



# Peace

*Since we have been justified through  
faith, we have peace with God through  
our Lord Jesus Christ*

# NIEKERK CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

December 14, 2025  
Morning Worship Service 9:30am

## Advent Week #3 Children's Christmas Program

Prelude

Advent Reading

Welcome

\*God's Greeting

\*Mutual Greeting

***\*Angels We Have Heard on High***

***\*He Shall Reign Forevermore***

Prayer

Offering: Holland Deacons' Conference

~PLEASE SIGN AND PASS THE FELLOWSHIP REGISTERS~

Scripture: Isaiah 57:14-21 – page 1153

Romans 5:1-11 – page 1750

Message: **A Mission of Peace**

Prayer

***\*Like a River Glorious***

***"Unwrapping the Names of Jesus"***

Benediction

***\*Gloria***

Postlude

Pastor John Nyitray

Pianist: Jen Leep

Organist: Karen Lucas

\*Stand as you are able

## **WORSHIP SERVICE NOTES**

**Live Stream and In-Person Worship.** The morning and evening services will be live and in person at 9:30am and 5pm. The live stream can be found on the website [www.niekerkcrc.org](http://www.niekerkcrc.org) under sermons. The services will be uploaded following the live stream.

## EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE—5:00pm

Prelude

Welcome

\*Call to Worship

\*God's Greeting

\*Mutual Greeting

**\*Hark, the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes**

**\*Jesus, the Light of the World**

Confession of Faith

**\*Joy to the World**

Prayer

Offering: Holland Deacons' Conference

~PLEASE SIGN AND PASS THE FELLOWSHIP REGISTERS~

**\*Count Your Blessings**

Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:6-10 – page 1848

Message: **How to Handle the Blessings of God**

Prayer

**\*O Come, My Soul, Sing Praise**

\*God's Blessing

**\*Joy to the World**

Postlude

Pastor Duane Terpstra

Pianist: Jen Leep

\*Stand as you are able

*Remember to pass the Fellowship Registers.*

**Coffee, juice and cookies** are served after the morning service in the Fellowship Center.

**Catechism classes** for 4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade meet in the youth building.

**Sunday School classes** for Preschool to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade meet in the basement in the All Purpose Room.

**Little Lambs will not meet today.** Advance notice: Little Lambs will not meet on December 21. We will start again on December 28.

**Last week's envelope collection totaled \$13,575.** This amount includes electronic giving.

**Offering Schedule:**

|             |                              |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| December 14 | Holland Deacons' Conference  |
| December 21 | Multiplication Network       |
| December 25 | Bravo CRC (Christmas Day)    |
| December 28 | Special Education of Holland |

**Nursery Attendants:**

This Week: AM: Sue Hoekstra & Abby Helder  
PM: Carol Venema & Deb Haan

Next Week: AM: Margaret Timmer & Lisa Kragt  
PM: Trisha Texer & Dawn Folkert

**THIS WEEK AT NIEKERK**

|           |          |                                 |
|-----------|----------|---------------------------------|
| Today     | 9:30 AM  | Morning Worship Service         |
|           | 10:45 AM | Coffee Fellowship               |
|           | 10:45 AM | Sunday School and Catechism     |
|           | 10:45 AM | Choir Practice                  |
|           | 5:00 PM  | Evening Worship Service         |
| Monday    | 9:00 AM  | Indoor Walking                  |
|           | 6:30 PM  | Shepherding Meeting             |
| Wednesday | 6:15 PM  | Cadets & GEMS                   |
| Thursday  | 9:00 AM  | Indoor Walking                  |
|           | 9:30 AM  | Men's Bible Study (Luke 2:8-20) |

**COUNCIL NOTES**

**The Congregational Meeting** was held on Monday evening, December 4. There were 50 members in attendance. Thirty-four absentee ballots were received. Following devotions, prayer, the presentation of the budget proposal, and a time of discussion the proposed 2026 budget was adopted by a vote of 81 to 3. The Council thanks the congregation for its participation and praises God for providing for our church financially. We pray for God's blessing as Niekerk uses these funds for work in the Kingdom.

