

December 16, 2018
The Third Sunday of Advent
Worship 9:30 AM

Gathering

Prelude: "Come To My Heart" / "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"
"Go, Tell It On the Mountain" / "O Thou that Tellest Good Tidings to Zion"
*Gathering Song: "Arise, Shine, for Your Light Is Come"
*Welcome and Call to Worship
*God's Greeting
*Passing the Peace of Christ

Advent Expectation

Children's Worship Handbell Choir: "Joy to the World"
Advent Song: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Old Testament Lesson
New Testament Lesson
Lighting the Third Candle – Joy
Song of Peace: "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"

Thanking God For His Grace

Congregational Prayer
Offerings: Noisy Coin Collection: Mosquito Nets for Karin Medical Clinic, The General Fund, Bethany Christian Services
Offertory: "Ring the Bells" and "Mary, Did You Know?"

Receiving God's Word

*Song of Preparation: "O Shepherd Hear and Lead Your Flock"
Scripture Lesson: John 3:16
Message: "Priority Delivery"
Prayer

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Children's Christmas Program: What Did I Miss?

Students gather for a lesson about the birth of Jesus. When one member of the class arrives late, the class wonders if anyone was late in Bethlehem when Jesus was born. We look at four stories: the visit of Mary to Elizabeth's home, Mary and Joseph coming to the inn, the angels announcing the birth to shepherds, and the magi's visit to Bethlehem. The class then reflects on how they are as much a part of the story as if they had been right there in the stable with Joseph and Mary. They realize that because we're children of God, we haven't missed a thing!

Scene 1: The KidsOwn Room
Scene 2: At Elizabeth's Home - "O Come to Set Us Free"
Scene 3: At the Inn - "Mary Had a Baby"
Scene 4: In the Fields - "Away in a Manger"
Scene 5: At the University
Scene 6: What Did I Miss? - "Lift Your Eyes"

Departing as Witnesses

*Blessing from God
*Parting Hymn: "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"
*Postlude: "Hurry to Bethlehem"
*Stand if able

Piano: Louise Slager

Advent Readers: Vincent Mellema, Zach Van Wyk

Children's Worship Hand Bell Choir: Katherine Donkersloot, Mila Krohn, Evelyn Miller, Cole Breuker, Eli DeLonge, Katie Deur, Addie Geers, Theo Buchanan, Charlotte Cook, Anders Folkema, Blayke Luchies, Ingrid Mellema, Emma Wolffis, Harper Hughes

Preacher: Pastor Doug MacLeod

Christmas Program Piano: Karen Admiraal

Christmas Program Students: Dirk Buchanan, Seth DeKuiper, Kenzi Tank, Grace Cook, Caleb Deur, Lucy Folkema, Avery Pinkston, Ricky Tank, Emily Krohn, Liam Buchanan, Sam Mellema, Elsie Barnhart, Carter Cook, Ava Geers, Will Folkema, Miriam Jiran, Deacon Nieboer, Natalie Pinkston, Breven Powell Lydia Vandenberg, Taylor DeKuiper

SECOND CHURCH NEWS

WORSHIP TODAY, The Third Sunday of Advent, December 16. The Children's Worship Hand-bell Choir rings "Joy to the World" and we light the third Advent candle (Joy). Pastor MacLeod has a short message from John 3:16, and our Sunday School children present a Christmas Program, "What Did I Miss?" Our offerings are a Noisy Coin offering for mosquito nets at the Karin Medical Clinic in Uganda, and for the General Fund and Bethany Christian Services.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT is a time to recall and to experience the ancient expectancy for the Messiah with anticipation for Christ's birth and Incarnation. Advent is not part of the Christmas season itself, but a preparation for it. In Advent we share in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, and we renew our ardent desire for his second coming.

OUR ADVENT BANNER AND PULPIT PARAMENT have the presenting color of purple which is symbolic of royalty as well as preparation or waiting. The star and streak of light dawning through the middle of the banner remind us that the One we are waiting for is the Light of the World.

OUR ADVENT CANDLES are presented this year on a wooden beam. Our Advent theme from John 3:16 is that God sent his Son into this world for our salvation. The beam is a foreshadowing of Good Friday's cross beam. The table coverings include satin as a symbol of Christ's divinity and burlap as a symbol of his earthly humanity. Additionally, the evergreen trees serve as a reminder of the eternal life that Jesus bought us on the cross.

WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY, The Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23. We will light the fourth Advent candle (Love) and Pastor Doug will continue his series of messages from John 3:16, "Death or Life." Our offerings will be for the General Fund and Fremont Community Closet.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 9:30 pm. Bring your family and friends to our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight service hosted and led by the students of FYSH (Fremont Youth Serving Him).

CHRISTMAS DAY services are being hosted this year at First CRC and at Trinity CRC. Both services will begin at 9:30 AM.

