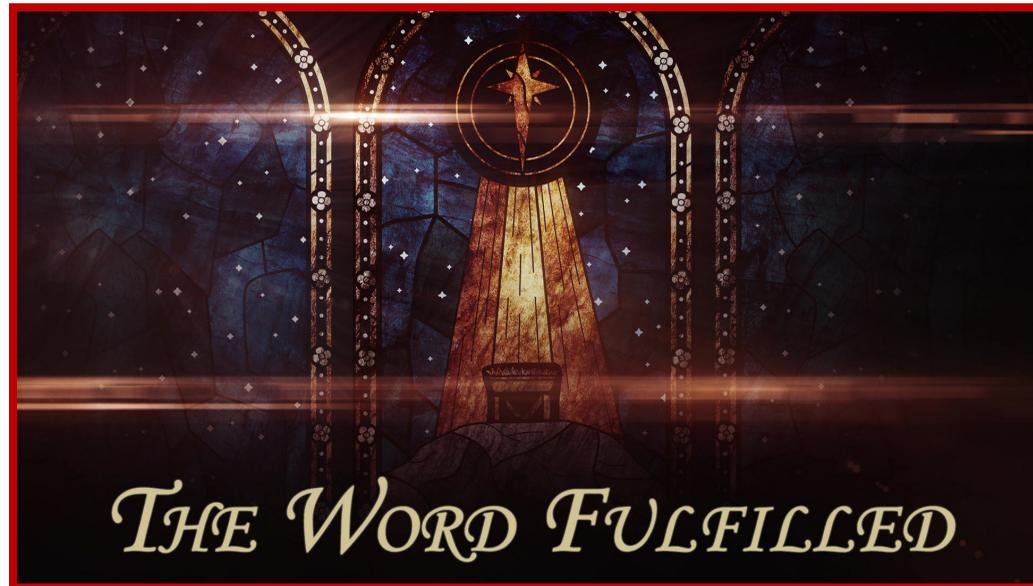


# FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF SOUTH HOLLAND

15924 South Park Avenue • South Holland, IL 60473  
Office: 708.333.0622 • Prayer Line: 708.333.8150  
E-mail: [office@frcsh.org](mailto:office@frcsh.org) • Online at [www.frcsh.org](http://www.frcsh.org)

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT  
Sunday, December 22, 2019



## Welcome...

The season of Advent, a season of waiting, is designed to cultivate our awareness of God's actions—past, present, and future. In Advent we hear the Genesis promises of the Messiah's coming as addressed to us—people who rejoice in Jesus' fulfillment of this promise even as we wait for His return. Our waiting is heightened and enriched as we contemplate the Promised One for Whom we are waiting. Who is this Jesus – our Prophet, Priest, and King?

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
Sunday, December 22, 2019  
**WE APPROACH GOD**

Prelude	Joanne Hoeksema
Opening Song of Worship	<i>"Prince of Peace"</i> – Jubilate Ringers
Lighting of the Peace Candle	
Welcome & Greeting One Another	
*Congregational Singing	<i>"O Little Town of Bethlehem"</i> (vs. 1, 2, 3) <i>"Your Name"</i> <i>"Eden Is Open"</i>
Prayer of Confession	Pastor Corey Buchanan
Song of Assurance	<i>"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"</i> – Jubilate Ringers
<b>THE WORD OF GOD</b>	
Scripture	Matthew 1:18-25
Sermon	"The Promise of a Priest"
<b>WE RESPOND TO GOD</b>	
Congregational Prayer	Jim DeGroot
Offering	<i>"Pacem"</i>
*Doxology	
*Benediction	Pastor Corey Buchanan
*Sending in Grace	<i>"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"</i>
*Postlude	Joanne Hoeksema

Those who are able please stand.

Please join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall after worship  
for a cup of conversation and a cookie.

