

† **Eighth Reformed Church** †  
**Second Sunday of Advent, December 7, 2025 - 9:30 am**  
**Order of Worship**

Prelude

Greetings and Announcements

Call to Worship/Advent Reading The Wolfe Family

Leader: We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming.

**People: The kingdom of God is near.**

Leader: Be alert at all times; make your hearts ready.

**People: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.**

Leader: The crooked shall be made straight.

**People: and the rough ways made smooth;**

Leader: and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

**People: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

Leader (prayer): God of our salvation, you straighten the winding ways of our hearts and smooth the paths made rough by sin. Keep our conduct blameless, and keep our hearts watchful in holiness, and bring to perfection the good you have begun in us. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near; your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

\*Opening Hymn # 266

*That Beautiful Name*

Special Music: Steve Chaffee & Keith Warren

*When We See Christ, He Touched Me*

Prayers of the People

Hymn of Preparation # 245                      *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

**Scripture: Genesis 49:1-12** (page 73)

**Message: “The Lion of Judah”**

\*Hymn of Response # 244              *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Professions of Faith by Nathan Wolfe and Jacob Wolfe

Offering and Offertory:

Two separate offerings will be received at this time.  
The first offering is designated for the General Fund,  
the second offering for Project Bible Runners.

\**Doxology* # 815, Offertory Prayer

\*Benediction

\*Closing Hymn # 260 (vs. 1)                      *Worthy, You Are Worthy*

Postlude

(\*Please stand if you are able.)

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*Welcome!*

Welcome to worship at Eighth Reformed Church. On this Second Sunday of Advent we continue our journey to Christmas in anticipation of the day when Christ will bring His perfect peace that passes all understanding. Our prayer is that your time here will be uplifting and joyful. If you are visiting with us today, please sign our guest register in the narthex, and if you are looking for a church home, we hope that you will return to worship with us again.

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## **This Week's Events**

### **Today:**

**9:30 a.m.** Worship, followed by coffee downstairs.

**11:00 a.m.** Young People's Sunday School.  
Adult Sunday School.

### **Monday:**

**6:30 p.m.** Consistory Meeting.

### **Tuesday:**

**10:00 a.m.** Prayer Shawl Ministry.

### **Wednesday:**

**9:30 a.m.** Coffee & Donut Fellowship Time.

**6:30 p.m.** Freedom in Christ Class.

## **Opportunities for Worship and Service This Week**

*Pastor:* Pastor Harry Koops

*Organist:* Paul Kerkstra

*Pianist:* Linda Wolfe

*Song Leader:* Beth Pastoor

*Trumpet:* David Ellis

*Greeters:* *North door:* Fred Diekman

*Organ door:* Todd Riemersma

*Elder (post service):* Doug VanderMeer

*Valet/Lift:* Danielle Wagenmaker

*Parking Lot Guard:* TBA

*Ushers:* Ted Nelson, Larry Rudnik

*Sound:* Scott Diekman

*Radio:* Beth Koops

*YouTube:* Dawn Blocher, Nathan Wolfe, Doug VanderMeer

*Praying with Pastor:* Jeff VanMeekeren, Larry Rudnik

*Volunteer Deacons:* John Stapel, Larry Roelofs

*Coffee & Cookie Donators/Servers:* Bernice Palma

## **Opportunities for Worship and Service Next Week**

*Pastor:* Pastor Harry Koops

*Organist:* Paul Kerkstra

*Pianist:* Sharon Byington

*Song Leader:* Terry Grooters

*Greeters:* *North door:* Fred Diekman

*Organ door:* Todd Riemersma

*Elder (post service):* Mel Disselkoen

*Valet/Lift:* Jake VanderHart

*Parking Lot Guard:* TBA

*Ushers:* Ted Nelson, Larry Rudnik

*Sound:* Scott Diekman

*Radio:* Jeff VanMeekeren

*YouTube:* Dawn Blocher, Nathan Wolfe, Doug VanderMeer

*Praying with Pastor:* Jeff VanMeekeren, Larry Rudnik

*Volunteer Deacons:* John Stapel, Larry Roelofs

*Coffee & Cookie Donators/Servers:* Bud Roerig

## Church News and Future Events

**Bulletin Announcements:** Marilee Takken, the secretary, is in the office Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please have all announcements to her by 10 a.m. on Wednesday. If you leave a note for her, please put it in the black mailbox on the wall across from the church office door. Thank you.

