

### \*\*\*Praying for God's People\*\*\*

\*Along with **Emily and Steve Mahr**, we offer prayers of joy and gratitude to God for the birth of their daughter, **Juniper Grace**. Juniper was born yesterday, Tuesday, August 1. She weighed 8 pounds and 6 ounces and was 21.5 inches long. Mom and baby (as well as Dad and older siblings Margo, Xander, and Phoebe) are doing well. (Note: The rose on the baptismal font is in honor of Juniper's birth.)

\*Please pray for **Corene Koole**, who moved out of Kosgrove Estates in Sioux Center into the Prairie View Care Center in Sanborn yesterday. Pray for Corene as she adjusts to a new home. Corene's address is Corene Koole, Prairie View Care Center – Room W-7, 610 Eastern St, Sanborn, IA 51248.

\*Be in prayer for **Margaret Fernow**, who will be having hip replacement surgery in Sioux Falls on Thursday, August 10.

\***ARC Staff, Consistory, Ministry Team, and Ridder Team Leaders** attending the Willow Creek Leadership Summit at Northwestern College August 10-11: Mary Abels, Deb Anderson, Les Cleveringa, Marlene De Zeeuw, Elizabeth Ann Brown Hardeman, Michael Hardeman, Laura Jonker, Wanda Korthals, Benjamin Langton, Rusty Marincovich, Gary Richardson, Brent Sampson, Sara Tolsma, Kim Van Es, and Angela Kroeze Visser

### \*\*\*Announcements\*\*\*

•**Clothe-a-Child items are due TODAY by 12 Noon!**

•**We Need You to Sign Up to Provide Cookies/Bars**

Four weekly volunteers are needed to each provide 4 dozen cookies/bars for coffee fellowship time on a designated Sunday, beginning August 6. They can be baked, frozen and brought at a later time, or purchased. Sign-up TODAY at the Welcome Center!

•**August ARC Creative Arts Workshop**

It's not too late! All children entering 1st-6th grade are still invited to sign up for our August 14th Breadmaking Workshop from 6-7 PM in the ARC Kitchen. This is the last workshop of the summer, but will be the most delicious! Please email Laura Jonker by August 11th if your child would like to join ([arckidsmin@gmail.com](mailto:arckidsmin@gmail.com)).

•**College Student Welcome Brunch**

With the new school year approaching it's time to welcome our college students again. We are hosting a brunch on August 27, after worship, to welcome the students as the school year gets underway. We invite you, the members of American Reformed Church, to participate in the brunch in a couple of ways. First, we are looking for volunteers to bring an egg bake or muffins for the brunch. Second, if you want to get to know the college students and connect with them, we invite you to attend the brunch. Please sign-up at the Welcome Center by August 13 if you would be willing to provide some of the food for the brunch or if you would like to come so we have a rough idea of numbers for food and beverages. If you have any questions, contact Rosalyn De Koster ([arcyouthmin@gmail.com](mailto:arcyouthmin@gmail.com)).

•**Church Building and Office Hours for Thurs. & Fri., August 10 & 11**

Due to the ARC staff attending a conference at NWC, the *church office* will be closed on Thursday and Friday, August 10 & 11. The *building* will be open both days from 8:00 AM-4:00 PM.

•**Transformation is happening!**

Could you be part of it in children's or youth lives here at ARC? Here are some ways you can get involved in the 2017-2018 year:

- ◆ Children & Worship Music Time Leader (commitment TBA)
- ◆ Nursery Volunteer (approx. once a month)
- ◆ F3 Workshop Leader (once a month, Sept-Mar)
- ◆ F3 Small Group Leader (every Wednesday, Sept-Mar)
- ◆ Middle School Sunday School Teachers
- ◆ Middle School Youth Group Leaders

Contact Laura Jonker ([arckidsmin@gmail.com](mailto:arckidsmin@gmail.com)) or Rosalyn De Koster ([arcyouthmin@gmail.com](mailto:arcyouthmin@gmail.com)) for details. Thanks for being a faithful church family who cares about our children and youth!

