

Faith Christian Reformed Church
Worship Service: 9:30 am Jan. 17, 2021

(Join us on live stream at faithtinley.org)

Prelude

God Gathers His People

Welcome

*God Greet Us

*We Greet Each Other (waving)

*Call to Worship

*Opening Song – *Sing to the King* (LUYH #474)

Confession – *A Prayer of Oscar Romero*

Assurance – Ephesians 2:8-10

Song of Response – *Not What My Hands Have Done* (PsH #260)

We Hear God's Word

Children's Message

Prayer of Illumination

Bible Reading – Matthew 24:1-14

Message: *Looking to God's Future: The Pains of Pregnancy*

Prayer

We Respond to God's Word

*Song of Response – *View the Present Through the Promise*
(LUYH #470 v. 1-3, tune of *Go My Children* #946)

Announcements

Prayer of the People

Offering: PASS Pregnancy Care Center

(offerings may be placed in baskets at exits)

God Sends Us with His Blessing

*Blessing

*Sending Song – *Standing on the Promises* (CL #410 v. 1, 4)

Message: Pastor Chris Pedersen

Message Notes

Looking to God's Future

Matthew 24:1-14 The Pains of Pregnancy

Matthew 24:1-25:46 called the "Olivet Discourse" looks to the immediate and long-term future.

What is God's Future like?

+*Pregnancy* is a major theme of the Kingdom of God. (Remember this is an already-not yet reality).

*Do you tend to see the world as pregnant with the promises of God?

+Pregnancy is a mixed physical & emotional experience, we cannot control life, but we can be prepared. Think of the joy and excitement, but at times exhaustion and sickness.

Matthew 24 Before the birth of God's new world, some old things will go.

+God's people are often at a crossroads of clinging to the old traditions or welcoming the newness that God offers.

*Do you expect (welcome, prepare) newness from God?

*If you say or hear "*the end of the world*" do you think of a dystopian doom and gloom or do you think of the end of the oldness that stands in opposition to God's newness?

Be expectant, not alarmed

+Jesus tells his disciples: keep a cool head. Keep faith and hope. Stand firm but don't stand still?

*How would we follow this command/invitation today?

Our Church Family

Grace W was quarantined last week after a family member tested positive for Covid-19. Visitation for her daughter, Pam S, will be Saturday, Jan. 30 from 2 -4:00 pm at Chapel Hill Gardens South Funeral Home (11333 Central Ave. in Oak Lawn) by appointment only (708-636-1200). Pray for the health of Grace & family in this time of grief.

Joann M's health is declining, so she was placed on palliative care. Arlan may be able to visit her under these circumstances. Pray for Joann, Arlan & family as they are separated in these challenging times.

Andy & Tine V received an optimistic report from her surgeon. The remaining tumor is not growing, so they have plans to return to Albania this spring until summer of 2022, when they will move back to Germany. Praise God for Tine's recovery, and pray for continued healing as they make decisions about the years ahead.

Announcements

Adult Church School will resume via Zoom today using the small book *Surprise the World* by Michael Frost. This book challenges us to develop tangible missional habits. Books are available from the outer office.

The Ministry Board of Faith Church is pleased to report that we have met all of our General Fund obligations for 2020. Thanks to your support, we were also able to pay the 4th quarter ministry shares.

Ladies of All Ages: Save the Date – Sunday, April 11, for a bridal shower for Molly F, who is getting married in May. More details to come.

Offerings – General Fund:

Next Sunday: Southwest Chicago Christian School



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