

# FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

15924 South Park Avenue • South Holland, IL 60473

Office: 708.333.0622 • Prayer Line: 708.333.8150

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FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 27, 2020



## *Merry Christmas!*

The 12 Days of Christmas run from when we gather late on Christmas Eve all the way through January 6. This is a season of joy, wonder, and light; feasting, celebrating, and relishing the gift of Christ to the world. The Christmas story is about Jesus coming to unexpected places and gathering unexpected people to come and worship - dirty shepherds, foreign stargazers, a teenage mother, and the people you find in the pews around you. Whether this is your first Christmas season here at First Church or your eighty-first, we are so happy you have come to join us. We are celebrating that God is with us and we are glad you're here to share that good news, too.

First Sunday after Christmas

December 27, 2020

## WE APPROACH GOD

Prelude Variations of *"O Come All Ye Faithful"*

Welcome & Greeting One Another Pastor Corey Buchanan

\*Congregational Worship *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*  
*"Go, Tell It On the Mountain!"*

Prayer of Confession Pastor Jim Oord

Song of Assurance *"Joy to the World"*

## THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon "Tracking Jesus"

## WE RESPOND TO GOD

Congregational Prayer Pastor Jim Oord

Offering

\*Doxology *"What Child Is This?"*

\*Benediction Pastor Corey Buchanan

\*Sending in Grace *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*

\*Postlude *"O Come All Ye Faithful"*

\*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 27**

**GREETERS:** Don Van Baren, Clifton Rhodes, Liam VanderWoude, Allison VanderWoude, and Dennis Woltzen

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

**ORGAN:** Steve DeVries

**PIANO:** Anthony Bolkema

**PROJECTION:** Trina Taylor

**VIDEO:** Lucas VanderWoude

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 21**

**7:00PM:** Music Team Rehearsal

### **HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday, December 28 – Friday, January 1: CLOSED**

(Phone calls, emails, & mail will be monitored. Prayer line will be updated as needed.)

### **COMMUNION SUNDAY, JANUARY 3**

**GREETERS:** Clair Hoeksema, Bonnie DeGroot, Ray Ondrejka, Cindy Nysten, and Deb Oord

**USHERS:** Russ Paarlberg, Ron Rietveld, Jim DeGroot, Roger DeGraff, Rodger Norris, and Mike Nysten

**MUSIC TEAM:** Daniel Day, Anthony Bolkema, and Julia Keep

**ORGAN:** Joanne Hoeksema

**PIANO:** Pastor Jim Oord

**PROJECTION:** Gwen Adams

**VIDEO:** Eric Pradelski

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

**Wayne and Joyce Deinema** are at the Dyer Nursing Home for rehab.

**Diane Snyder** had a CT scan last week and doctors will be monitoring her kidneys.

**Carol Snyder** has returned home from the hospital and is recovering from gall bladder surgery.

**Ralph Paarlberg** has returned home from the hospital and is being cared for by family.

**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 136.

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

**Brian Van Vuren** will be seeing a doctor in Indianapolis soon and is anticipating surgery for a recurring problem on his lip.

**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 our prayers as they await a final court date with their adoption of Zinha.

**OUR EXTENDED FAMILY:** Leona Jacobs, Healthy & Wellness Center, 1050 S. Euclid Avenue, Room 362, Elmhurst, IL 60126

## ***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 \$55,450.94 to add to the \$69,427.46 that has been raised thus far. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

OUR GIFTS...

Sunday, December 20

Basket Total: \$37,584.16

Online Total: \$2,890.00

Parsonage: \$10,000.00

Giving Total: \$50,474.16

(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.

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.

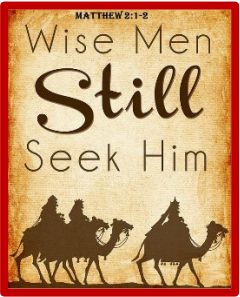
THE SOUTH HOLLAND MASTER CHORALE'S annual Christmas concert cannot be held this year due to COVID-19. However, the Chorale is gifting the community with a recording of last year's Christmas concert. Go to the South Holland weekly update email to watch the video through December 31.

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 today, January 3, and January 10 due to 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.



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STAFF...

Rev. James Oord  
Senior Pastor

Pastor Corey Buchanan  
Associate Pastor

Dr. Anthony Bolkema  
Pastor of Worship & Ministry

Rev. Dr. Rich Grevengoed  
Pastor of Care & Visitation

Nyla DeGraff  
Church Administrator

Gerri VanBaren  
Administrative Assistant

Steve Alexander  
Church Custodian

Jane Ackerman  
Church Accountant

Darcy Daly  
Nursery Coordinator

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

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.