•**Mark your calendars! Fall 2017 Children's Ministry Volunteer Training Dates**

- **Sunday, August 20th @ 10:45-11:15 AM** in Room 103
  - Children & Worship Storytellers & Greeters
- **Monday, August 28th @ 6:30 PM** in Coffee Fellowship Area
  - Sunday School Teacher Training (Pre-K/TK - 5th grade)
- **Tuesday, August 29th @ 6:30 PM** in Coffee Fellowship Area
  - F3 Volunteer Training

Questions? Laura Jonker, [arckidsmin@gmail.com](mailto:arckidsmin@gmail.com)



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TRANSFORMED BY JESUS TO TRANSFORM THE WORLD

ACCEPTANCE + GRACE + WISDOM + LOVE



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 6, 2017



Learning to Ask

Summer 2017 Sermon Series



# THE APPROACH TO GOD

*The congregation is invited to read the bold font.  
\*Indicates you may stand if you wish.*

PRELUDE "Gather Us In"

\*SONG OF WORSHIP "Lord Most High"

\*GOD'S GREETING

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST  
The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus,  
**the story you tell in Matthew's Gospel convicts us.  
Through the parable, we hear your call to feed the hungry,  
to offer drink to the thirsty, to welcome the stranger,  
to clothe the naked, to care for the sick, and to visit the prisoner.  
We confess that—even when we are at our best—we  
do not fully embody these words.  
Our brokenness and our selfishness incapacitate us,  
and we fail to minister to the least of these  
who are members of your family.  
Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive us.**

*(Please use this time of silence for personal confession.)*

Gracious Savior,  
**empower us—in light of your generous grace—  
to live generously toward others.  
By your Holy Spirit, transform us.  
Empower us to look beyond our own concerns  
to see and respond to the concerns of others. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

# THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*All children will remain with us in worship today. Children's  
worship bags may be picked up near the elevator on the upper  
level.*

\*SONG OF PREPARATION "Come Just As You Are"

SCRIPTURE Matthew 25:31-46 & Ephesians 2:8-10

SERMON "Learning to Ask: Grace or works?"

MEANING OF THE SACRAMENT

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty to give thanks to you at all times and in all places, O Lord our Creator, almighty and everlasting God! You created heaven with all its hosts and the earth with all its plenty. You have given us life and being and preserve us by your providence. But you have shown us the fullness of your love in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ, the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation. For the precious gift of this mighty Savior who has reconciled us to you we praise and bless you, O God. With your whole Church on earth and with all the company of heaven we worship and adore your glorious name.

*Sung a cappella:*

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns  
around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.**

Most righteous God, we remember in this Supper the perfect sacrifice offered once on the cross by our Lord Jesus Christ for the sin of the whole world. In the joy of his resurrection and in expectation of his coming again, we offer ourselves to you as holy and living sacrifices. Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

**Christ has died!  
Christ is risen!  
Christ will come again!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray, that the bread which we break and the cup which we bless may be to us the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Grant that, being joined together in him, we may attain to the unity of the faith and grow up in all things into Christ our Lord. And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf, and these grapes from many hills into one cup, grant, O Lord, that your whole Church may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

COMMUNION

*Please exit to your left out of the pew, come forward to the serving station. Return to your pew on the opposite side from which you exited. Anointing of oil and prayers for healing will also be offered at the center station. Children are welcome to participate in communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. Children who do not participate in communion may come forward with arms crossed in front of their chests for a blessing. All communion elements are gluten free.*

# THE RESPONSE TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*(Please pass the fellowship pad found at the end of the pew.)*

OFFERTORY "A Mighty Fortress"

\*DOXOLOGY #809

\*SONG OF RESPONSE #426 "Lord, Whose Love"  
vv. 1, 2, & 3  
Sung to "Beach Spring," #578

\*BENEDICTION

\*SONG OF RESPONSE #426 "Lord, Whose Love"  
v. 4  
Sung to "Beach Spring," #578

\*POSTLUDE

*All music & lyrics used by permission - CCLI #374890*

## Participating in Worship

The Congregation	Serving the Lord in Worship
Pam De Haan	Organist
Lisa Burg, Cindy Cleveringa, John Hubers,	Praise Team
Laura Jonker, Teresa Sampson, and Jeff Tolsma	
Pastors Mike & Elizabeth Hardeman	Leading in Worship
Laura Jonker, Director of Children's Ministry	Children's Message
Nevaeh Sampson & Teresa Sampson	Offertory