

December 3, 2017

MORNING WORSHIP – 9:30 AM

God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

Welcome

Advent Candle Reading & Lighting

*God's Greeting

*Song of Worship: #335 (PH)

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

God Renews Us By Grace

Prayer

*Song of Worship:

"Your Name" (Christmas Version)

(children ages 3 - Kindergarten are dismissed for Children's Church)

Offertory Prayer

Offering:

Faith Promise Missionaries

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Scripture:

Malachi 2:17-3:5, 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 *(pp. 950, 1171)*

Sermon:

WAITING ON THE LORD: BURNING QUESTIONS

Prayer

God Comes to Meet Us in His Supper

*Song of Preparation:

"Jesus Messiah"

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Song of Worship: #150 (WC)

"What Child Is This?"

(during the singing of this song, the wine will be distributed)

Song of Thanksgiving & Praise: #337 (PH)

"Joy to the World!"

*(during this song, we'll have an offering for our Benevolent Fund,
which helps those in need)*

God Blesses Us to Bless Others

*Benediction

*Doxology:

"Angels We Have Heard on High Doxology"

Postlude

LEADING US IN WORSHIP

Worship Leaders: Pastors Lanser and Schuringa

Organ: Donna Erdman

Sermon: Pastor Matthew Lanser

Piano: Jan Slinkman

Guitars: Matt Bulthuis, Mike Printz

Violin: Kristen Voss

Advent Candle Reader & Lighter, representing the Gathering:

Val Hoving, Leader; Lauren Gehrke, Student

**Please stand if you are able*

(PH-Psalter Hymnal; WC-Worshiping Church- in pews; LH-Lift Up Your Hearts Hymnal-not in pews)

We Enter His Presence

Prelude

*Welcome and God's Greeting

*Song of Advent Expectation: #65 (LH) "Lord, You Have Lavished on Your Land"

*Profession of Faith: Apostles' Creed (*p. 3 in the back of the PH*)

Prayer

*Song of Worship: #399:1,2,4,5 (PH) "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

Offertory Prayer

Offering:

CenterPointe Church

We Listen

Scripture:

Luke 4:14-30 (*p. 1018*)

Sermon:

GOOD NEWS AND WARNING

Prayer

We Are Sent to Serve

*Song of Response: #337 (PH)

"Joy to the World"

*Benediction

*Doxology: #173:3 (WC)

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Postlude

LEADING US IN WORSHIP

Worship Leader:

Pastor Matthew Lanser

Sermon:

Seminarian Nathan Voss

Piano:

Donna Erdman

**Please stand if you are able*

(PH-Psalter Hymnal; WC-Worshiping Church- in pews; LH-Lift Up Your Hearts Hymnal-not in pews)

TODAY AT FAITH

The Advent season begins today. These four weeks before Christmas are a time of waiting and preparation for Jesus' coming. In this season, we wait to celebrate the first coming of Jesus at Christmas, and we look forward to His second coming when the Lord will draw history to a close. Our waiting in this season also reflects times in our life—perhaps times of heartache or suffering—when we're called to wait and to be, rather than to do and to act. Waiting on the Lord is a biblical theme and a regular calling for God's children. This Advent, let's rest and trust in the Lord's Presence, and in His good timing in history and in our lives.

This morning we're beginning an Advent sermon series on the book of Malachi. We'll read Malachi 2:17-3:5, and reflect on how we wait and hope for the Lord's coming.

Also in morning worship we plan to celebrate the Lord's Supper, or Communion. If you are a professing member of a Bible-believing church we invite you to join us. If you have not professed Jesus as your Lord and Savior and are not a member of a church, we invite you to talk to Pastor Greg or Pastor Matthew about what it means to belong to a church family and what it means to belong to Jesus.

In Communion at Faith CRC, elders distribute first the bread and then the wine. Grape juice, rather than wine, can be found in the cups at the center of each tray. After the elements are distributed, please wait to eat and drink until indicated by a pastor so we can partake in unison.

In evening worship we welcome seminarian and Faith Church member, Nathan Voss to Faith's pulpit.

