

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

15924 South Park Avenue • South Holland, IL 60473

Office: 708.333.0622 • Prayer Line: 708.333.8150

E-mail: office@frcsh.org • Online at www.frcsh.org

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 6, 2020



Welcome...

Advent, which means "the coming," is a time when we wait expectantly for the celebration of Jesus' First Coming at Christmas. For Christians in the Northern Hemisphere, Advent comes at the coldest and darkest time of the year.

During Advent....

- ✚ *we light candles each Sunday to remind us that darkness doesn't last forever,*
- ✚ *we sing carols of hope and joy to remind us that our tears do not define us,*
- ✚ *we share the warmth of Christian fellowship to remind us that loneliness will not last, and*
- ✚ *we wait, we work, we cry, we pray, we ache, always knowing that Jesus is coming to make things right and end all sorrow.*

Come wait with us. Our doors are open to all who wait and all who need hope.

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

WE APPROACH GOD

Prelude

Bonnie Feenstra

"O Come, Little Children"
"Once in Royal David's City"
"Carol of the Bells"

Lighting the Candle of Love

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" – Violin Duet

Welcome & Greeting One Another

Pastor Corey Buchanan

*Congregational Singing

"Love Has Come"
"Eden is Open"

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Corey Buchanan

Song of Assurance

"Glory (Let There Be Peace)"

THE WORD OF GOD

Song of Preparation

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Scripture

Isaiah 11 and 33

Sermon

*"It's Hard to Wait: Waiting for the Shoot of Jesse to Take Root /
Waiting for the Lord of Might to Come Rescue Us"*

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Congregational Prayer

Pastor Jim Oord

Offering

*Doxology

"What Child Is This?"

*Benediction

Pastor Jim Oord

*Sending in Grace

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

*Postlude

"Christmas Hymn"

*Those who are able please stand.

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

UP & COMING AT FIRST...

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

GREETERS: Clair & Lynn Hoeksema, Rodger Norris, Mike & Cindy Nylen, and Ray Ondrejka

USHERS: Andy DeBoer, Don & Nyla DeGraff, Jim & Bonnie DeGroot, and Roger DeGraff

MUSIC TEAM: Anthony & Kim Bolkema, Joe Fransen, Bill Nyhanna, Nick Paarlberg, Abby Veldboom, and Robert Wooley

ORGAN: Bonnie Feenstra

PIANO: Joanne Hoeksema

VIDEO: Rhonda DeBok

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

7:00PM: Music Team meets in the Sanctuary

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

11:00AM: Virtual Day Care Christmas Program in the Sanctuary

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

GREETERS: Don & Gerri VanBaren, Lucas VanderWoude, Liam VanderWoude, Alison VanderWoude, and Deb Woltzen

USHERS: Gwen Adams, Russ Paarlberg, Ron Rietveld, Mike Spitz, Trina Taylor, and Steve VanderWoude

MUSIC TEAM: Julia Keep, Austin Parks, Matthew Rietveld, and Rachel Wooley

ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema

PIANO: Amy Veldboom

PROJECTION: Tiffany Buchanan

VIDEO: Keith Flowers

6:00PM: A special evening celebrating the story and songs of Christmas!

GREETERS: Clair & Lynn Hoeksema, Rodger Norris, and Cindy Nylen

USHERS: Andy DeBoer, Don & Nyla DeGraff, and Jim & Bonnie DeGroot

CARE...

Don Spiekhout is in hospice care at home.

Nancy Bates is recovering from surgery she had on Monday, November 23.

Dorothy Ravesloot has returned home after being with family while she recuperated from some injuries.

Audrey DeYoung, daughter of Tim & Megan, is recovering at home from surgery to remove her tonsils on Monday, November 30.

Christopher Nelson, son of Craig and Jan Nelson, continues needing prayer as he struggles with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Marla Owens continues at Great Lakes Nursing Home in Dyer Room 4A.

Leona Jacobs fell and fractured her hip. She is at Elmhurst hospital and had the bone set and her pain is being managed.

Dottie VanVuren's son, **Brian**, had testing done for a recurring problem on his lip. Pray for good results and a treatment plan.

Jean Schultz, mother of Deb Woltzen, continues in Franciscan Hospital in Munster and has been moved to the step-down ICU with chronic breathing problems.

Joy Poulos, daughter of Clarence & Judy Brouwers, is under doctors' care as her lymphoma has come back. A treatment plan is being decided upon.

