

Gathered to Worship

Prelude

Welcome and God's Greeting

Advent Candle-lighting and Reading

Song of Advent: #135 (WC)

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Relying on Grace

Prayer

Song of Salvation:

"Joyful" (The One Who Saves)

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

Giving with Thanks

Offertory Prayer

Offering:

Timothy Tuition Assistance Fund

Hearing God's Word

Scripture:

Judges 10:1-2 (p. 244)

Sermon:

SAVING GOD'S PEOPLE FROM....?

Prayer

Celebrating Communion

Song of Preparation:

"Jesus Messiah"

The Meaning of Communion

Song of Christ's Coming: #150 (WC)

"What Child is This?"

(sung together during the passing of the wine)

Song of Praise: #151:1,3 (WC)

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

(while singing, we'll give to the Faith Benevolent fund, which helps those in need)

Blessed to Serve

Benediction

Advent Doxology

Postlude

Leading us in Worship

Worship Leaders:

Pastors Lanser and Schuringa

Sermon:

Pastor Greg Schuringa

Organ:

Donna Erdman

Piano:

Jan Slinkman

Violin:

Kristen Voss

Bass:

Carter Bulthuis

Guitars:

Matt Bulthuis, Mike Printz

Advent Participants:

Ashton Clapier, Corey Van Dyk, Asylum

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

God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

Welcome and God's Greeting

Song of Advent:

"Come, O Redeemer, Come"

We Express Our Faith and Gratitude

Profession of Faith:

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

Prayer

Song of Praise: #262:1,2,4 (WC)

"Rejoice, the Lord is King"

Offertory Prayer

Offering:

Lawndale CRC

God Speaks to His People

Scripture:

Isaiah 8:11-18 (*p. 682*)

Sermon:

HOPE

Prayer

We Go Out with God's Blessing

Song of Response: #161:2,3 (WC)

"Once in Royal David's City"

Benediction

Doxology: #161:4 (WC)

"Once in Royal David's City"

Postlude

Leading us in Worship

Worship Leader:

Pastor Greg Schuringa

Sermon:

Pastor Matthew Lanser

Piano:

Jan Slinkman

Violin:

Kristen Voss

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

Today at Faith

This is the Second Sunday of Advent. Advent is a period of waiting and anticipation of the fulfillment of God's promises through the coming of Jesus. As we prepare for and give thanks for His birth at Christmas, we also anticipate Christ's second coming at the end of time when God will make all things new. For Advent and Christmas Day, people representing various church ministries will read from God's Word and light a candle to help point us to God's Promises, fulfilled in Jesus.

This morning in our Judges sermon series, *Silver Linings in Dark Ages*, we focus on one of the minor judges, Tola, and something striking about his very brief account in Judges 10:1-2.

Also this morning we celebrate Communion or the Lord's Supper. First the bread and then the wine will be distributed by our elders. As Jesus unites all believers through His work, we will eat and drink each element in unison, when indicated by the pastor. For those who prefer grape juice instead of wine, it can be found at the center of each tray. If you are a guest this morning, and a professing member of Jesus in another Bible-believing church, you are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table today.

This evening we're focusing on the Advent theme of hope with a reading on Isaiah 8:11-18. You can view a video about tonight's theme at: <https://thebibleproject.com/videos/yakhal-hope/> Next week's theme will be joy; check out this video for a preview of that theme: <https://thebibleproject.com/videos/chara-joy/>.

Upcoming Worship Highlights

December 16, 9:30 AM: Children Lead us in Christmas Praise

December 16, 6:00 PM: Hymn Sing:

Congregation Chooses Christmas Hymns

December 23, 6:00 PM: Christmas Candlelight Service

December 25, 10:00 AM: Christmas Morning Service

Upcoming Music Opportunities

Please take note of the following music opportunity for Christmas morning. Please sign up in the narthex if you plan to attend and contact Jan or Donna if you have any questions. **Music has been placed in your mailbox.** If the musician in your family is away at college, please get the music to them and let them know of this upcoming service.

Christmas Rehearsals:

December 9: Choir, 11:00 AM; Orchestra, 4:00 PM

December 16: Choir, 11:00 AM; Orchestra, 4:00 PM

December 23: Choir, 11:00 AM; Orchestra, 4:00 PM

Offerings

Today: AM: Timothy Tuition Assistance. PM: Lawndale CRC.

December 16: AM: Roseland Christian Ministries.

PM: Rehoboth Christian School.

December 23: AM: Daystar School. PM: Crossroad Prison Ministry.