UPCOMING WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS AT FAITH

December 10: Second Sunday of Advent

December 17 AM: Third Sunday of Advent;
Sunday School and Children's Church Singing

December 17 PM: Christmas Candlelight Service

December 24 AM: Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24 PM: No Worship Service

December 25, 10 AM: Christmas Day Worship

December 31 AM & PM: Old Year's Worship

PRAYER & PRAISE

If you have prayer needs, please visit room 1 on the north side of the sanctuary after the morning service.

Congratulations to **Michelle & Justin Jansma** on the birth of their son, **Logan Charles**, born on November 22.

Bill Bolt remains at Good Samaritan Hospital with several health issues. Please pray for strength and recovery for Bill.

Eric Johnson fell and broke a couple ribs recently. He's currently at Lexington Health in LaGrange. Please pray for improvement and healing for Eric.

Pastor Greg continues in a sixth and final round of chemotherapy. From time to time he provides more detailed updates and prayer requests. You may follow along at <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/pastorgregsupdates>.

Continue to keep **Ron Tazelaar** in prayer as he undergoes chemo treatments.

Remember to pray for those who are unable to join us in worship. Today we think of **Shirley Vroom** who lives in Saratoga Grove.

“Praising God that our **Great Grandson Luke** is home and doing well following his successful liver transplant surgery. Thanks for your prayers and concern.”

Jerry & Carole Wieringa

A big thank you to the congregation for all the wonderful donations for our college and military boxes. We sent out 25 boxes to 10 states! Please keep these young adults in your prayers.

OFFERINGS

Today: AM: Faith Promise Missionaries. **PM:** CenterPointe Church.

December 10: AM: Timothy Tuition Assistance Fund. **PM:** Daystar School.

December 17: AM: Faith General Fund. **PM:** Elmhurst Walk-in Ministry.

December 24: AM: Rehoboth Christian School.

December 25: AM: All God’s Children.

December 31: AM: Life on Wheels.

PM: Chicago Christian Counseling Center.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Christmas Choir will begin rehearsals today in the choir room following our morning service. Rehearsals will continue throughout December. We need your willing voices and attendance at the rehearsals. Please meet in the choir room after you grab your coffee.

Christmas Instrumentalists: Please look for your music packets in your mailbox. We will rehearse this afternoon at 4:00 PM and on Sunday afternoons throughout December. See you there!

All Angel Tree/Giving Tree gifts should be placed under tree this morning with the paper ornament taped to the package! If you forgot to bring yours, please see Karen or Judy in the Fellowship Hall. Volunteers will deliver the gifts prior to Christmas. Thank you for your generous support of these programs.

Angel Tree Party! We’ll be having an Angel Tree Party here at church at 2:30 PM on Sunday, December 10. The children who will receive the Angel Tree gifts donated by our congregation have been invited to come and join us in decorating cookies, singing Christmas songs, and hearing the Christmas story. Come and share in this time of celebration with families facing a difficult holiday season!

Come one, come all to the Cadet Breakfast on Saturday, December 9, 7:00 - 10:30 AM. Enjoy good food, service and fellowship. Donations will be accepted but not required.

Young Adult Sunday Evening Get-Together: We’ll be getting together every month or so this year for a meal and discussion on Sunday evenings. Join us Sunday, December 10 around 6:45 PM (after the evening service) in the Fellowship Hall. Future meetings are scheduled on February 18 and March 4.

Senior Bible Study will have their next meeting on Tuesday, December 12. We’re beginning a study of the Gospel of Luke; books are available in the church office.

Jr. Cadets & all 1st - 3rd graders are invited to attend the Father/Son outing to the Jelly Belly Factory on Saturday, December 16. We will leave church at 10:00 AM and stop at McDonald's for lunch on the way home. This is a Jr. Cadet activity that the Dads are invited to. If Dad can't make it Jr. Cadets are still invited to attend.

The Faith Book Club has selected *Martin Luther: The Man Who Rediscovered God and Changed the World* by Eric Metaxas for discussion at their January meeting. The book is a human portrait of the man who boldly challenged the church. All are welcome to join us on January 10, 2018 at 7:00 PM at Park Place.