Chad and Dara VandenBosch, our missionaries in Mozambique, need your prayers as they await a final court date with their adoption of Zinha.

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY: Harriet DeYoung, Elevate Senior Living, Room 409, 16300 Louis Ave., South Holland, IL 60473

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUNDING CAMPAIGN 2020...



AS INDOOR WORSHIP HAS RESUMED and Faith & Fellowship Formation ministries are starting up again, it is a great time to be a 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 your donations. Currently, we need to complete raising funds to pay for the renovation work that was done in the parsonage. We are approaching the halfway point, but we still need to raise \$66,450.94 to add to the \$58,427.46 that has been raised thus far. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

SERMON NOTES...

Isaiah 11 and 33

“It’s Hard to Wait: Waiting for the Shoot of Jesse to Take Root / Waiting for the Lord of Might to Come Rescue Us”

Pastor Jim Oord

WORSHIP...

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2020: "Advent" is the beginning of the Church Calendar, a period of longing and preparing for Christmas. "Advent" means "waiting," and doesn't that feel appropriate for the way things are in our world right now? We are all waiting for this pandemic to be over, waiting for restrictions to be lifted, waiting for life to return to normal. Our Advent sermon series continues today, **Sunday, December 6**, and is appropriately titled **"It's Hard to Wait."** We are praying that we will meet the Jesus who answers our longings and gives us wisdom and strength to wait with hope.

Here are some Advent & Christmas Dates to keep in mind:

Sunday, December 13 at 6:00pm

A special evening celebrating the story and songs of Christmas!

Thursday, December 24 at 11:00pm

Christmas Eve service

Sunday, January 3 at 9:30am

Tolling of the Bells service

OUR GIFTS...

Sunday, November 29

Basket Total: \$12,732.50

Online Total: \$3,375.00

Special Projects: \$4,100.00

Giving Total: \$20,207.50

(Needed Weekly: \$11,250.00)

There are several ways to bring your gifts to the church:

- Online
- Mail
- Bring to church office
- Put them in the mailbox right outside of the church office door

CHURCH LIFE...

THE QUILTERS AND KNITTERS have temporarily suspended their meeting together. More information will follow when they decide to meet again.

THANK YOU for the many prayers, cards, phone calls, and texts we received during our time with COVID-19. We are so blessed! - Dave & Becky Wright

OFFERING ENVELOPES have been issued for 2021 and are in your mail slots. If you should have any questions, please contact Griff Decker at 708-710-0111.

THE SOUTH HOLLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT is collecting new, unwrapped toys through this Wednesday, December 9. Toys will be donated to Restoration Ministries. Bring your donations to Fire Station 1, 16230 Wausau Avenue.

THE SOUTH HOLLAND MASTER CHORALE'S annual Christmas concert cannot be held this year due to COVID-19. However, beginning this Saturday, December 5, the Chorale is gifting the community with a recording of last year's Christmas concert. Go to the South Holland weekly update email to watch the video any time from December 5-31.

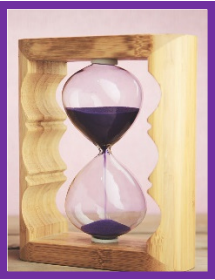
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION will be held Saturday, Jan. 16, 2021. This celebration honors the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with song and scripture. The program this year will be live streamed. More details will be coming soon.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITES...

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE: There will be no Sunday School on December 27, January 3, and January 10 for Christmas Break.

THE LADIES' BIBLE STUDY finished up their last session for the fall. The 2021 session will begin on Tuesday, January 12, with the study, "Jonah, Navigating A Life Interrupted" by Priscilla Shirer.

SECRETARIES' COVID OFFICE HOURS
9:00 AM – NOON / Monday – Friday



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STAFF...

Rev. James Oord <i>Senior Pastor</i>	Gerri VanBaren <i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Pastor Corey Buchanan <i>Associate Pastor</i>	Steve Alexander <i>Church Custodian</i>
Dr. Anthony Bolkema <i>Pastor of Worship & Ministry</i>	Jane Ackerman <i>Church Accountant</i>
Rev. Dr. Rich Grevengoed <i>Pastor of Care & Visitation</i>	Darcy Daly <i>Nursery Coordinator</i>
Nyla DeGraff <i>Church Administrator</i>	Toni Smith <i>Director of Family Life Christian Pre-School & Day Care</i>

Visit us online at www.frersh.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.