.

### **Christmas Caroling**

We will be taking the year off of doing Christmas caroling as a church. However, we want to encourage Life groups, friend groups or families to Christmas carol on your own, especially to our homebound and nursing home members. Surprise them, or make arrangements for a specific time to bless them with some Christmas carols and perhaps a prayer or some goodies. This will be a beautiful way to share Jesus's love.

### **Consistory**

We welcome Evan Kraayenbrink, and Loren Te Slaa as new Elders, and Dan Oolman as the new deacon added to our consistory.

*Thank you!*

Thank you for all the prayers for our daughter-in-law Dina. She said she really felt God's presence as she was going through her cancer journey. The power of prayer is amazing.

**—Larry, Joyce, Jeff, Dina and family**

Thank you to everyone who supported our family with texts, calls, cards, and prayers. We felt all of those prayers and positive thoughts through Lane's recovery and again as Mary is recovering. Thank you so much.

**— Hettinga Family**

Thank you to all who attended the taco supper and for all of the incredible support for the South Africa mission team. We raised \$2439 between the supper and the offering. Thank you for helping us to be the hands and feet of Jesus and keep us in your prayers as we continue to prepare for this trip.

**— South Africa Mission Team**

## PRAYER FOCUS OF THE WEEK

Our prayer focus is the Travis and Farrah De Jong family. Travis works at Trans Ova on the maintenance team. He loves camping, riding horse, fishing and staying busy at home. Farrah works at Trans Ova in the regulatory department. She enjoys camping, games, and spending time with family and friends. Jasmine is a senior and graduates this month. She plans to attend SDSU next fall. Taten is a sophomore and is busy in FFA, Esports, and show choir. Raelin is in fifth grade and loves every adventure she can find. She is involved in volleyball, basketball, softball, soccer, band, choir, 4-H and the school musical. The De Jongs ask us to join them in praying that everyone remembers the real reason for Christmas and for safe travels during the busy month of December as we go to visit family and friends. Keep the De Jong family in your prayers this week.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

**Let us remember our friends and family in our prayers:**

- Mary & Lane Hettinga as they heal from their surgeries.
- Travis De Jong and his family in the passing of his Grandmother.
- William & Rachel (Vander Waal) Klok family, neighbors of Chris & Vicki Garris. Their two year old son was tragically killed in an accident on the farm.
- Scott Kooiman, son-in-law of Wrede & Barb (Kooiker) Vogel, was diagnosed with colon cancer. Pray for him and his family at this time.
- Ezra Kraayenbrink; Dale Kraayenbrink, brother of Evan; and Dina Vander Wilt; Daniel Peat, (Harv Punt's nephew). Pray for their healing and recovery.
- Lucille Van Zee, Harriet Vander Zwaag, Peter Leo Vander Zwaag our elderly and "home-bounders."

## THIS WEEK

**Tuesday, 9 AM** – Bible Study: *"Ecclesiastes: Finding meaning in a world of passing pursuits"*

**Wednesday, 7 PM** – Wednesday Night Meal & Activities - Assorted casseroles  
– Christmas program practice will end at 8:30 for the next three weeks.

**Thursday, 4 PM** – Bible Study: The book of John

**Saturday & Sunday** – NWC Christmas Vespers

# GET INVOLVED

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Dec. 9-10 – Maurice Live Nativity**

**Dec. 21 – Mission Trip Pizza Ranch Tip Night**

**Dec. 23 – Christmas Program Practice**

**Dec. 24 – Christmas Program**

**Dec. 25 – Christmas Day Service**

## *Special Days*

### **BIRTHDAYS**

Dec. 4 - Lois Van Roekel

Dec. 6 - Keegan Wielenga

Dec. 7 - Kevin Wielenga

Dec. 8 - Karson Van Der Zwaag

Dec. 8 - Hunter Kroese

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Dec. 4 - Dave & Tami Lund

Dec. 8 - Frank & Beth Van Der Wilt

### **Saturday, December 2 & Sunday Dec. 3, 2023**

Northwestern College Christmas Vespers featuring several ensembles, audience carols, and a Christmas play presented by members of the A Cappella Choir. Saturday, Dec. 2, 7:00 pm and Sunday, Dec. 3, 3:00 pm at Christ Chapel.

### **Saturday December 9 & Sunday, December 10, 2023**

Maurice Reformed Church Live Nativity. Please consider joining us on Saturday, December 9 or Sunday, December 10 in Maurice from 5:30-8:30pm. with your family, friends, youth groups and neighbors as we share the Christmas story with our community in a special way! A team of horses will lead wagons down a lit path, along with a narrator sharing the Christmas story, as their high school students present the events leading to the birth of Christ. Enjoy a warm supper and refreshments in our Family Life Center before or after you ride. This event is a freewill donation, with all proceeds going to support the MRC Sr. High students and their summer mission trip to the Appalachia region in June of 2024.

