

## **SECOND'S MATTERS**

January 20, 2021



**Second Church  
of Fremont**

*Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known*

### **From Your Pastor's Desk**

On this day of the inauguration of the 46<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, and guided by 1 Timothy 2:1-2, here are prayers drawn from the *Book of Common Prayer*:

*A prayer for our country:* Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*A prayer for the President of the United States and All in Civil Authority:* O Lord our Governor, whose glory is in all the world: We commend this nation to thy merciful care, that, being guided by thy Providence, we may dwell secure in thy peace. Grant to the President of the United States, the Governor of this State, and to all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do thy will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people in thy fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

### **From Your Student Ministries Director's Desk**

As I write this little paragraph, I am sitting in a comfy chair, with a cup of coffee, watching the snow fall and thinking about this week. This is a big week; sanctity of human life Sunday, MLK Day, and a presidential inauguration. From the relative peace of my chair, it is easy to pretend the world is all as it should be, and yet we know it's not. Racial and political tensions are high. The complexities of COVID seem to change daily. Then there is all the stuff in our personal lives. It is a lot for us to think about. Truthfully, sometimes it leaves me wondering if there is even anything that we can do about it. I bet some of you have felt that way before.

I think we put too much pressure on ourselves. I don't think that any one of us can fix all of the world's problems, but we can each make this world a better place. So, that might mean you practice loving your - neighbors. It might mean intentionally raising your kids to be anti-racist. It might mean you befriend people that you disagree with and find ways to build bridges. I don't know what your next right thing is, but I do know that it includes trying to be more like Jesus. It means fighting darkness with light and hate with love. It means denying ourselves and learning to, "as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone." On difficult days, I often catch myself singing a hymn that I remember learning in Mrs. Nugteren's 4th-grade class. Today it is a prayer for peace and steps towards the next right thing in your life.

*"This is my Father's world: / O let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, / God is the Ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world: / Why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring! / God reigns; let the earth be glad!"*

### **Sunday Worship, January 24**

We offer in-person worship this Sunday. We value in-person worship and the safety of all who would gather for worship. Therefore, **masks are required** inside the building at all times, and we keep every other pew roped off for social distancing. We also value choices for health and safety and therefore, we will livestream the service and welcome your worship participation via our livestream: [tinyurl.com/2ndcrclive](https://tinyurl.com/2ndcrclive)

This Sunday we debut "Grace Encounters." These will be short video testimonies from individuals of our congregation relating specific instances where they encountered God's grace.

Pastor Doug's message, "What Can We Expect?" will be based on Revelation 1:1-8. In Revelation we find a gift for comforting and encouraging the church and the disciples of Christ amid the troubles and fears of the day.

### **Our Church Family**

Our sympathies are extended to **Ann Yonker** whose mother, Marie Terpstra, passed away on Monday.

**Kay and Dick Wolters** are now both hospitalized for COVID treatment. Kay is in Muskegon; Dick is here in Fremont.

**Pat Boyd** has returned home, and will be self-quarantined for twenty days, after being briefly hospitalized for COVID treatment.

**Tim Boeskool** continues to wait for surgery that is necessary to reconstruct a serious break in his leg.

## Congregational News

### Mobile Food Truck, Today, Wednesday, January 20

TODAY, January 20, we again host drive-thru food pick-up. Recipients will stay in their vehicles and prepared allotments of food will be placed in their vehicles. Volunteers are needed, please contact Audra Powell ([audrascott@hotmail.com](mailto:audrascott@hotmail.com)). Please arrive at church by 4:00 pm.

### FYSH Food Drive Benefitting True North

Did you know that January and February are the leanest months at food pantries? In January FYSH collects donations and pop cans to purchase supplies for True North. If you would like to donate pop cans or donate monetarily please reach out to Zach via email or by calling the church office.

### Baby Bottle Fundraiser

Insight Pregnancy Services baby bottle fundraiser has started. In the lobby of the church, you will find a basket filled with empty baby bottles waiting to be filled with money. Please take one or two home, fill with coins, cash, and/or checks and return it to the church by Sunday, February 28.

### Sunday Morning Children's Ministries

Nursery and Story Hour are offered during the worship service. If you have any questions about these programs, please reach out to Zach via email or by calling the church office.

### Kids Hope

January is Mentor Month ❤️ And despite Covid regulations, Second Church's Kids Hope Mentors are still busy loving youth in our community in the name of Christ. We are blessed to have 8 mentors positively influencing 8 young lives this year. They have been giving consistent attention, encouragement, and love through a pen pal relationship since they are unable to visit the schools. We ask you to help us give thanks for and pray for the efforts of our mentors Audra Powell, Ann Pell, Ashley Luchies, Jody Cook, Jane VanOstenberg, Jane Vogel, Stephanie DeKuiper, and Victoria Wilkinson.

### Sunday Morning Prayer Gathering

Join us in the Fireside Room at 9:05 am each Sunday morning as we lift the worship service and other requests up to the Lord. There is power in prayer!

### Offerings

Our Deacons welcome our support for our congregation's financial obligations with our offerings. Donations can be mailed to the church at 600 Apache Drive or submitted online via bank account, or card at this link: [Online Giving](#). If you wish to give to Christian Education or Faith Promise online, then download the "GivePlus" app. Special envelope offerings for the months are:

*January 24 – TrueNorth*

*January 31 – Fremont Young Life*

### Stock the Pantry

For the month of January, the requested food items are cereal and pancake mix and syrup. Donations can be dropped off at church or directly at TrueNorth

### The Nest

The Nest is a second-hand shop in Fremont which supports local Christian education. Currently, our furniture inventory is very low. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Current hours of operation are Tues. - Fri., 10:00 to 5:00 and Sat., 10:00 to 3:00. Phone: 924-3930.

### Calvin University

**January Series** – January 6-26, in 15 free weekly, lunchtime lectures from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. with topics ranging from the future of the Supreme Court, climate change, the era of intelligent technology, civil discourse, racial tensions, the arts as a healing balm and so much more by top experts in their fields. This year the January Series will have a completely virtual audience. For more information visit [www.calvin.edu/january](http://www.calvin.edu/january)

**Calvin Institute of Christian Worship Symposium** - You are invited to register for a free online learning experience held January 6-26, on key themes in worship and the Christian life. Register for free at [worship.calvin.edu/symposium/](http://worship.calvin.edu/symposium/).

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