## ***UP & COMING AT FIRST...***

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22**

**GREETERS:** Dave & Becky Wright and Mike & Cindy Nylén  
**COFFEE SERVERS:** Trina Taylor, Gwen Adams and Faye Gowens  
**NURSERY:** Darcy Daly and Abby Veldboom  
**MUSIC TEAM:** Joe Fransen, Bill & Nikki Nyhanna, Nick Paarlberg, & Rachel Wooley  
**ORGAN:** Joanne Hoeksema  
**PIANO:** Amy Veldboom  
**PROJECTION:** Gwen Adams  
**SOUND:** Aaron Taylor; **VIDEO:** Ron Rietveld  
**PRAYER ROOM:** Roger & Judy Gill  
**WELCOME CENTER:** Roger DeGraff  
**FIRST RESPONSE TEAMS:** First Emergency: Tiffany Buchanan; First Security: Rick Furst  
**COOKIE VOLUNTEERS:** Celeste DeBoer, Felicia Flowers, Joanne Hoeksema & Alice Kats

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24**

**11:00PM:** Candlelight Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary

### **TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 & 25**

**Church Office Closed**

### **THURSDAY & FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26 & 27**

**Church Office Hours: 9am - Noon**

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29**

**GREETERS:** John & Gay Kraai and Craig & Jan Nelson  
**COFFEE SERVERS:** Griff & Mary Decker and Clair & Lynn Hoeksema  
**NURSERY:** Darcy Daly and Izzy Veldboom  
**ORGAN:** Joanne Hoeksema  
**PROJECTION:** Felicia Flowers  
**SOUND:** Charlie Dix  
**VIDEO:** Eric Pradelski  
**PRAYER ROOM:** Ron & Diana Abernathy  
**WELCOME CENTER:** Dave Wright  
**FIRST RESPONSE TEAMS:** First Emergency: Tiffany Buchanan; First Security: Rick Furst  
**COOKIE VOLUNTEERS:** Carol Barnes, Dorothy Jacobsma, Grace Jacobsma, and Pam Furst

## ***CARE...***

**Chinedu Akoma** continues her recuperation at home.  
**Bob Griffin** continues with his treatments for lung cancer. Pray for signs of improvement.  
**Dave Schultz**, brother of Deb Woltzen, continues with treatments for lung cancer. Deb's mother, Jean Schultz had surgery for a broken wrist.  
**Colton Smit**, Great Grandson of Clarence and Judy Brouwers is in Comer's Hospital due to a virus called RSV.

**OUR EXTENDED FAMILY:** Lenora Anker, Beecher Manor, Room 504A, 1201 Dixie Highway, Beecher, IL 60401.

## ***PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATES...***

Winnette Anker, Elevate Senior Living, Room 416, 16300 Louis Ave., South Holland, IL 60473, 708.225.6416

## ***OUR GIFTS...***

### **Sunday, December 15**

Basket Total: \$4,859.00; Online Total: \$640.00; Special Projects: \$25.00  
Giving Total: \$5,524.00; (Needed Weekly: \$11,250.00)

## ***SPECIAL PROJECTS FUNDING CAMPAIGN 2019...***



We are now addressing the improvements needed for our parsonage. For more information or with any questions please see Don DeGraff, Elder VP, or Ray Ondrejka, Deacon Chairman. "Special Project" envelopes are available on the narthex shelves.

**OUR WORSHIP SERVICES**, as well as Faith & Fellowship formation ministries are in full swing and it's a great time to be part of our First Church Family. The deacons would like to encourage all members to continue your faithful support of the ministry of First Reformed Church through your tithes and donations. Though our expenses are less than budgeted due to our senior pastor vacancy, it's important to note that our weekly giving has also been less than budgeted. We are currently in week 24 of 52 and are behind in receipts vs budget by \$38,513. As we approach the end of this calendar year during this time of transition, please continue your faithful giving. As we grow together in the Grace of Christ, we are so very thankful to God for 1<sup>st</sup> Church and eagerly anticipate the work He will continue to do in and through us.

## **CHURCH LIFE...**

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to the family and friends of David Besser, who passed away on Monday, December 16. A memorial service and a celebration of Dave's life will be held here on Saturday, January 4, 2020 at noon. Memorial visitation will take place before the service in the church sanctuary from 10:00AM-12:00PM. Luncheon to follow memorial service in church Fellowship Hall - all are welcome to join.

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is also extended to the Spiekhout family in the passing of Don's sister, Julia Spyksma, on December 13.

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is also extended to Pastor Brian and Patrice Kamstra on the passing of their daughter, Lindsey, on Saturday, December 14 at the age of 32.

