

### **Sanctus**

Holy, holy, holy King, come to save the human race.  
our cries of “Hosanna!” ring as we meet You face to face.

**Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

### **Mysterium Fidei**

“Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again!” we sing.  
Christ released us from death’s prison, worship Christ our coming King.

**Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

### **Congregational Prayer Prompts**

- thanksgiving for the friends and family we celebrate with
- comfort for those who are lonely or grieving at Christmas
- thanksgiving for the Bible, especially the gospels and the story of Christ's coming
- relief for those who are hungry, cold, or in pain today
- forgiveness for our misplaced priorities, greed, and selfishness
- help in learning kindness, generosity, and compassion
- joy in the great gift of Jesus, who came to save us!

### **Once In Royal David’s City**

And our eyes at last shall see Him through His own redeeming love;  
For that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above.  
And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.

## **Welcome to First Reformed Church!**

## **FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

## **CHRISTMAS EVE**

**Sunday, December 24, 2023**

Welcome & Call to Worship

Pastor Jim Oord

**\*Congregational Singing**

*“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”*

*“Go! Tell It on the Mountain”*

*“Glory (Let There Be Peace)”*

Lighting of the Hope Candle

Lighting of the Love Candle

Lighting of the Joy Candle

Lighting of the Peace Candle

Children’s Story Time

*“A Very Noisy Christmas”*

Song of Response

*“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Congregational Prayer

**\*Benediction**

Pastor Jim Oord

**\*Sending in Grace**

*“Once In Royal David’s City”*

**\*Postlude**

**\*Those who are able please stand.**

**Please, stick around after the service for conversation and festive refreshments.**

CARE...

Rich Zimmerman is recovering from open heart surgery at the University of Chicago Hospital in Hyde Park.

Jean Spiekhout has returned home.

Kathy Oord, Trina Taylor, and Christopher Nelson continue with their treatments for cancer.

Ruth DeBoer is back at Hartsfield Village and is in rehab.

Howard DeYoung (brother of Harriet Santefort) and father of Lisa Triemstra and Steve DeYoung is in Hospice Care at home.

Ron & Diana Abernathy’s son-in-law Daniel Pletzke and daughter Debra continue to struggle with various health issues.

Please continue to pray for the Mike & Pam Costello family.

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY: Don & Myrna Eytcheson, 17324 Greenwood Ave., South Holland, IL 60473

Family Life Day Christian Day Care Center

Closed from Monday, December 25 – Friday, January 5

Secretaries Church Office Hours

Closed on December 25 & 26 and January 1 & 2

Office Hours 9am-noon on December 27-29 and January 3-5

OUR GIFTS...

Sunday, December 17

Basket Total: \$6,891.00; Online Total: \$2,435.02

Rachel Wooley Gift & Memorial: \$1,400.00

Giving Total: \$10,726.02

(Needed Weekly: \$11,500.00)

Reach 175: \$2,650.00; Online Reach 175: \$66.08; REACH 175 TOTAL: \$2,716.08

REACH 175 GRAND TOTAL: \$4,256.72

ON DUTY FOR DECEMBER...

First Emergency: Mary Decker

First Security: Colin Cutler

UP & COMING AT FIRST...

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY

GREETERS: Don & Gerri VanBaren

WELCOME CENTER: Raylene Oord

WORSHIP TEAM: Adeline Larson, Nick Paarlberg, Lisa Triemstra, Bella VanderWoude, and Abby Veldboom

PIANO: Amy Veldboom

NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Abby Veldboom

COFFEE SERVERS: Rodger & Sherry Norris, Cindy Nylen, and Faye Gowens

COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Alison VanderWoude, Felicia Flowers, and Grace Jacobsma

CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24

11:00PM: Christmas Eve Service

The front doors and the fellowship hall (organ door) will be the only doors unlocked for entry of the Christmas Eve service!

MONDAY & TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25 & 26

Family Life Day Care and  
Church Office Closed

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY

GREETERS: Rodger Norris and Liam VanderWoude

WELCOME CENTER: Alison VanderWoude

PROJECTION: Izzy Veldboom

VIDEO: Keith Flowers

SOUND: Rhonda Hesselink

ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema

PIANO: Pastor Anthony Bolkema

NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Amber Fransen

COFFEE SERVERS: Claude & Sharon Brooks, Trina Taylor, and Gwen Adams

COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Diana Abernathy, Trina Taylor, and Merley Verhagen

**THANK YOU** all so very much for the calls, cards and prayers I received during my hip surgeries; hoping to see you all soon.

- Monty Riddering

**PLEASE REMEMBER FIRST CHURCH** with your tithes and offerings as we near the end of 2023. Any year-end gifts must be given on or before December 31.

Offering envelopes have been issued for 2024 and are in your mail slots. If you should have any questions, please contact Mike Decker at 708-567-5447. Our Reach 175 capital campaign has begun, and we would be very grateful for any above and beyond contributions to reach our goal.

**OUR ANNUAL TOLLING OF THE BELLS SERVICE** is **Sunday, January 7**, where we hear the bell toll for the loved ones who have gone on to glory this past year.