LOVE OFFERING: An envelope labeled "Love Offering" has been placed in mailboxes to give us an opportunity to show our good will and appreciation for our church staff this Christmas season. If you would like to participate, please place your Love Offering in the collection plate in the provided envelope by December 16. You may specify how your gift is to be dispersed if you desire. Please note: any late offerings that come in following December 16 will be added to the General Fund.

KARIN MEDICAL CLINIC UPDATE: Thank you for the generosity shown with the collection for Karin Medical Clinic. Karin Medical Clinic was facing a deficit of \$8,000 and through your giving and generous hearts, 2nd CRC was able to help offset that deficit by collecting \$3,400. Between 2nd CRC's collections along with other supporters of Karin Medical Clinic the \$8,000 deficit has been erased!

CROSSROADS PRISON MINISTRIES is an international ministry to prisoners. Students of Crossroads are sent Bible lessons which are returned to mentors for correction. Being a mentor requires approximately a one to two hour commitment per week including writing a one-page letter of encouragement to the student. If you're looking for an opportunity to serve, to share the good news of Christ's love, and to make a difference in the lives of those in prison, consider becoming a Crossroads mentor. Visit <https://cpministries.org/get-involved/>, call 800-668-2450, or email mentor@cpministries.org, and/or contact Second's Outreach Committee - Mariel Poel, Bette Wagenmaker, Tyler Cook, Lewis Blohm, Joe Jiran, and Bob Barnhart.

COFFEEBREAK UPDATE: Give thanks for the stimulating, Spirit-led discussions/learning from the fall studies by all involved. Pray that the CB women, like the early disciples, will be bold in sharing the story of Jesus -- in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, the ends of the earth, including Fremont! Give thanks for the hours of dedication/commitment of the CoffeeBreak and Story Hour leaders, nursery staff and refreshment staff. May the efforts of their "hands" be acceptable to God and used for His glory.

On January 8, 2019 CoffeeBreak/StoryHour will resume - continuing the study of Acts. Pray for the women and children returning and that God will continue to use this ministry in the Fremont community.

STOCK THE PANTRY: For the month of December the Deacons request soup and crackers for donation to the TrueNorth food pantry.

FYSH

- Dec 16, 7:13 PM – Christmas Party

Young Life

- Dec 19, 7:56 PM – YL Club at Fremont Rec Center

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

- **Jean Sneller** is recovering at home following her shoulder replacement surgery
- Pray for **Will and Jan Ruthven** with Appalachia Reach Out in Inez, Kentucky.

SECOND CHURCH CALENDAR

Today

9:30 AM Morning Worship Service
7:13 PM FYSH Christmas party

Monday

7:00 PM Friendship

Wednesday

6:00 PM Shepherding Elders
6:30 GEMS
6:30 Cadets
7:00 Council
7:56 Young Life Club at Fremont Rec Center

Thursday

8:30 AM 55+ Breakfast at Brew Works

AVAILABLE ON THE LITERATURE LEDGE

- December 12 2nd's Matters
- TODAY Devotional for Nov/Dec

SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS

Ushers (Call Bob Hayward if you cannot find your own substitute)

Today: Jon Volz, Gabriel Brasser, Ryan Boven, Stan Deur
Next Week: Dan Ward, Randy Pell, Ryan Buchanan, Tom Stepanek

Nursery Attendants

(Call Mary V. Folkema if you cannot find your own substitute)

Today: Infant: Valerie Volz, Christi Tank
Toddler: Cathy MacLeod, Ben Mellema, Elynn Kartes
Next Week: Infant: Kim Hayward, Sally Mellema
Toddler: Donna Essebagers, Jenna Karnemaat, Abby VandenBerg

Greeters

Today: Zach and Lizzie Van Wyk
Next Week: Tyler and Jody Cook

Newaygo Medical Care Facility Visitors Service begins at 2 PM

Today: Trinity CRC
Next Week: Speaker Rev. Fred Bultman; Ed and Sara Krohn, Dale and Sherry Lue, Jon and Rebekah Mellema,

Drivers for Deerfield Residents

Today: Bruce Essebagers

Sound and Video Operators

Today: Jon Mellema, Jonathan Mellema
Next Week: Jason DeKuiper, Tyler Cook

Children's Worship

Today: Christmas Program
Next Week: Donna DeLonge, helper Logan Karnemaat

Kids' Own

Today: Christmas Program
Next Week: Christmas Break

Kids' Own Jr

Today: Christmas Program
Next Week: Christmas Break

Cookies (6 dozen each to be at church by 9:15 am)

Today: Esther Jiran, Karen Admiraal
Next Week: Lizzie Van Wyk, Karen Vogel

Noisy Coin Collection

Today: Carter Cook, Lydia VandenBerg, Grace Cook, Liam Nyblad, Elsie Barnhart, Ava Geers