**The Council** will begin in January the process of nominating new Elders and Deacons. To assist in this process, we desire your input as well. In your mailbox there is a suggestion form for each professing member to fill out and return to the suggestion box at the Information Center by Sunday, December 21, 2025.

## **YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**High School Youth Group:** We will continue our study on Job on Sunday, December 21. Looking forward to seeing you then!

## **OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

Happy Birthday to **Elmer Nyhof!** He will be 81 years old on Thursday. His favorite verse is, "I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth." Psalm 121:1-2

Happy Birthday to **Nonie Rietman!** She will be 95 years old on Monday. Her favorite verse is, "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." Psalm 73:26

Pray for **Carol and Larry Smith.** Carol was admitted to the hospital in Florida on Tuesday and is being treated for a bowel obstruction. Pray for her healing.

Happy Birthday to **Sid Staal!** He is 90 years old today! His favorite verse is, "Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands." Psalm 90:1 & 17

**Lou and MaryAnne Wagenveld** request prayer for procedures and appointments they have this week.

**Pray for reconciliation.** First, that those around us would be reconciled with God and then, that relationships with others that have been bruised and broken would be made whole once again.

Pray for those who stand in need of the Lord's healing and sustaining strength. Pray for **Carol Smith** who was hospitalized this past week in Florida. Pray as well for **Cal Schierbeek, Jean Tjarks, Judy Chacko, Jerry Brower,** and **Bill Keen.**

Pray for the **missionaries** we help to support. This week remember **Mohan & Judy Chako, Matt & Emily Slack,** and the ministry of **World Renew.**

Pray for the **Search Team** as they continue to follow the Lord's lead in seeking a pastor for our congregation. Pray as well for **Niekerk.** Pray that the Lord would continue to do His work of preparing our congregation for the next pastor and his family.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Niekerk News Reminder.** It's time again to gather information for the January 2026 newsletter. Remember to submit reports, thank you notes, volunteer lists and all other news by next **Sunday, December 21**. Notes can be placed in the kitchen service door mail slot, the newsletter mailboxes located in the bottom right-hand corner of each mailbox section or send an email to [secretary@niekerkcrc.org](mailto:secretary@niekerkcrc.org).

**Valet Parking.** The Deacons would like to offer/help arrange valet parking for anyone interested during the winter months as the parking lot can get icy. This will be at the east side entrance of the building "Door B" only. It will be for both services starting 1/2 hour before the service with vehicles returned after the service.

**Next Sunday evening, December 21, is the candlelight service.** Join us for a service of scripture and song, as we read, sing, and pray our way through the Christmas story. Musicians and readers of all ages will take part in this joyful celebration.

**Niekerk Holiday Choir** will continue to rehearse throughout the holiday season. New members are welcome to join for Advent and Christmas in the choir room after worship.

**Christmas Cards for the Members at Home.** Today is the last day! The congregation is encouraged to prepare cards for our members at home: Judy Bosch, Shirley Bosch, Nick Ellerbroek, Nonie Rietman, Jim & Lorraine Snay. The cards may be put in the Christmas card box in the narthex by **Sunday, December 14**, and the cards will be delivered by the Cadets the week of **December 17**. Members who might appreciate a card in their church mailbox are Marge Boeve, Jerry & Elaine Brower, Harvey Helder, Ida Janssen, Jerene Janssen, Judy Lubbers, Gary and Joyce Morren, Leona Scholten, Sid Staal, Duane and Gay Tucker, Bill Keen and Mark Timmer. *Please add Donna Grotenhuis and Cal Schierbeek.*

**Attention puzzle lovers of all ages!** Get ready for some friendly competition and fun at our Jigsaw Puzzle Tournament Saturday, January 24! Gather your best puzzling friends to make a team that will guarantee fun times! Join us for an exciting event where everyone will be working on the same puzzle at the same time! (Adult category and kids' category) Sign-up today on the sheet at the Information Center. We can't wait to see you there!

**Cookies Needed.** Store bought or homemade cookies are needed for after the morning worship service to be served with refreshments. Sunday, December 28, is still open, and thank you to those who have already signed up.

