

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

December 7, 2008

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*Let the first note of the prelude be a call for  
personal meditation in preparation for worship.*

**BRINGING PRAISE TO GOD**

PRELUDE Creator of the Stars of Night arr. by Richard Warner

OPENING WORDS (*responsively*)

Into our world as into Mary's womb

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Into the forgotten places, as into the stable

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Into the lives of the poor, bringing hope;

Into the lives of the powerful, bringing caution;

Into the lives of the weary, bringing rest;

Into the lives of the wise, bringing restlessness;

And into our lives and longings whatever our estate

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

This is the good news:

Christ is coming and blessed are those who wait on the Lord.

**Therefore come quickly, Lord. Amen.**

—Luke 1:26-38; 46-55

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING SONG *Sing! A New Creation* 96

**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.**

**Wait for the Lord; be strong, take heart!**

SALUTATION

+\*HYMN OF PRAISE *Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs* 11

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You? Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*(congregation may exchange the Peace)*

**OFFERING CONFESSION OF SIN**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

Refrain: **My spirit is dry because it forgets to feed on thee.**

—John of the Cross, 1542-91

RESPONSE *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 1

Tune: STUTTGART

**Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;**

**From our fears and sins release us;**

**let us find our rest in Thee.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON Psalm 85:1-2

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL TO WORSHIP CENTERS (*sung*)

Tune: VENITE ADORAMUS

**An angel came to Mary, and did say,**

**“Pray, for God's own Son is on the way.**

**Get ready for his coming, you must start**

**To make a place for Jesus in your heart.”**

**Mystery and wonder, hope and joy,**

**Join the pieces of our Christmas story.**

—Text by Jane Cronkite

**PROCLAMATION OF GOD IN WORD AND SACRAMENT**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 1:26-38

p. 56

ANTHEM (8:30)  
(11:00)

John Ireland  
C.V. Stanford

My soul doth magnify the Lord  
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For He hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden,  
For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.  
For He that is mighty hath magnified me: and Holy is His Name.  
And His mercy is on them that fear Him,  
Throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm,  
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,  
And hath exalted the humble and the meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things,  
And the rich He hath sent empty away.  
He remembering His mercy, hath holpen his servant Israel.  
As He promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.

—Luke 1:26-38

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

“The Prayer-Filled Life: Mary”

(The Life of Contemplation)

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD

CELEBRATING THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S SUPPER Isaiah 40:12

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*responsively*)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

We praise you God, . . . with full confidence in your promises we live in joy and we sing your praise.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise you for Jesus Christ . . . and we offer our thanksgiving for the gift of this feast.

**Amen.**

INSTITUTION

INVITATION

(As you come forward we invite you to bring your offering to the front of the sanctuary and place it in the offering baskets placed near the front of the church.)

THE SACRAMENT

(You will be guided by the Elders to the front via the center aisle to receive communion by intinction, taking a piece of bread and dipping into the cup. Please return to your pew via the side aisles. *Sing! A New Creation* 92 “He Came Down” and 254 “Eat This Bread” refrain

sung by the congregation during communion, verses by the choir.)  
\*DOXOLOGY *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 592

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY AND SHARING THE GIFT OF FELLOWSHIP

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(in unison)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,  
And the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**PREPARING FOR SERVICE IN THE WORLD**

RESPONSE OF PRAYER AND PRAISE *(responsively)*

Lord, you have put gladness in our hearts;

You have satisfied our hunger with good things.

In giving all, you have not withheld from us

Your own dear Son.

**Our Lord and our God,**

**Renew us day by day with the gift of your Spirit,**

**that we may give ourselves completely to your service**

**and walk with joy in the footsteps**

**of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 505

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread

Tune: ST. FLAVIAN

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE The Advent Chorale from "St. Paul" Felix Mendelssohn

+Latecomers will be seated.

\*Those who are able may stand.

*Worship Leaders: Rev. Kama Jongerius, preaching; Rev. Kent Fry, liturgist; Justis Cook, prayer for illumination; Linda Dykstra, soloist (11:00); Matins Choir; Sanctuary Choir; Linda Strouf, Minister of Music.*

### **TODAY**

We welcome all who worship with us and ask visitors and members to sign the Friendship Folders so that we may get to know one another.

Please join us in the Gathering Place for refreshments and fellowship after the worship service.

FOR THOSE WHO DESIRE PRAYER for yourself and others, Carl and Lucille Schroeder will be available to pray with you following today's worship services. Please make your way to the Place of Prayer following the service (located in the south hallway on the main level).

ASSISTING TODAY: Greeters (8:30) – Carl and Carolyn Stegink; (11:00) – John Heyns, Elton and Elaine Bruins, Dale Dykema and Cathy Morgan, Kathy and Fred Van Tubbergen; Ushers – Skip and Jane Keeter; Deacons – (8:30) Steve Bulthuis, Jon Bechtel; (11:00) Bekah Schipper, Jim Hensley, Andy Mulder, Laura Halsey.