### **Thursday, December 21, 2023**

Pizza Ranch tip night at the Orange City pizza ranch for the South Africa trip on Thursday Dec. 21 from 5-8pm.

### **Saturday, February 10-17, 2024**

A mission trip is planned to go to Rolling Fork, Mississippi. We will be driving down to Mississippi and doing home repairs to houses that suffered damage from the March 2023 tornado. Glen and Julie Leusink are the organizers for World Renew for this project. Please sign up on the MOVE table by Dec 10th. If you have questions, please contact Joyce Vander Wilt, Andrea Wielenga, or a mission outreach committee member.

# Hope For The Hurting!

*"Find rest, O my soul, in God alone.  
My hope comes from Him." Psalm 62:5*

## WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE HURTING?

**Instead of giving into panic, Lean on God for \_\_\_\_\_.**

*My soul finds rest in God alone. My salvation comes from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation. He is my fortress. I will never be shaken. Psalm 62:1-2*

**Instead of giving into pity, Look to God for \_\_\_\_\_.**

*"My salvation and my honor depend on God. He is my mighty rock, my refuge. Trust Him at all times oh, people. Pour out your hearts to Him. For God is our refuge." Psalm 62:7*

**Instead of giving into pessimism Listen to God for \_\_\_\_\_.**

*"One thing God has spoken and two things I have heard that  
You O God are strong and that You, O Lord, are loving." Psalm 62:11*



## *Bible Verses about Hope!*

But the needy will not always be forgotten,  
nor the hope of the afflicted ever perish. Psalm 9:18

Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD.  
Psalm 1:24

But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose  
hope is in his unfailing love. Psalm 33:18

May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD,  
even as we put our hope in you. Psalm 33:22

“But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you.” Psalm 39:7

For you have been my hope, O Sovereign LORD,  
my confidence since my youth. Psalm 71:5

Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget  
his deeds but would keep his commands. Psalm 78:7

May those who fear you rejoice when they see me,  
for I have put my hope in your word. Psalm 119:74

My soul faints with longing for your salvation,  
but I have put my hope in your word. Psalm 119:81

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD his God. Psalm 146:5

There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.  
Psalm 23:18

Know also that wisdom is sweet to your soul; if you find it, here is a future  
hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off. Psalm 24:14

For the grave cannot praise you, death cannot sing your praise; those  
who go down to the pit cannot hope for your faithfulness. Isaiah 38:18

“But blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,  
whose confidence is in him.” Jeremiah 17:7

Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope.  
Lamentations 3:21

I say to myself, “The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.”  
Lamentation 3:24

It is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.  
Lamentations 3:26

The LORD will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth  
and the sky will tremble. But the LORD will be a refuge for his people, a  
stronghold for the people of Israel. Joel 3:16



## TODAY'S WORSHIP

Pianist - Haley B.  
Organist - Nevonne S.  
Sound Tech - Luke K.  
Power Point Creator - Mark D.  
Ministry of Music - Justin Draayer  
Coffee/Cookies - Justine D. & Shelly K.  
Ushers - Justin R. & Dilan M.  
Children's Message - Kaylee M.  
Prayer Team - Full Consistory

### NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Janelle V.Z., Jenna V.W., Ethan S.

### CHILDREN & WORSHIP

None.

### ELDER GREETERS

Ken(E); Jon(S); Pastor(W);

## NEXT SUNDAY

Pianist - Haley B.  
Sound Tech - Garret V.W.  
Power Point Creator - Mark D.  
Ministry of Music - Eric Mulder  
Coffee/Lemonade - Brittany H.  
Ushers - Harlan H. & Billy H.  
Prayer Team - George M. & Billy K.

### CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Little Lambs (3yr - TK)  
Storyteller - Janelle VDZ  
Helper - Luke K.  
Greeters - Andrea W. & Maddie

### ELDER GREETERS

Pastor(E); George(S); Ken(W);

### NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Carmen M., Raelin D.J., Joslin H.

## OUR LEADERSHIP

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**ELDERS**  
Rus Verburg  
Jon Mortenson  
George Miller  
Even Kraayenbrink  
Loren Te Slaa

**DEACONS**  
Justin Draayer  
Eric Mulder  
Billy Kooiker Jr.  
Steven Broersma  
Dan Oolman



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**Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. go to our Facebook Page to view our live stream services**

*Please have your bulletin announcements and notices sent to Tara Kooiker at [tara.kooiker@gmail.com](mailto:tara.kooiker@gmail.com) by 8pm on Wednesday.*