

December 10, 2017

MORNING WORSHIP – 9:30 AM

God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

Advent Reading and Candle Lighting

*Welcome and God's Greeting

*Song of Advent: #331:1-4 (PH)

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

God Renews Us By Grace

Prayer

*Songs of Worship: #185:1,2,4,5 (WC)

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

"Christmas Offering"

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

Offertory Prayer

Offering:

Timothy Tuition Assistance Fund

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Scripture:

Malachi 3:6-12; Matthew 2:9-12 (*pp. 950, 956*)

Sermon:

WAITING ON THE LORD: TESTING GOD

Prayer

God Blesses Us to Bless Others

*Song of Response: #181 (WC)

"As With Gladness Men of Old"

*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

Ministry of Music: Sandy Roelofs

Advent Candle Reader & Lighter, representing Asylum:

Corey Van Dyk, Leader; Jennifer Lumkes, 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 Praise: #67 (LH)

"Blessed Be the God of Israel"

*Profession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism, LD 14 (*p. 21 in the back of the PH*)

Prayer

*Song of Worship: #161 (WC)

"Once in Royal David's City"

Offertory Prayer

Offering:

Daystar School

We Listen

Scripture:

1 Samuel 16:1-13 (*p. 277*)

Sermon:

SEEING AS GOD SEES

Prayer

We Are Sent to Serve

*Song of Response: #532:1-2 (WC)

"Be Thou My Vision"

*Benediction

*Doxology: #173:3 (WC)

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Postlude

LEADING US IN WORSHIP

Worship Leader:

Pastor Matthew Lanser

Sermon:

Dr. Kyle J. Dieleman

Piano:

Jan Slinkman

**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 four weeks before Christmas are called Advent. On this second Sunday of Advent, we continue to meditate on Jesus' coming. In this season, we remember His first coming as a baby, and we wait for His second coming on the clouds. In the midst of all our Christmas preparations, let's focus on making our hearts ready to meet Jesus this season. Our hope is that our worship services this December will help us to do just that!

This morning we're continuing our Advent series *Malachi: Waiting on the Lord*. We'll read Malachi 3:6-12, which reminds us of the Lord's generosity and calls us to respond generously.

This evening Dr. Kyle Dieleman will be preaching for us. Dr. Dieleman is a history professor at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, and an ordained minister in the CRC. He'll be preaching on 1 Samuel 16:1-13 and reflecting on how we can better see God at work.

UPCOMING WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS AT FAITH

December 17 AM: Third Sunday of Advent; Dr. Derke Bergsma preaching
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: New Year's Eve Worship

PRAYER & PRAISE

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

Alida Boerman recently had knee replacement surgery. Please pray for a quick and trouble-free recovery.

Bill Bolt is on hospice care at Meadowbrook Manor in Naperville. Pray that Bill will remain comfortable, and that he'll have good days with family and friends.

Eric Johnson is at Lexington Square in LaGrange for rehab following a fall.

Gert Tazelaar (Mrs. Ray) had a minor stroke last Sunday. She's at Providence in Downers Grove for a few days of rehab.

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 **Evelyn Wettour** who lives in Saratoga Grove.

Steve & Sue Weglarz and family thank our Church family for the continuing prayers for our twin grandsons. Jack is now home, and we are praising God for ongoing progress and growth. Silas remains at Lurie's Children's Hospital, where he continues to make slower but steady gains.

OFFERINGS

Today: 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.

The Deacons gratefully acknowledge the following offerings in November:

\$65,657 Faith General Fund	\$50 Ebenezer Food Pantry
\$5,152 Faith Promise Missionaries	\$4,390 Elim Christian Services
\$5,385 Faith Benevolent Fund	\$350 Kristen Tazelaar Fund
\$308 Faith Building Fund	\$1,780 Lampstand Ministries
\$175 Faith Cadets	\$2,755 Life on Wheels
\$4,065 Faith Education Fund	\$373 Love, Inc
\$75 Faith GEMS Girls Club	\$1,500 Mid-America Seminary
\$100 The Gathering	\$1,655 Mission India
\$487 The Gathering Sub Sale	\$150 Partners Worldwide
\$1,820 All God's Children	\$100 Rehoboth Christian School
\$125 Association for a Just Society	\$400 Resonate Global Mission
\$386 Back to God International	\$5,840 Roseland Christian Ministries
\$1,420 Bethshan	\$1,510 Shoebox Ministry
\$100 Brad Eidsen	\$2,360 Tapestries of Life
\$260 Brenda Katerberg	\$6,356 Timothy Assistance Fund
\$5,160 CareNet Pregnancy Services	\$624 UCCA
\$132 Centerpointe Church	\$1,230 Westside Christian School
\$825 Crossroads Prison Ministries	\$1,680 World Renew
\$130 Donna Venhousen Scholarship	\$512 World Renew-World Hunger