December 30: AM: Faith General Fund. PM: Chicago Christian Counseling.

Prayer & Praise

Pre-morning worship prayer time: The Faith CRC Elder Prayer Team invites anyone to join in praying for our worship services in Room 1, from 9:10 – 9:20 AM every Sunday. We join each week to pray that in our worship at Faith Church we would give glory to God, that people would be touched and changed through the faithful proclamation of God's Word, through music, prayer and giving our gifts; and that we'd go out, eager and equipped to serve the Lord and others in our world!

Post-morning worship prayer time: Immediately after morning worship every Sunday an Elder and a Stephen Minister are available for prayer in Room 14. Exit the sanctuary at the south-east door which leads toward the children's ministry wing and you'll see Room 14 straight ahead.

Congratulations to **Brittany Vander Naald and Tyler Briggs** who were united in marriage yesterday at the First Presbyterian Church of Joliet. Brittany and Tyler will be living at 1415 Avery Ave., Wheaton, IL 60187.

Keep **Terry Vander Naald** in prayer as she recovers from bronchitis and some other health issues the last couple weeks.

Dirk Zaagman began hospice care last week. Please pray that Dirk remains comfortable, and that he and his family continue to experience the peace of God.

Remember to pray for those who are unable to join us in worship. Today we think of **Peter Voss** who lives in Lexington Square in Elmhurst.

"We wish to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our Pastors and members of our church family for their words of comfort, sympathy, cards and prayers after my brother Tom's recent illness and homegoing."

Jim & Jody Allen

Loerop-Honduras: We appreciated the opportunity to share our work in Honduras through last Sunday's presentation. Thank you for your words of encouragement, prayers offered and questions about helping the poorest of the poor in Honduras. There is a short note in your mailbox offering various opportunities to help.

Tim & Nan Loerop

Many thanks to the congregation for your enthusiastic support of our **Ebenezer Christmas Gift Drive**. We received many more gifts than expected, and they were a great encouragement both to Ebenezer CRC and to the families from their community who received the gifts!

—The Evangelism and Shalom Committees

Announcements

Membership at Faith CRC. If you are interested in learning more about membership at Faith or want to take steps toward membership, please contact Pastor Greg Schuringa.

Profession of Faith. If you are a baptized member of the church and interested in making profession of faith, please contact Pastor Greg Schuringa. For high school students interested in making profession of faith, our annual class will be offered in early 2019. Watch the bulletin for more details!

The Giving Tree purchased gifts should be placed under the tree this morning. Please tape the paper ornament to the package! Volunteers will deliver the gifts prior to Christmas. Thank you for your generous support of this program.

The congregation is invited to decorate the Giving Tree with gloves, hats, men's and women's underwear (all sizes), and socks for PADS. These unwrapped items may be placed on or under the tree today. Thank you for your gifts!

Candlelight Service Vocal Ensemble. Are you interested in joining the worship team singers and participating in a vocal ensemble during the Candlelight service on December 23 at 6:00 PM? The goal will be to help the worship team lead the congregation in several songs for that service. Please contact Pastor Greg Schuringa if you are interested. Before that service there will be a practice/rehearsal/sound check.

Shalom Committee and Ebenezer CRC Partnership: "Seek the peace (shalom) of the city where I have put you" - Jeremiah 29:7. Faith's Shalom Committee has been at work for the last year or so exploring how we can promote grace, justice and mercy in our church and community, in partnership with other churches and ministries. For the rest of this ministry year, we're engaging in a church-to-church partnership with Ebenezer CRC in Berwyn to learn from each other and seek shalom together. The Shalom Committee will be providing a variety of opportunities for people from Faith to serve with, talk with, and worship with people from Ebenezer (The Christmas Gift Drive was one example of this). We're looking forward to developing opportunities for our church to listen, learn and serve with other ministries, and we hope that this will equip us to more effectively love our neighbors and neighborhoods here. Please continue to pray for this team, and please consider participating in some way in our Ebenezer-Faith church-to-church partnership over the coming months.

Young Adult Meal and White Elephant gift exchange: We hope you will join us on December 16 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM for a meal and White Elephant gift exchange! Please RSVP today and let Jonathan know if you will bring a soup, bread or salad (Jbarney@Faithelmhurst.org)!

Senior Bible Study: We won't be having Senior Bible study on December 18 as previously scheduled. We'll conclude our Generosity study on Tuesday, January 15.