**KITCHEN NEWS:** As part of our Reach 175 campaign, work on the Activity Center kitchen has begun! This means that the Fellowship Hall kitchen is currently being used by Family Life Daycare to prepare 2 meals a day (plus snacks) for 80+ kids, 5 days a week. So, if you use the kitchen in any way between now and the end of the year, please 1) keep the counters clear, 2) respect the top two shelves of the fridge, which are being used by Family Life, 3) keep it cleaner than you found it. Thank you!

**TO OUR WONDERFUL CHURCH COOKIE BAKERS**, the new Cookie Duty Schedule for January-April 2024 is now in your mailbox. Thank you for all the tasty treats you create for us each and every week. You are so appreciated!

**THE LADIES' BIBLE STUDY** will meet again on **Tuesday, January 9**, at 10:00am in The Fellowship Hall. We will be viewing the session 4 video in our study of the book of Revelations, "How to Overcome the Enemy." Hope to see you there!



**FIRST WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP:** Join us on **January 3** from 6:00-7:30pm for a meal and fellowship. The theme for this meal will be "Midwest Potluck." Sign up at the Welcome Center and bring along your favorite Midwest hot dish, casserole, or goulash. Will it involve potatoes? Rice? Pasta?

Tater tots? Crushed up potato chips? (Did you know that canned cream of mushroom soup is also known as "the Lutheran Binder" because it's used in so many potluck dishes at Lutheran churches? Is it used in yours?). This meal will warm your bellies and your hearts. Salad, dessert, and drinks will be provided. Sign up today!

### **Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You**

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of light;  
Angels lifting praise before You sing throughout this holy night.  
In a manger lies a Baby – child of Mary, Son of God.  
Voices joined in joyful chorus praise You for Your gift of love.

All Your works declare Your glory; all creation joins to sing.  
Praise resounds as earth rejoices in the birth of Christ, the King.  
Shepherds kneel before the Infant, trumpets sound and anthems raise.  
As with joy our hearts are lifted, joined in wonder, love, and praise.

### **Go! Tell It On The Mountain**

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.  
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.**

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold! throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth  
rang out the angels chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,  
and brought us God's salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

### **Glory (Let There Be Peace)**

One star burns in the darkness, shines with the promise: Emmanuel.  
One child born in the stillness, living within us: Emmanuel.

**We're singing glory, glory; let there be peace, let there be peace.  
Singing glory, glory; let there be peace, let it start in me.**

One voice speaks for the voiceless, hope for the hopeless: Emmanuel.  
One love brings us together, now and forever; Emmanuel.

*Do not be afraid, His love is strong enough to save us.*

*Nothing stands in the way, His love is strong enough to lead us. (2x)*

### **I'm Waiting**

I'm waiting, I'm waiting, for Jesus is coming.  
He's coming, He's coming, the light of the world!  
I'm lighting, I'm lighting a candle to greet Him;  
I love Him, I love Him. Dear Jesus, come soon!  
I'm waiting, He's coming, I'm lighting, I love Him.  
Won't you greet Him with me the light of all the world!

### Responsive Reading

One: At times like this, after a week like this, in a year like this, we long for a silent night.

**All: Grant us your peace.**

One: Even in worship, we feel the hurry, the noise, the anxiety, so we take a moment.

**All: Grant us your peace.**

One: This space of silence, this time to breathe, is empty yet full.

**All: Grant us your peace.**

One: As Jesus prepared for the cross, he told his disciples,

**All: "I have said these things, so that in me you may have peace."**

One: "In this world, you will have trouble."

**All: "But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)**

One: For all those struggling,

**All: Take heart!**

One: For all those confessing,

**All: Take heart!**

One: For all those at the end of their rope,

**All: Take heart!**

One: We look in your direction, God,

**All: The only place from which true peace comes.**

One: For you are Peace's Author, its Home, and its Prince,

**All: And in your peace we dwell.**

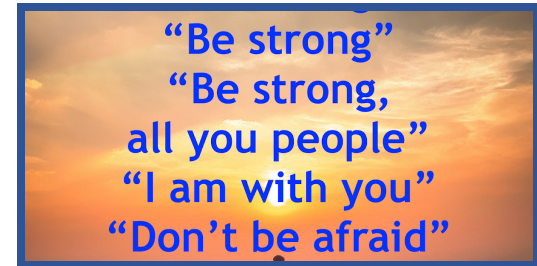
### Angels We Have Heard On High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains  
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains:

**Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

Come to Bethlehem, and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;  
Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

See Him in a manger laid: Whom the choirs of angels praise  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid while our hearts in love we raise.



**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)**

**SECRETARIES' OFFICE HOURS**

**9:00AM – NOON / Monday – Friday**

### STAFF...

**Rev. James Oord**  
*Senior Pastor*

**Gerri VanBaren**  
*Administrative Assistant*

**Pastor Corey Buchanan**  
*Associate Pastor*

**Steve Alexander**  
*Church Custodian*

**Anthony Bolkema**  
*Pastor of Worship & Ministry*

**Jane Ackerman**  
*Church Accountant*

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

**Darcy Daly**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Nyla DeGraff**  
*Church Administrator*

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

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

Find us in the app store by searching for  
"First Reformed Church South Holland" or by visiting [get.theapp.co/1779](http://get.theapp.co/1779).



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.