

TODAY, December 9

During Worship HSYG leading worship
 C & W Choir signing in worship
 No Children & Worship
 *C & W will be on break until 2019.

Coffee Time HSYG Fundraiser
 10:45AM Congregational Meeting*
 *Nursery Care—4YO and under; Room 204—5YO and above

4:40-5:45PM Leaps of Faith Practice (6th-12th)
 6:30-8:30PM LAST HSYG of 2018 (9th-12th)

Wednesday, December 12

6:15-7:30PM LAST MGYG of 2018 (5th-8th)

Sunday, December 16

4:40-5:45PM Leaps of Faith Practice (6th-12th)

Where does my kid go?

Sunday School is in the midst of a renovation hiatus.

Children & Worship begins a seasonal break today, so children 3YO & above remain in worship. Nursery remains open for children 3YO & under.

Worship bags and coloring pages are available on the table by the elevator.

THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & CHILDREN

• Opportunities for children TODAY during the Congregational Meeting following worship:

- **Nursery**—4YO & under
- **Advent Activity Rm 204**—5YO & above

• Children may also sit with parents in the meeting.

At ARC children are invited to fully participate in worship, and all ages and stages are welcome in the service.

These ministries are also available to families during worship:

Worship Bags

All Children

Year Round

pick up & drop off by elevator

Nursery

Birth—3YO

Upper Level: #203

Year Round

9:15—11:30 AM

Children & Worship

3YO—1st Grade

Upper Level: #201 (Green) #204 (Purple)

Sept. 9 - May 5

after children's message*

*These 2 groups join together in room 204 for feast and music time for the last half of C & W. All children may be picked up @ 10:45AM from room 204 (behind Rosalyn DeKoster's office).

Participating in Worship

The Congregation
 Leading in Worship
 Call to Worship

Praise Team

All Ages Choir

Song of Preparation

Stings Ensemble

HS Leaders

Serving the Lord in Worship
 High School Youth
 Mari Langton

accompanied by Pam Anderson

Philip De Koster, Jacob Gabel,

Katie Kensak, Maggie Kensak,

Mari Langton, Katelyn Reuvers,

Natalie Sampson, Natasha Sampson

Philip De Koster, director

Julia Huisman, organist

Children & Worship Choir

led by Marlene De Zeeuw & Angela Visser

Tristan Blom, Tyson Blom, Olivia Brunsting,

Mari Langton, Patrick Muilenburg,

Natalie Sampson, Natasha Sampson

Philip and Rosalyn De Koster,

Paul and Jenn Lambert

Who belongs at American Reformed Church?

Everyone is welcome here. Everyone belongs. Whether you walked in the doors for the first time or the 321st time this morning . . . you belong. There are no special requirements to be a part of church.

Our denominational tradition does invite people to become members of a local church like American. But this isn't a club; it's a community. Becoming a member is simply a sign of mutual commitment between a person and the entire ARC community. If you are interested in learning more about what it means to become a member, please contact the pastors (elizabetharcoc@gmail.com and mikearcoc@gmail.com).

But remember...you belong beyond membership.



Second Sunday of Advent
 December 9, 2018



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 americanchurchoc.com

TRANSFORMED BY JESUS TO TRANSFORM THE WORLD

ACCEPTANCE + GRACE + WISDOM + LOVE



THE APPROACH TO GOD

*The congregation is invited to read the bold font.
Indicates the congregation may stand.

PRELUDE "Of the Father's Begotten" Maggie Kensak

CALL TO WORSHIP "Christmas Hallelujah" Mari Langton

*SONGS OF WORSHIP "Come To Us"

*GOD'S GREETING Mari Langton
Friends, the hope and peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Tristan Blom
from re:Worship Blog

Remember, O Lord,
**Your unfailing love and compassion
which You have shown from times long past.
For the honor of Your name, forgive our sins.
Do not hold them against us.
Look instead through the eyes of Your faithful love.
For You are a God of mercy and compassion.**

A time for silence and personal confession.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The Lord is good and does what is right.
The Lord shows the proper path to those who go astray.
The Lord leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches them God's way.
With unfailing love and faithfulness,
the Lord guides all those who keep God's covenant.

**Show us the path where we should walk, O Lord;
point out the right road for us to follow.
Lead us by Your truth, and guide us,
for You are the God who saves us.
We put our hope in You.**

"All Earth is Hopeful" All Ages Choir

ADVENT LIGHTING

We light this candle in hope,
the hope of our coming savior, Jesus.