CHILD CARE is available in the nurseries during the worship service. Attendants: Susie Vander Kolk, Andy Zoerman, Elly Muiderman, Peg Van Grouw.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:40-10:40 a.m., nursery care available

3 year olds	nursery	4 & 5 year olds, K	room 15
1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> grades	room 6	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	room 9
4 <sup>th</sup> grade	room 10	5 <sup>th</sup> grade	room 11
6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , & 8 <sup>th</sup> grade	room 22		

THE ADULT EDUCATION CLASS for Spiritual Formation is open to all and is experiential, participatory, and practical. Come and go as you are able. Meet in the Centennial Room downstairs.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES, 9:40-10:40 a.m., Hymns We Love to Sing and the Writers Who Composed Them: "The Hymns of Jane Parker Huber" led by Kama Jongerius in the chapel. NEXT WEEK: No Sunday School. Plan to attend the Children's Christmas Program.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Children 4 years through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be ushered from the sanctuary during the worship service to continue worship in the Worship Centers on the lower level.

### YOUTH ROOM OPEN HOUSE

between services and following the 11:00 a.m. worship service

Everyone is invited to celebrate  
the completed renovation of the Youth Room.

Coffee and snacks will be served by the youth.

### **THIS WEEK**

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m.	Matins Choir
9:15 a.m.	Youth Choir
9:15 a.m.	Reading and Drama Group
9:40 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Children's Choir

12:15 p.m. Prayer Team Lunch  
 12:15 p.m. Handbell Choir  
 3:00 p.m. Japanese Worship – Western Seminary  
 6:30 p.m. Senior High Christmas Party  
**MONDAY**  
 7:30 p.m. Women’s Ministries Program  
**TUESDAY**  
 8:00 a.m. Ruth Circle at Kay Walvoord’s  
 (128 W. 39<sup>th</sup> St.)  
 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting  
 9:30 a.m. Elizabeth Circle at Lois Hunts’  
 (619 Myrtle Ave.)  
 9:30 a.m. Hannah Circle  
**WEDNESDAY**  
 6:15 a.m. Men’s Bible Study  
 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Saints  
 8:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayers  
 1:30 p.m. Rachel Circle  
 6:30 p.m. Middle School Christmas Party  
 6:45 p.m. Passage (High School)  
 6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir  
**FRIDAY**  
 7:00 a.m. S & A Ministry Group  
 9:30 a.m. Play Group

**PERSONAL**

Share your prayer concerns by using the prayer request cards found in the Friendship Folders. Place the requests in the offering plate. Please remember in prayer those in the hospital and in care facilities.

SYMPATHY is extended to Lynne, Laurel, and David Ihrman in the death of their husband and father, Don, on December 2.

SYMPATHY is extended to Judith Baar in the death of her husband, Randall, on December 2.

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT: Holland Hospital – Marilyn Franken. Laura-Lee Pike is at The Inn. Lakeside Vista – Bob Brinks, Rosey Maatman, Roger Prins; Heartland of Holland – Elizabeth Bennett, Bernice Lievens; Appledorn Living Center – Louise Brackett. In the Military – Mark South, Christine Loman, David Mummert (retired), Tom Piaget.

**CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY**

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTIES: The Senior High students are invited to a Christmas Party today 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the youth room and the Middle School students are invited to a Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 10 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the youth room.

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: The Children’s Christmas Program, “Live from Bethlehem...” will be Sunday, December 14 at 9:40 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up in the Gathering Place to bring a finger food to share.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL: Please pick up an Advent devotional today from the literature table in the Gathering Place, for you to use during Advent.

**GENERAL ITEMS**

BLOOD PRESSURE: You will have the chance to have your blood pressure checked next Sunday, December 14 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS CAROLING next Sunday, December 14. Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 5:00 p.m. to get organized. Groups will leave to carol at 5:30 p.m. and return to the church at 6:30 p.m. for a pizza dinner. Nursery will be provided.

If you did not pick up your stewardship information packet last Sunday, you are urged to do so today. There is a large envelope with your name on it, in alphabetical order, on the tables in the hallway south of the Gathering Place.

SNOWBIRDS: Please call the church office, 392-1459, and let us know what your winter address is so we can keep in touch with you while you're gone.

The "At Home with the Word" book with daily Bible readings is now available in the literature rack at the back of the sanctuary.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES: "Celebrating the Gifts I'm Giving" is the theme for the general meeting of Women's Ministries tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. Gifts for women housed at the Holland Rescue Mission's Family Ministry Hope Center will be gathered and wrapped. Come celebrate!

COME CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS with the choir of Third Reformed Church on Sunday, December 21 at 6:00 p.m. The Children's Choir, the Youth Choir, the Handbell Choir and the combined Matins/Sanctuary Choir will all participate. There will be a reception following the service. Bus and nursery will be available.

VALET PARKING: During the winter months this service will be offered to those with physical limitations from 10:30 to 10:45 a.m. Drive up to the covered entrance off the parking lot, and you will be assisted to the door. Stay inside the door until your keys are returned to you. After the service, return to the main door and give your keys to the attendant. If you have any questions please call the church office.

NEEDED: We would like to update our list of people who are willing to provide transportation locally. If you are able to help with this need please contact Dee Bechtel at 392-1459.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The January newsletter will be assembled on Tuesday, December 30. The deadline for articles for the *Third Generation* remains Saturday, December 15. Due to the holidays if submissions for the newsletter are not received by Monday, November 15 they will not be included.

We have received Christmas wish lists from Good Samaritan for the tenants in our church rental houses. This is a single mother and her two children in the Pine Street home and the single mother and her three children who were relocated after the fire in the 13<sup>th</sup> Street home. If anyone is interested in purchasing an item off the wish list, please sign up at the table in the Gathering Place after church today.

**THIRD REFORMED CHURCH**

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Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, & Chapel  
wired with an Induction Hearing Loop.

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*