**IN THE PAST 5 YEARS AND IN MOVING FORWARD**, all contributions, whether designated or undesignated, are deposited into one operating fund and are distributed according to the budget approved by the congregation. During the past 5 years, the designated offerings to specific budgets never exceeded their respective budgets. It is therefore unnecessary to designate to specific budgets. When you contribute, your gifts are applied to the needs defined in the Current Expense budget. When you contribute, your gifts are applied to the needs defined in the Benevolent budget. When you contribute, your gifts are applied to the needs defined in the Mission budget. When you contribute, your gifts are applied to the needs defined in the Building budget. Year 2020 envelopes will be distributed in late December. Our envelopes will have a single line selection for BUDGET (Current Expense, Benevolent, Missions and Building). Our envelopes will have a single line for non-budget OTHER (Specify). An example of this is for memorial gifts. Please continue to use the BLUE envelopes for Special Offering for capital improvements. The deacons thank you for your offering. If you have any questions, please contact Griff Decker @708-710-0111. Please leave a message.

**CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORTS** for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 are available in a single marked mail slot located on the north end of our mail slots. If you have any questions please contact Deacon Treasurer, Griff Decker.

**PLEASE VISIT THE WELCOME CENTER** in the Fellowship Hall after the service to sign cards for our shut-ins who are celebrating birthdays or are hospitalized.

**RESTORATION MINISTRIES** is selling live Christmas Trees at the South Holland Thrift Store. The Christmas Tree Lot is set up in front of the store. Hours are 9am to 9pm, Monday - Saturday until Dec. 23. The trees are 5-8 feet tall and cost \$40. All proceeds support Restoration Ministries.

## **LEARNING...**

**THE GOSPEL PROJECT: For ALL ages!**

All **students** (3-year-old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) can be dropped off in the Genesis Room at 11:00am and picked up there at 12:00pm. The adult class meets in the Chapel from 11:00am-12:00pm.

❖ December 22: "The Prince of Peace"

**THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING:** This multi-generational class is open to learners of all ages from 6th grade on up!

❖

December 22: "The

Third Commandment" (Q & A 99-102)

What is God's name? How do we use God's name? How do we abuse God's name?

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** will be taking a break for December 29, January 5, and January 12. All classes will resume on Sunday, January 19.

**BOOK CLUB** will next meet on **Tuesday, January 14** at 9:30am in the Library. We will be reading The Pioneers by David McCullough. Questions? Call Nancy Bates @596-7314.

## **WORSHIP...**

**CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** is this **Tuesday, December 24** at 11:00pm in the Sanctuary. Come to greet the infant King through song, prayer, proclamation, the lighting of the Birth Candle and a candlelit sending.

**THE FRONT DOORS AND THE FELLOWSHIP HALL (ORGAN DOOR) WILL BE THE ONLY DOORS UNLOCKED FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE!**

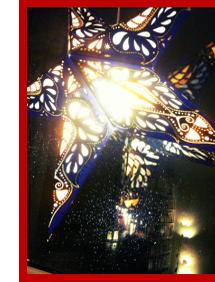
**OUR ANNUAL TOLLING OF THE BELLS SERVICE** will be **Sunday, January 5**. We look forward to hearing the bell toll for the loved ones who have gone on to glory this past year.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION** will be held on **Saturday, January 11** here at First Reformed Church at 10:00am. Pastor Jim, Pastor Corey, Anthony Bolkema, and our Day Care children will be participating at this event. Everyone invited to attend! This celebration honors the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with song and scripture.

***SERMON NOTES...***

Matthew 1:18-25  
“The Promise of a Priest”  
Pastor Corey Buchanan

**PRAYER ROOM** – Need a word of encouragement or someone to pray with? Come to the prayer room after church until 11am. It is located outside the double doors west of the Chapel. A team of dedicated volunteers would welcome the opportunity to pray with you this morning.



15924 South Park Avenue • South Holland, IL 60473  
Office: 708.333.0622 • Prayer Line: 708.333.8150

---

***STAFF...***

**Pastor Corey Buchanan**  
*Director of Mercy & Justice  
Ministries*

**Dr. Anthony Bolkema**  
*Director of Worship & Student Life*

**Rev. Dr. Rich Grevengoed**  
*Pastor of Care & Visitation*

**Nyla DeGraff**  
*Church Administrator*

**Gerri Van Baren**  
*Administrative Assistant*

**Toni Smith**  
*Director of Family Life  
Christian Pre-School & Day Care*

**Steve Alexander**  
*Church Custodian*

**Darcy Daly**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Jane Ackerman**  
*Church Accountant*

**Judy Gill**  
*Care & Visitation Assistant*

---

**Visit us online at [www.frcsh.org](http://www.frcsh.org)**

---

To get to know you better, please fill out our **Welcome Card** in the pew and place it in the offering plate. If you want more information about the life of First Church, make sure to include your email address.