The candle of hope is lit.

We light this candle in peace,
the peace that Jesus, our Savior, gives to the world.

The candle of peace is lit.

And all God's people said, **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Alyssa Beltman

*Children will remain with their families in worship. Worship bags are
by the elevator.*

*SONG OF PREPARATION "Savior of the World"
Children & Worship Choir

SCRIPTURE Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10,
Luke 21:25-36

SERMON "Expressions of Hope"
Gideon Fynaardt, Natasha Sampson

COMMUNION INVITATION & PRAYER

God of all that is seen and unseen,
you spoke the world into being and breathed into us the breath of
life. When we turned away from you, you remained faithful
delivering us from captivity and making covenant to be with us.
You gave us witnesses throughout all of history to remind us of
this faithfulness. We join our voices with prophets, apostles,
martyrs, and saints from every time and place singing:

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.**

In love, you came to us in Jesus so that the world you spoke into
being may be reconciled to you. Remembering this great gift, we
give ourselves as partners in your redemptive work and proclaim:

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

In the breaking of bread and the ^{sharing of this cup, renew} in us the gift of
faith by the power of your Spirit. Bind us to one another and to
Christ as we join your reconciling work in the world. Yet, we wait
expectantly for the day of ultimate reconciliation when all wrongs
are made right and the world is fully restored:

Even so, come, Lord Jesus! And all God's people said . . . **amen.**

COMMUNION music by Olivia Brunsting

*Please exit to your left out of the pew, come forward to the serving
station. Those in need of anointing of oil and prayer for healing are
welcome to come forward to the center station. Children are
invited 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

MOMENT OF GRATITUDE

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS
(Please pass the fellowship pad found at the end of the pew.)

OFFERTORY Strings Ensemble

*DOXOLOGY p. 809

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Jacob Gabel
written by the high school youth

**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.**

*SONG OF RESPONSE "Make Straight the Way"

*BENEDICTION Jacob Gabel

*SENDING SONG "Make Straight the Way", chorus

*POSTLUDE

All music & lyrics used by permission - CCLI #374890

PRAYING FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

*Ron Kolenbrander – in hospice care at his home

ANNOUNCEMENTS

•POINSETTIAS FOR SALE



There is still time to purchase a Christmas poinsettia from the ARC Mid-Grade Youth Group (grades 5-8), to be used for Christmas worship services. If you wish, plants can be placed in honor or memory of loved ones. The cost per poinsettia is \$30. Color choices include red and white poinsettias. Forms are available at the Welcome Center. Stop by after church to place your order! A portion of the sales will help fund the MGYG Power Connection trip. (Please make check payable to ARC MGYG; Memo Line: Poinsettia). THANK YOU, in advance, for your support of ARC's youth!!!

•HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BAKE FUNDRAISER



Celebrate the Advent season in the warm company of your church family and friends at the High School Youth Group's annual Christmas Bake fundraiser, after worship on Sunday, Dec. 9. ARC high schoolers will be sharing and selling breakfast baked goods, so remember to bring cash or your checkbook so you can take some goodness home with you. Proceeds support our high school youth as they participate in a Synod-sponsored HIS Work Camp mission trip to Tennessee this summer.

•SEASON OF ADVENT FOOD PANTRY PROJECT: CAN CEREAL BE A GIFT?



On our Advent journey this year we'd like you to consider this Food Pantry project for your family or group of friends:

Starting today, put one Food Pantry item in a box. Continue each day choosing one item from a list of needed items through December 24, and add it to your box. Boxes may be brought to church Christmas Eve or soon anytime after that.

As we walk this path to the birth of Jesus, may we prayerfully consider the needs of others. These simple items are gifts to the people who need them. Even cereal.

Boxes and a list of needed Food Pantry items are available in the coffee fellowship area Sunday, for those who wish to participate.

If you have any questions, please contact Fran Muilenburg at 737-7192 and Junia Punt at 395-0174.

•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 January 6, 2019. Please stop by the Welcome Center to sign-up TODAY!

•CONSISTORY NOMINATING COMMITTEE SUGGESTIONS



Nominations for persons to serve as at-large members on the 2019 ARC Consistory Nominating Committee must be received in the church office before noon on Friday, December 21.

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