You are invited to the Calvin College January Series beginning January 3, 2018 and continuing weekdays through January 23 at Faith. Each lecture will be shown through live feed from Calvin College at 11:30 AM until 12:30 PM and will cover topics ranging from millennials and faith, restorative justice, confident pluralism, radical generosity and so much more by top experts in their fields. Faith CRC is one of more than 50 remote webcast sites across the continent, joining a daily audience of about 3,000 people a day. For information on the speakers and topics, visit the January Series website at www.calvin.edu/january. Don't miss out on this chance to hear fabulous lectures and experience a piece of Calvin College right here in Elmhurst!

All God's Children, Honduras Service Opportunity: January 27 - February 3, 2018. James 1:27: *Pure religion is looking after orphans in their distress.* Do you like to hold little hands? Are you a Hugger? Well, we will have many opportunities to do just that while serving the children and ministries of All God's Children in Comayagua, Honduras. Please prayerfully consider joining us for a week of Fellowship, Service and Fun. Please contact Bob Loerop, 630-988-2625 or gtobob@aol.com for details/questions or concerns.

YOUTH NEWS

The Gathering: Join us for the Gathering Christmas Party tonight at 7:00 PM for dinner, games, cookie decorating and celebration! **Bring a white elephant gift.**

Asylum Christmas Party: Join us this Friday, December 8 to celebrate Christmas! Drop off and pick up at church.

Winter Retreat—Save the Date: Middle School and High School Students are invited to join us from January 12-14 for a Winter Retreat at Phantom Ranch in Wisconsin. There will be worship, Bible teaching, tobogganing, tubing, ice skating, paintball and more! Cost: \$89! Registration available online or pick up a form in the narthex.

Youth Ministry Calendar: You can check out and print off our calendar here: <http://faithelmhurst.org/connect/youth>. If you have Google calendar you can upload it straight to your phone!

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

TODAY

Sunday School students will meet just for singing today and will be dismissed at 11:30 AM.

Catechism Classes will meet from 10:45 - 11:30 AM.

PADS signup sheets for January are available in the Fellowship Hall.

The Sermon Discussion Group will meet in room 4/5 at 10:45 AM.

The Gathering will meet at 7:00 PM.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

The Executive Committee will meet at 6:30 PM.

The Deacons will meet at 7:15 PM.

The Elders will meet at 7:15 PM.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Men's Prayer Group will meet from 7:00 - 8:00 AM.

Bible Study Fellowship begins at 9:15 AM.

After Hours at the Barney's house begins at 3:15 PM.

Cadets & Jr. Cadets will meet from 6:30 - 8:30 PM. We will be making plans for the Cadet Breakfast.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

Women's Bible Study will meet at 9:00 AM.

Women's Bible Study will meet at 7:00 PM.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

Asylum Christmas Party at 7:00 PM at church.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

The Cadet Breakfast will be held from 7:00 – 10:30 AM.

SERVING FAITH CHURCH

Welcome Team: Len Turnbull

Next Week: Lindy Oostman

Saratoga Driver: Darrell Stodola

Next Week: Randy Van Dahm

Kitchen: Jim & Kathleen Lindemulder*, Byron & Cathy Plate

Next Week: Val Hoving, Mary Huizinga, Gary & Lisa Vander Naald*

Library: Nancy Boer, Sharon Herlien

Next Week: Jeri Cook, Laura Miller

Audio Visual: Steve David, Mike Speelman, Ryan David

Next Week: Steve De Boer, Mary Huizinga, Ryan De Boer

Nursery Hostess: Nicole Huizinga

Next Week: Flory Hoving

Infant Nursery: Dorothy Allen, Sara Swanson, Paige Hoving

Next Week: Janna Piersma, Ruth Flikkema, Etta Veenstra

Toddler Nursery: Niki Tazelaar, Laurie Van Dahm, Jaci Van Dahm

Next Week: Christina Muruato, Jessica Vander Naald, Leah De Boer

PM Nursery: Jill & Grace Veenstra

Next Week: Linda Van Dyk, Marta Veenstra