

**FIRST REFORMED CHURCH**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**December 13 A.D. 2020  
9:30 A.M.**

**Pastor:** David Landegent

**Organist:** Carol Kleinjan

**Keyboard:** Karen Knutson

**You are encouraged to maintain a 6-foot distance from one another when entering, exiting AND choosing a place to sit.**

**If you feel more comfortable sitting in the fellowship hall, you are welcome to do so.**

**EXTRA SAFETY ZONE: Masks are required in the first five pews on the south side (organ side).**

**In general, masks are STRONGLY encouraged, but not required in the building.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**OUR APPROACH TO GOD**

CAROL OF PRAISE: *Come, Now is the Time to Worship +  
O, Come, All Ye Faithful*

\* CAROL: *Good Christian Men Rejoice + Shout to the North*  
PRAYER LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE:

Vandermeer Family

CAROL: *Let Us Celebrate the Birth* (tune: *Good King Wenceslas*)

*Let us celebrate the birth of our blessed Savior!*

*Came from heaven, came to earth, full of grace and favor*

*Son of God incarnate Word, Light of Life and glory:*

*There is joy forevermore in His sacred story.*

*When The time had fully come, Gabriel spoke to Mary,*

*“Though a virgin, you’ll conceive; God’s own Son you’ll carry;*

*He will rule from David’s throne; He will rule the nations.”*

*Mary magnified the Lord for His New Creation.*

*Joseph, her fiancé, learned in a dream explaining,  
“Mary’s son is from the Lord; ‘Jesus’ you must name Him.”  
When they came to Bethlehem, no room there for strangers,  
Mary birthed him in a shed, laid him in a manger.*

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM: Lydia Grace Sapp

HYMN: *Our Children, Lord, In Faith and Prayer* (insert)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

PRAISE MINISTRY: *He Has Come For us* – Praise Team

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

\* CAROL: 209 – *Away in a Manger*

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18-21 p. 1497

SERMON: *Jesus’ Babysitters*

**OUR RESPONSE TO GOD**

\* CAROL: 189 – *Silent Night, Holy Night*

\* BENEDICTION

\* CLOSING SONG: *Gloria Patri* (words are on the screen)

POSTLUDE

**TODAY**

**WELCOME** to worship on our Third Sunday of Advent.

- To reduce the spread of the virus, there is NO Sunday School. Coffee will be served on a self-serve basis in the fellowship hall.
- Parents may use the nursery during the service, but there will not be any attendants there.
- The Sunday School children will be having a brief time of practicing right after the worship service preparing a song or two for next week Sunday morning’s service (plus playing the bells).

**Third Sunday offerings are designated for the General Fund and Building Fund. The offering bags are at the back of the sanctuary.**

**THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR CHRISTIAN GROWTH**

WEDNESDAY: 6:30 p.m. – Cadets at CRC

7:15 p.m. – Elders and deacons meet separately

7:30 p.m. – Full consistory

\*\*\* New consistory members are asked to come to the beginning of the meeting so that we can select new officers and make our Task Force preferences known.

**NEXT SUNDAY:** On the fourth Sunday of Advent, we will have our Sunday School program at the morning service. There will be plenty of singing and we will also watch a video of the children of the church taking us through a Christmas alphabet. Those children who are present will also sing a song and play bells.

To mark this special occasion, we encourage people to dress up in their best holiday clothes.

**FUTURE DATES**

December 24..... Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7pm

**PERSONALS**

**PRAYER CONCERNS:**

Please pray for those on chemo: **Jodi Koerner, Bernita Kooima, Pastor Dave and Dawn Lucas.**

Please pray for our homebound member **Howard Rozendal.**

**WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK** everyone for the prayers and cards sent with the passing of Dolores Jongeling. We appreciate your expressions of sympathy – Rod & Linda Sonnenburg and family

(Rod and Linda were FRC members until 2004 when they moved to Sioux Falls)

**LIVING STONE SUPPORTERS:** I cannot thank you enough for investing in us here at Mike Durfee! Especially as the world walks through COVID, your encouragement, prayers and support speaks into our daily lives so deeply.

It's easy for society to write inmates off, to forget we still need the hope of Christ. You are his hands and feet to us, our cup of cold water in this day, time and place.

The support you give us bears eternal fruit. Thank you, servants of Christ!!

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**CHESTER VANDER ZEE,** father of Karen Knutson, is beginning a series of chemo and radiation treatments on December 14 to treat a mass in his lower GI tract. He would appreciate prayers for toleration of the treatments and for its success. If anyone is interested in providing a ride to Sioux Falls during the next 5 or 6 weeks, please talk to Karen or Chester.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR FUNDRAISER:** The calendars are for sale at a table in the fellowship hall. The proceeds from this fundraiser help support next year's Rocky Mountain High trip. Calendars are selling for \$8.

**CUSTODIAN NEEDED:** Due to arthritis issues, our custodian Wayne Mans has decided to resign from that position effective immediately. If you are interested in this position, please contact Jason Volkers (690-0807).

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING RESULTS:** The congregation approved the 2021 budget of \$184,944.12 which is about \$2,000 less than the previous year. They also approved a mission budget of \$12,900. Those selected as new consistory members were elder Gene Bjorklund and deacon Sako Vandermeer.

**ON DUTY FOR THE LORD NEXT SUNDAY, December 20:**

Greeters – Any volunteers?

Coffee Servers – Self Serve

Nursery - no assigned volunteers, although parents can still use the room

Library - Susan

(December 13, 2020)