**Public Profession of Faith:** This morning we have the joy and privilege of witnessing the Professions of Faith by brothers, Nathan Wolfe and Jacob Wolfe. Let us come together as a congregation in celebration and thanksgiving, lifting them up in prayer, and encouraging them in their walk with Christ.

♪ **A Note of Thanks** to Steve Chaffee and Keith Warren for sharing their ministry of music with us this morning.

**Project Bible Runners Offering:** You still have a wonderful opportunity to donate to Project Bible Runners this morning. On November 23rd we collected \$833, but due to two worship service cancellations, we have a ways to go to reach our goal of \$3,500. This amount will allow us to purchase 500 Bibles at \$7.00 each. Thank you for your support. ~8th Reformed Deacons

**Pastor Harvey's Sunday School Class** will meet this morning at 11:00 a.m., and the topic will be "Evolution or Creation: The Dinosaurs."

**Coffee Fellowship Time** will be held downstairs this morning, next Sunday, the 14<sup>th</sup>, and also on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Don't let this keep you from enjoying the fellowship. Remember the lift will help you get there and back.

**Attention Choir Members:** We will sing next Sunday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, so please plan to arrive by 8:45 a.m. to rehearse.

**Mission Trip Report:** Next Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, we look forward to Danielle Wagenmaker and Peg Potter sharing some thoughts about their mission trip to Malawi, along with two of their companions, Jake Tornga and April Palmbos.

## Directory Update – Change of Addresses:

Robert DeYoung  
Fountain View of Lowell  
11537 Fulton St. E  
Lowell, MI 49331

Roger Simmons  
Porter Hills Health Center  
3600 Fulton St. E, #220  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Karl Steininger  
3182 Riverview Dr. NW, Apt. 3B  
Grand Rapids, MI 49544

**Congregational Devotional Project Reminder!** We hope you are starting to write your devotionals for 8th Reformed Church by the 8th Reformed people! All ages are invited to give their input to make a new daily devotional in the coming year. You may submit something short or long, a poem, a song, or a truth from God's word couldn't go wrong! You may submit as many devotionals as you like! Please put them in Sue Tacoma's mailbox or send to her email at [sktacoma@yahoo.com](mailto:sktacoma@yahoo.com). We would like your entries submitted by the end of this year, if possible, so that the devotional can be printed and distributed sometime next spring. Please attach your name to anything you submit. If you have any questions, see Sandy Workman, Mary Roelofs, or Sally Herrema.

**Grandville Community Choir's (Free) Holiday Concert** is this afternoon, 3:00 p.m., at Grandville First Reformed Church, 3060 Wilson Avenue. Everyone's invited! Refreshments following.

**Our Monthly Missionary:** Please pray for Hannah Kummer as she serves as a social worker with Mediterranean Hope, a ministry of the Federation of Protestant Churches in Italy (FCEI). She helps migrants and refugees in Italy and beyond and mobilizes the church and community to welcome sojourners.

**Important Information Regarding Church Cancellations:** In the event that Eighth decides to cancel services and/or activities, please tune your TV to Channels 8 (WOOD) or 13 (WZZM), check your email for a Prayer Chain announcement, or go to Eighth Reformed's Facebook page. If you can't access any of this information, call either your elder or deacon on your Care Team and they will know. (To sign up for the Prayer Chain, please see the sign-up sheet in the hallway or call the church office.)