A Christmas Carol at Faith: Join us for a special event at church on December 20 at 10:00 AM, featuring a presentation by author Rochelle Pennington on the history and writing of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. Pennington's narrative will offer factual perspective and behind-the-scenes insights into the epic influence of Dickens' characters: Ebenezer Scrooge, Jacob Marley, and the trio of Christmas ghosts. Light refreshments and coffee will be served, and reservations are required. There is a sign-up sheet available in the narthex or you can call the church office to make reservations. The cost for this event is \$10 and payment should be made to the church office. If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact Cathy Bulthuis, 630-935-1849.

A fun series of projects are being organized with the hope of involving help from as many hands in the congregation as possible. Our first project will be to make a set of matching quilts. One quilt will hang here at church, and one will hang in the orphanage we support in Honduras as a gift made by our congregation. We hope to have the quilts finished for Mission Emphasis week on February 17. On Tuesday, January 8 at 6:30 PM we invite everyone of all ages willing to help, meet us in the Fellowship Hall. We will be measuring, cutting, pinning and sewing materials to prepare the quilt. You do not need to know how to sew or quilt to help. Please sign up at the signup counter if you are interested in helping! Contact Niki Tazelaar with questions NikiTazelaar@gmail.com or 773-332-0405.

Faith Book Club has chosen *Prague Winter* by Madeleine Albright for discussion at their next meeting. Drawing on her memory, her parents' written reflections and newly available documents, the author recounts a tale that is in turns both harrowing and inspiring. Newcomers are welcome to join us on January 15 at 7:00 PM at Park Place.

Roseland Breakfast and Worship: Serve breakfast and join in worship at Roseland Christian Ministries on January 27, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Please RSVP to Jonathan at jbarney@faithelmhurst.org.

Each year, the ministries of All God's Children provide a home and necessary care for children that are orphaned, abandoned, abused or surrendered by parents in the country of Honduras. Monthly sponsorship is the primary way All God's Children fulfills the needs of these children but choosing to serve in person is an exceptional way to show the love of Christ and connect personally with a child in need. This year Faith CRC - Elmhurst is teaming up with Faith CRC - Tinley Park to serve the children and ministries of All God's Children in Comayagua Honduras. Please consider joining us for a week of fellowship, fun and an opportunity for personal spiritual growth while serving others. This year's dates are January 26-Feb 2, 2019. *Mark 9:37* For more information contact: Bob Loerop: 630-988-2625 – gtobob@aol.com or Clarence Klaassens: 708-334-2454 – clarence@accu-ray.com.

Crossroads is Growing! We have seen an overwhelming increase in the number of students in the Crossroads program since we began providing prepaid postage in January. Our office is bursting at the seams with incoming lessons from students! Each of these lessons represents a prisoner who is hungry for contact with the outside world and in need of the gospel of Christ. Will you consider joining the ministry of Crossroads as a mentor! Go to cpministries.org or contact Ray Middel at rmiddel6@gmail.com or call 630-862-1861 to learn more.

Calvin January Series: Faith will not be hosting the January Series in 2019. You can listen to the audio of current and previous presentations at www.Calvin.edu/January.

Make your Christmas shopping count! Don't forget to assign Faith CRC to your AmazonSmile account so that a percentage of everything you spend can be given back to Faith and we will put it towards our budget.

Faith CRC on Facebook, Twitter and now Instagram! Search for "faithelmhurst" on Instagram and follow us there!

Youth News

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

Asylum Christmas Party: Join us tonight from 7:00 - 8:30 PM for a meal, Bible teaching, cookie decorating and Christmas game fun!

Summer Service-Learning Trip: All current 8th – 12th graders are invited to join us on a service trip to Memphis, TN the week of July 14-21. We will be staying at a church and ministering to an underserved Memphis neighborhood through home repair and leadership development. Registration is due today. Cost is \$250.

Winter Retreat: All 6-12th graders are invited to join us from January 18-20 for winter fun, horseback riding, paint ball, guest speaker and band and fellowship at Phantom Ranch, WI. Registration is available online. Cost: \$95.

Roseland Breakfast and Worship: Serve breakfast and join in worship at Roseland Christian Ministries on January 27, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Please RSVP to Jonathan at Jbarney@faithelmhurst.org.

