

## A SERVICE FOR NEW YEAR'S IN THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

January 1, 2012

11:00 a.m.

*Eternal God, a thousand years in your sight are like a watch in the night. As you have led us in days past, so guide us now and always, that our hearts may learn to choose your will, and new resolves be strengthened; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

### THE APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent Leo Sowerby

#### INTROIT

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts. The whole earth is full of His glory: holy is the Lord!

#### VOTUM

#### CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

**Praise the Lord, all angels; praise God, all the host!**

Praise God, sun and moon; praise the Lord, all you shining stars!

**Praise God, you highest heavens; praise the Lord!**

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women, old and young together,

**praise the name of the Lord!**

—Isaiah 61 and Psalm 148

#### SALUTATION

#### +\*HYMN OF PRAISE *(Red Book)*

22

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Tune: REGENT SQUARE

#### \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

*(The congregation may exchange the Peace.)*

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

**God of love,**

**all year long we pursue power and money,  
yet you come in weakness.**

**All season long we covet great material gifts,  
when you alone offer what is lasting.**

**Through the work of this Lord Jesus,  
who comes among us full of grace and truth,  
forgive us,**

**heal us,  
correct us.**

**Then open our lips,  
that we may sing your praise with the angels,  
and remake our lives,  
that we may witness to your transforming love.  
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Isaiah 62:1-3

CHILDREN'S TIME AND LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

### THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD AND SACRAMENT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

p. 616

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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\*HYMN OF PREPARATION (*Red Book*) 309

Of the Father's Love Begotten Tune: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

SERMON "Time Redeemed"

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD

SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (*unison*) Our Song of Hope stanzas 8-9

**God's Spirit speaks in the world  
according to God's ultimate word in Christ.**

**In every time and place,  
in ancient cities and distant lands,  
in technology and business,  
in art and education,**

**God has not been left without a witness.  
The Word has entered where we have failed to go.**

**In each year and in every place  
we expect the coming of Christ's Spirit.**

**As we listen to the world's concerns,  
hear the cry of the oppressed,  
and learn of new discoveries,**

**God will give us knowledge,  
teach us to respond with maturity,  
and give us courage to act with integrity.**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

MEANING OF THE SACRAMENT

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*responsively*)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy ...

... Who forever sing the glory of your name, saying together:

**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.**

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, ...

... Dedicated to your service.

**Christ has died!**

**Christ is risen!**

**Christ will come again!**

Gracious God, ...

Send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. Amen.

CONSECRATION AND PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

(*While the bread is passed*)

What Child Is This (*Red Book*) 53

(*While the cup is passed*)

Eat This Bread (*Green Book*) 254

(Cantor will sing verses, congregation will sing refrain)



IF YOU DESIRE PRAYER for yourself and/or others Marilyn Norman and John Heyns will be available to pray with you following today's worship service. Please make your way to the Place of Prayer following the service (located in the south hallway on the main level).

ASSISTING TODAY: Greeters – Jon and Phyllis Rietberg; Joyce and George Magee; Tim, Julie, Drew and Sam Zeller; Ushers – Dennis and Nancy Gebben with the Deacons; Refreshment Servers – John and Eileen Nordstrom.

CHILD CARE is available in the nurseries during the worship service. Attendants: Susie Vander Kolk and Andy Zoerman.

There will be no Education Classes today, January 1. Classes resume on Sunday, January 8.

There will be no Little Lambs program (for 3 year olds) this morning. Children may be dismissed to the Nursery. Little Lambs will resume next Sunday during the 11:00 worship service.

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.

## **NEXT WEEK**

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES, 9:40-10:40 – **Resuming Next Week Jan. 8th**  
**The Spiritual Journey Adult Education Class** is open to all and is experiential, participatory, and practical. Come and go as you are able. Pastor Kama Jongerius, facilitator. Meet in the Centennial Room downstairs.

**Bible Study:** "Books of Joshua and Judges" in room 22. Amanda Dykhouse and Edward Leche, facilitators.

**Chapel Presentation Class:** "Grace-Filled Dysfunctions: Families Then and Now" led by Dr. Jaco Hamman.

NEXT SUNDAY January 8<sup>th</sup> we will resume our normal Sunday morning schedule with worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. and Christian education at 9:40 a.m.

## **PERSONAL**

Share your prayer concerns by using the prayer request cards found on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Place the requests in the prayer box or offering plate. Please remember in prayer those in the hospital and in care facilities.

SYMPATHY is extended to Edith Havinga in the death of her son, Ernest Havinga, on December 26.

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT: Heartland of Holland – Elizabeth Bennett, Appledorn Living Center – Louise Brackett, Thelma Leenhouts, Oak Crest of Holland – Judy Baar, Henrietta Hoksbergen.

## **CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY**

A Play and Learn Literacy Playgroup will take place at Third Reformed Church on Tuesday, January 3, 9:30-10:30 a.m. This is free for families with children ages birth through 5 years old. There will be stories, finger plays, crafts, snacks, and a free book for each family. Parents stay with their children to learn and play. Child development and reading readiness information will also be available.

TASC: TASC (Third's After Supper Club) dinner and classes will resume for the second semester on Wednesday, January 11. Dinner is served at 5:45 p.m. Classes begin for all ages at 6:30 p.m. Classes for adults include: Sanctuary Choir, Knitting Ministry, and a Bible Study class. **TASC WEATHER POLICY:** If Holland Public Schools are cancelled on a Wednesday due to weather there will be no TASC dinner or classes. Cancellations will be announced on WHTC and WOOD TV 8.

“Maze Days” TASC Children’s Program: Join us in Egypt as we “travel” with Moses, from infancy to becoming a great leader. Discover how Moses learned to trust God and follow God’s ways. TASC begins on Wednesday, January 11, 5:45 (dinner); 6:30-7:45 (program). For all children aged 4 years through the fifth grade. Invite a friend and join us for this “a-mazing” adventure.

Christmas Program DVD’s: The Children’s Christmas Program, “A Very Mary Christmas,” will be available soon. If you would like a DVD, please sign the sheet in the Gathering Space. A suggested donation to cover the cost is \$5.00.

## **GENERAL ITEMS**

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: The office will be closed on Monday, January 2.

MINUTE FOR MISSION: We welcome Rachel Hashimoto recently back from Japan where she was teaching English. She will be available in the Gathering Place after the service.

The congregation is invited to a Christmas-Epiphany Open House Dessert at Pastor Kent and Joyce Fry’s home on Wednesday, January 4, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The church parsonage is the first house west of the church at 134 W. 12<sup>th</sup> St. Children are invited.

We are encouraging the congregation to consider the daily common lectionary readings. Pick up a schedule of readings for the season of Christmas and Epiphany in the Gathering Place.

BLOOD DRIVE: Sign up today in the Gathering Place to give blood at the Blood Drive on Monday, January 9, 12:00-5:45 p.m. If you would be willing to bring cookies or bars for the blood drive please pick up a container at the table in the Gathering Place.

The Marilyn Brown house is nearly ready for a family to move in. We need a washer and dryer for the house. If anyone has one/both to donate, please call Marj Hoekstra at 399-3931 to arrange for a pickup.

FLOWER CALENDAR: If you would like to provide flowers in honor or memory of someone for the Sunday worship services, please sign up on the flower chart in the church office or call the church office, 392-1459.

### **THIRD REFORMED CHURCH**

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

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*