**World Renew** invites you to make a difference this season through its Gift Catalog that was in your church mailbox, where each meaningful gift helps families overcome poverty and experience God's love in practical ways. As you consider giving, please also pray that these gifts would be a source of hope for families striving to rebuild their lives. Visit [worldrenew.net/gifts](http://worldrenew.net/gifts) to learn more.

**Severe Weather Policy.** Cancellation notifications will be sent using the email [info@niekerkcrc.org](mailto:info@niekerkcrc.org), and on TV stations 3, 8, and 13. The Administrative Leadership Team will decide whether or not congregation-wide meetings and functions such as worship services, congregational meetings and the like will be cancelled. **If you receive the bulletin and Niekerk newsletter by email, you will get the severe weather email too.**

**RightNow Media.** You should have received an email with the link to sign up for your account. If you did not receive the link and would still like access to RightNow Media, please let Joe or Trish Texer know or scan the QR code. If you have any questions on how to sign up, we would be glad to help.



**Help Provide a Meal for Circles this Winter!** Each Tuesday night, Heights of Hope's Circles program gathers around a shared meal before diving into an evening of connection, support, and transformation. Interested in helping out? Learn more or sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/7dyxytju>.



**Hand2Hand** is collecting Chicken Noodle or Chicken Rice canned soup (no larger than 11oz) and individual chocolate or vanilla pudding cups (non-refrigerated pudding cups) for November and December. *Please purchase only the items and sizes listed. Large items are too difficult for the younger children to carry home.*

**Pine Rest Church Assistance Program.** Life is busy! Don't neglect your mental health among the hustle and bustle of everyday tasks. Niekerk provides free counseling to you and your household members through our CAP. No co-pay, no out-of-pocket cost...just free, confidential services to help you be the best version of you. Simply call 1-800-442-0809 and say you are a CAP member with Niekerk CRC to access free and confidential counseling.

### **Date for Your Calendar**

|             |                                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| December 21 | Candlelight Service               |
| December 17 | GEMS & Cadets                     |
| January 2   | December's Monthly Prayer Meeting |
| January 24  | Puzzle Tournament                 |
| January 30  | Monthly Prayer Meeting            |
| February 21 | Cornhole Tournament               |

### **Elder & Deacon Districts and Phone Numbers:**

|               |                 |              |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Alofs-Folkert | Gary Meiste     | 616-218-4288 |
|               | John Timmer     | 616-836-0405 |
| Gale-Kapenga  | Dan Petroelje   | 616-403-5931 |
|               | Joel Kryger     | 616-218-5782 |
| Keen-Nykamp   | Steve Slenk     | 616-836-1011 |
|               | Mike Schierbeek | 616-610-6932 |
| Paiz-Sneller  | Dave Helder     | 616-836-0372 |
|               | Matt Maas       | 616-422-6981 |
| Staal-Zeerip  | Ric Lucas       | 616-403-7817 |
|               | Dale Walters    | 616-422-3105 |



## **NIEKERK STAFF AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

**INTERIM PASTOR** – Pastor John Nyitray

Phone: 616-396-4388 #3

Cell Phone: 616-834-3853

Email: [John@niekerkcrc.org](mailto:John@niekerkcrc.org)

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** – Julie Mulder

Phone: 616-396-4388

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 am to 2 pm

Email: [secretary@niekerkcrc.org](mailto:secretary@niekerkcrc.org)

**YOUTH DIRECTOR** - Trisha Texer

Phone: 616-396-4388

Email: [youthdirector@niekerkcrc.org](mailto:youthdirector@niekerkcrc.org)

**WORSHIP COORDINATOR** – Carol Hochhalter

Phone: 616-396-4388 #4

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am to noon

Email: [worshipleader@niekerkcrc.org](mailto:worshipleader@niekerkcrc.org)

**FINANCIAL AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY** – Kathi Petroelje

Phone: 616-481-5289

Email: [kpetroelje@niekerkcrc.org](mailto:kpetroelje@niekerkcrc.org)

**PRAYER LINE:** 616-396-2697

**NIEKERK-GUEST WIFI PASSWORD:** countryclub

**NIEKERK-LISTEN:** listen545

***\*\*All services are streamed live\*\****

***\*\*Go to [www.niekerkcrc.org](http://www.niekerkcrc.org) under “sermons” menu\*\****