This Week at Faith

Today, December 9

Sunday School, 10:45 -11:30 AM

Catechism, 10:45 -11:30 AM

Sermon Discussion Group, 11:00 AM

Choir Rehearsal, 11:00 AM

Orchestra Rehearsal, 4:00 PM

Asylum, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 12

Men's Prayer Group, 7:00 - 8:00 AM

Bible Study Fellowship, 9:00 AM

GEMS Girls Club, 6:30 PM

Thursday, December 13

Mom2Mom, 9:00 AM

Friday, December 14

Men's Bible Study, 6:30 AM

Serving Faith Church

Welcome Team: Dave Printz **Next Week:** Sandy Turnbull

Kitchen: Pete & Barb Holtrop, Gerrit & Lori Wieringa

Next Week: Jim & Kathy Lindemulder*, Byron & Cathy Plate

Library: Jeri Cook, Laura Miller

Next Week: Kathleen Glaubke, Laurie Wieringa

Audio Visual: Steve David, Mike Speelman, Colin Middel

Next Week: Steve De Boer, Mary Huizinga, Chris Slinkman

Nursery Hostess: Chelsea Barney **Next Week:** Flory Hoving

Infant Nursery: Julie Speelman, Paige Hoving, Bonnie Van Proyen

Next Week: Jill Groenewold, Mindy Slinkman, Grace Lindemulder

Toddler Nursery: Ruth Flikkema, Laurie Van Dahm, Jacki Van Dahm

Next Week: Becky Vander Naald, Laurie Vander Naald, Will Hoving

PM Nursery: Susan Middel, Sarah Schuringa

Next Week: Grace Harbaugh, Sam David

2018 – 2019 ELDER/DEACON DISTRICTS

Church Members:

Elder/Deacon team:

1. A – B	Mike Tornow/Mark Van Dahm
2. C – E	Pete Holtrop/Spencer Anderson
3. F – Hof	Len Turnbull/Jonathan Huizinga
4. Hol – J	Chris Kakabeeke/Dan Kooyenga
5. K – Li	Mike Hoving/Cal Boonstra
6. Lo – Ra	Don Oostman/John Tazelaar
7. Re – Tat	Greg Lanenga/Corey Van Dyk
8. Taz – Van D	Dave Voss/Adam Zarek
9. Van K – Vel	Bern Slinkman/Scott Piersma
10. Ven – Z	Jim Engel/Chris Slinkman
Out of Town	Don Miller/Steve David

Faith Ministry Contact Information

Asylum (grades 6-8) (Middle School Youth Group)	Jonathan Barney 630-279-0420
Bible Study Fellowship	Jen Cozette 708-491-8241
Cadets Boys Club	Lambert Bronger 630-665-9422
Children's Church	Christy Hooker 630-832-5378
Crossroads Prison Ministries	Ray Middel 630-862-1861
Deacons/Finance	Steve David 630-967-8672
Disability Advocates	Don & Laura Miller 630-279-0350
Discipleship	Greg Lanenga 708-562-6697 Pastor Lanser 630-530-7900
Elders	Dirk Glaubke 312-375-6431
Evangelism	Peter Holtrop 630-953-2938 Pastor Lanser 630-530-7900
Fellowship	Spencer Anderson 630-488-8412 Peter Holtrop 630-953-2938
GEMS Girls Club	Flory Hoving 630-279-5294
Hospitality/Meals	Spencer Anderson 630-488-8412
Library	Chuck Slinkman 630-730-4018
Membership Classes	Pastor Schuringa 630-279-1779
Men's Bible Studies	Steve David 630-967-8672 Christopher Koopmans 312-718-0293
Men's Prayer Group	Lambert Bronger 630-655-9422
Missions	Don Oostman 630-983-7239
Mom2Mom Ministry	Sarah Schuringa 630-279-0016
Music Ministries	Len Turnbull 630-941-8213
Nursery	Joy Koopmans 616-610-0259
P.A.D.S.	Lambert Bronger 630-665-9422
Profession of Faith Classes	Pastor Schuringa 630-279-1779
Right to Life Committee	Lambert Bronger 630-655-9422
Safe Church Ministry	Don Miller 630-279-0350
Senior Bible Study	Pastor Lanser 630-530-7900
Shoebox Ministry	Evelyn Wieringa 630-495-8956
Shut-in Visitation	Bern Slinkman 708-492-0114
Stephen Ministry	Grace Harbaugh 630-624-9468
Sunday School	Joy Hoving 630-780-9862
Technology Ministries	Adam Zarek 312-434-0527
The Gathering (High School)	Jonathan Barney 630-279-0420
Transportation	Corey Van Dyk 630-917-1365
Ushers	Ray Rozendal 630-782-1998
Women's Bible Study	Sarah Schuringa 630-279-0016