

## FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 7, 2025 9:30 A.M.

**Pastor:** Gary Mulder

**Organ:** Joyce Post

**Keyboard:** Karen Knutson

**Praise Team**

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT – Dean and Polly Vander Wal

ADVENT HYMN: 194 – *Joy to the World!*

CHRISTMAS PRAISE SONGS: *Let Us All Give God the Glory*

\* 191 – *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

\* GREETING ONE ANOTHER

If you feel more comfortable during the cold/flu season not shaking hands, you may greet someone with a 'soft' fist bump, wave of the hand or just a verbal Good Morning!

PRAISE MINISTRY: *He Has Come for Us* - Praise Team

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

OFFERING (General Fund and Building Fund)

CHILDREN'S OFFERING (Compassion Children-Nelly and Raj)

*(Please sign the friendship pads as the offering is received)*

\* DOXOLOGY (page 623)

\* OFFERTORY PRAYER

SCRIPTURE: Galatians 4:4-7 p. 1813

MESSAGE: *Time for a Change*

\* HYMN: 356 – *A Child of the King*

\* BENEDICTION

\* CLOSING HYMN: 128 – *The Family of God* (chorus only)

POSTLUDE

\*Please stand if you are able

## TODAY

**A WARM WELCOME** to all who have come to join us in worship and praise today on this second Sunday of Advent.

The annual congregational meeting will begin IMMEDIATELY following the morning service.

The agenda is very basic consisting of a year-end financial report, approving the proposed budget for 2026, and the choosing ceremony of elder and deacons.

Absentee ballots are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

The elder and deacon candidates will draw lots to determine whom God has chosen to fill the respective offices.

Nominees for the office of **elder** are: Bev Cotton, Jason Hove, Ron Koerner, Caleb Schaefer, Kelly Vander Wal and Michelle Vander Wal

Nominees for the office of **deacon** are: Tim Goetsch, Cody Knapp and Allen Van Hoepen.

Our retiring elders are: Charles Sapp and Scott Vander Wal

Our retiring deacon is Dean Vander Wal.

*The Sunday School children that are involved in the program will be dismissed to the fellowship hall for practice.*

*Both high school and junior high Sunday School classes are asked to stay in the sanctuary with their families (whether voting members or not).*

A time of fellowship will follow after the conclusion of the meeting.

### SERVING THE LORD TODAY:

Greeters: The Dan and Melanie Gerdes Family

Ushers: Keith and Shirley Van Duyn

Nursery: Bev Cotton and Landon Sapp

Coffee Server: Susan

3 p.m. - Women's Discipleship Group

5 p.m. – Prayer Time

### NEXT SUNDAY (December 14, 2025)

We will be celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Within your bulletin today is an insert for you to prepare your hearts to celebrate the Lord's Supper together next Lord's Day.

The mixed quartet will begin the service by leading the congregation in singing some hymns.

A group will be going to Dakota Sun at 11 a.m.  
Senior high, junior high and Daniel's class of Adult Sunday School will be meeting.  
Christmas program practice will take place in the sanctuary.

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

- TUESDAY: 7 p.m. Fresh Hope
- WEDNESDAY : 4:15 p.m. – Bell Choir Practice  
7 p.m. – Junior High Youth Group  
8:30 p.m. – Men's Discipleship
- THURSDAY: 8:30-10 a.m. – VCS program practice  
2 p.m. – Ladies' Bible Study Romans 9  
*What About All the Promises God Made to the Jews?*  
Leader – Marion Refreshments – Joan  
3:45-6 p.m. – GEMS Christmas Party at CRC  
NOTE THE EXTENDED TIME
- FRIDAY: 8:30 – 10 a.m. – VCS program practice  
7 p.m. – VCS Christmas program – You are invited to attend.
- FUTURE DATES:**
- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| December 9.....  | Special Elders' Meeting                      |
| December 15..... | Consistory                                   |
| December 17..... | Senior High Youth                            |
| December 21..... | Christmas program during the morning service |
| December 22..... | Fresh Hope                                   |
| December 24..... | Christmas Eve Service at 6 p.m.              |
| January 4.....   | Installation of new Consistory members       |

**PRAYERS AND PRAISE**

PRAYER CONCERNS: Continue to pray for **Lenna Weinberg**, infant daughter of Jakob and Samantha Weidberg. Pray for continued progress so she can breathe on her own and go home to her parents.  
**Danelyn Greene** had surgery on Thursday to repair a torn ACL and a torn meniscus.  
**Larry Dyer** had a procedure on Monday and all went well. He will need a stent put in and a new aortic valve in the near future.  
**Marilyn Kleinjan** fell and broke her left wrist and was hospitalized over the weekend. She is now at The Neighborhoods in Brookings receiving therapy.  
**Bill Van Beek** fell and broke both legs and one arm. He is a patient at Avera Hospital in Sioux Falls.  
Continue to pray for **Joel Schonewill** as a recent PET scan revealed a new hot spot on his adrenal gland of his kidney. He will begin treatment after Christmas.  
Your on-going prayers for others in need of healing and those taking treatments would also be appreciated: **Gloria Egeberg, Whitney Goetsch, Lois Kleinjan, Jodi Koerner, Bernita Kooima, Dawn Lucas, Boone Posey, Joel Schonewill, Carolyn Tucker, Lee Vande Weerd, Harold Van Hoepen, and Amy Vandermeer.**

Also continue to pray for **Howard Rozendal** who resides at United Living Community in Brookings, **Donald Langland** who is at the Estelline Nursing and Care Center, and **Adriana Kleinjan** and **Harold Van Hoepen** who are homebound.

THANK YOU to those who organized and served the pie fellowship, as well as those who furnished a pie for the fellowship time following the Thanksgiving Eve service.  
THANK YOU to those who helped take down the fall/Thanksgiving decorations and replace them with the Advent/Christmas decorations. You are appreciated!

### BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

When you come to prison, your life changes in every way. I know mine did. You lose family, friends and yes, even hope. But then Jesus intervened and you find out there is hope and a new family, a family in Christ. For me, I am so thankful for the many amazing people who help us men to heal, to change our lives, and to know that Jesus still loves us. I sing in the praise band and the choir. I feel so much joy when volunteers join us in worship and even join the choir for our opening hymns.

The Living Stone family has helped me in so many ways. What a blessing. To God be the Glory and the Glory be to God!

- Anonymous
- Check the bulletin board for the card and drawing that one of the men from Living Stone Prison Church drew.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

DAILY DEVOTIONALS RELATED TO THE UNHURRIED CHRISTMAS SERIES are available at: <https://arc21.org/unhurried> and then click on “Daily Devotional Subscription” button.

### NEXT SUNDAY, December 14, 2025

Greeters: Jerry and Cam Heier

Ushers: Keith and Shirley Van Duyn

Nursery: Deb Ulvestad and Cade Leinen

Coffee: Harold and Julie Jefferis

Offering: Volga Christian School

The following are encouraged to worship with the residents at Dakota Sun at 11 a.m. next week: Dori Ohm, Chr., Justin & Michelle, Gene & Michelle, John Cotton, Marv & Kayleen, Brenda Ferguson, Jim & Jen, Jim & Karen, Don & Laurie, Vern & Shirley, Gary Mans, Bernice Mullett, Bryon & Tammy Mullett, Bill & Deanna, Joel Schonewill, Wayne & Deb, VernaMae Van Maanen, Marlys Vander Wal

**(December 7, 2025 bulletin)**