\$125,377 Total Offerings for November

Actual General Fund receipts from June 1, 2017 through November 30, 2017 totaled approximately \$333,000 compared to budgeted receipts of \$406,000 or a \$73,000 shortfall to budget. Actual accrued expenses for the same period totaled \$394,000 or a \$61,000 actual shortfall.

As of October 31, 2017, the Timothy Tuition Assistance obligation for the 2017-2018 school year was approximately \$60,000.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Profession of Faith Class for high school students is being planned Sunday afternoons at 4:00 PM in February of 2018. Please reach out to Pastor Greg Schuringa (gschuringa@faithelmhurst.org) to participate or for more information.

The Christmas Choir will rehearse 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!

Angel Tree Party! We'll be having an Angel Tree Party here at church at 2:30 PM today. 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!

Young Adult Sunday Evening Get-Together: We'll be getting together every month or so this year for a taco meal, dessert and discussion on Sunday evenings. Join us tonight around 7:00 PM (after the evening service) in the Fellowship Hall. Future meetings are scheduled on February 18 and March 4.

Senior Bible Study will meet this Tuesday, December 12. We'll be studying the Gospel of Luke 1:1-2:40 this time. Study guides are on the information desk in the narthex. Contact Pastor Matthew with any questions.

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!

January Series: The Adult Ministries Committee is looking for volunteers to set out the snacks and run the video feed for the January Series, either for one day or several days. Please contact Pastor Matthew or Bob Wieringa if you're interested in helping out.

Creative Connections: Save the date! Thursday, January 11 from 6:30 - 9:30 PM will be the next women's craft night. We will be making a paper/wooden perpetual calendar, more details to come in next week's bulletin. Sign up will begin Sunday, December 17.

YOUTH NEWS

The Gathering and Asylum are on break until January.

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 is due December 17** and 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.

Christmas Choir Practice in the Choir room at 10:45 AM.

Angel Tree Christmas Party in the Fellowship Hall at 2:30 PM.

Christmas Instrument rehearsal in the Choir room at 4:00 PM.

Young Adult Group will meet at 7:00 PM.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Senior Bible Study will meet at 1:15 PM.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

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

Bible Study Fellowship begins at 9:15 AM.

The Worship Committee will meet at 4:00 PM.

GEMS Girls Club will meet from 6:30 - 8:30 PM.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Mom2Mom will meet at 9:00 AM.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

Men's Bible Study will meet at 6:30 AM.

The Gathering will meet at 7:00 PM at the York Theater.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

The Jr. Cadets and their Dads will be leaving church at 10:00 AM to tour the Jelly Belly Factory.

SERVING FAITH CHURCH

Welcome Team: Lindy Oostman

Next Week: Dave Printz

Saratoga Driver: Randy Van Dahm

Next Week: Marv Tazelaar

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

Next Week: Ed & Kim Biesboer*, Bob & Sharon Herlien

Library: Jeri Cook, Laura Miller

Next Week: Kathleen Glaubke, Laurie Wieringa

Audio Visual: Steve De Boer, Mary Huizinga, Ryan De Boer

Next Week: Dan Kooyenga, Al De Los Santos, Chris Slinkman

Nursery Hostess: Flory Hoving

Next Week: Grace Harbaugh

Infant Nursery: Janna Piersma, Ruth Flikkema, Etta Veenstra

Next Week: Susan Middel, Trudy Voss, Paige Hoving

Toddler Nursery: Christina Muruato, Jessica Vander Naald, Leah De Boer

Next Week: Emily Frank, Joy Koopmans, Luke Miller

PM Nursery: Linda Van Dyk, Marta Veenstra

Next Week: Sharon Rozendal, Sarah Schuringa