## Narthex/Hallway Ministry Displays

**Quilting Ministry:** Our Quilting Ministry ladies are sharing the lovely quilts they've made this year – on display in the hallway this morning. The primary purpose of this ministry is to share bedding supplies with those in need. They will be donating to two organizations this year, Family Promise and Community Builders. They have 30+ quilts that will be displayed, 10 of which will be for sale. They know there are many people interested in purchasing a quilt so they feel a fair way would be to do it as a lottery system. They will have a sign-up sheet by each of the 10 quilts for sale. Anyone interested in purchasing that particular quilt can sign the sheet. If there are multiple people interested in any one quilt, they will draw a name from a hat to decide who can purchase that quilt. The average cost for materials to make a quilt is approximately \$40 to \$50, so the 10 quilts will be sold for \$40 each. Thank you for your continued support and for helping them share God's love through this ministry.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** There is also a display of some of the beautiful prayer shawls that have been made by ladies in our church on the table in the hallway. Please take a look and enjoy their talents and creativity. This ministry began in early 2022 and since then over 205 shawls/throws have been made and we have given away over 160 of them! This is a wonderful ministry that blesses both those who make the shawls and especially those who receive them as they are reminded of our love and prayers for them and God's care for them. Thanks for your support of this important outreach!

**The Mitten Tree** is up and ready to receive your donations of hats, mittens, scarves, slippers, and anything that provides warmth. These items are not for taking, but will be collected and given to those in need through Wyoming Family Network. (If you are personally in need of warm accessories, please see an elder or deacon.)

## **Prayer Concerns and Praises**

We extend our condolences to Karen Roberts and her family in the sudden passing of her brother, Rich Herbig, on Sunday, November 30th. Funeral services were held at Christ Memorial Church in Holland on Friday afternoon.

We also express our sympathies to the friends and family of Joy Stulp who passed away unexpectedly on Thursday morning. Funeral arrangements are pending.

We lift up Marsa Barclay and her family in the death of her sister, Gayle, who passed away on Tuesday evening in California; and we also remember Arvilla DeVries and Mike & Kim Wiggers in the loss of a sister and an aunt, Elaine Caswell, on Tuesday. Funeral arrangements are pending.

We pray that the love and healing presence of our Heavenly Father will bring peace to these families, and guide them through this Christmas season and beyond.

- ❖ Judy Wynalda had hip replacement surgery at Blodgett Hospital this past Wednesday, Dec. 3rd.
- ❖ Arvilla DeVries had knee replacement surgery at Blodgett Hospital this past Friday, Dec. 5th.
- ❖ John Stapel had his appendix removed on Wednesday, Nov. 26th. Surgery went well and he is recovering at home.
- ❖ Betty Holmes has returned to her home in Middleville.
- ❖ Mel VanderWest (put on Hospice this week) and Don Wynalda are under Hospice Care.
- ❖ Those Dealing with Chronic Conditions: This week we remember Helen Shaver (David Shaver's niece – cards can be put in the Shaver's mailbox), and Ron Oostdyk.
- ❖ Those who are Homebound or in a Care Facility: This week we remember Phyllis Blodgett and Ron Lankheet.

❖ Those Dealing with Health Issues: Brian Herweyer (Tim Tacoma's brother-in-law), Donna Miller (Rick Miller's mom), Bob Dickerson (Pastor Mark & Judy Bergsma's son-in-law, Adam's, father), Elaine Yskes (Pastor Mark & Judy Bergsma's son-in-law, Josh's, mother), Lorraine Strating, Jim VerStrate, Tom Noble (Keith Warren's friend), Julie Aman, Robert DeYoung, Ron & Jenny Benedict, Brenda VanBeek (Joe VanBeek's sister), and Kathy Misiak.

### **Notes of Appreciation**

Dear 8<sup>th</sup> Family, Thank you for all the birthday cards and happy wishes. I feel very blessed.  
~Kathie Billings

Thank you to our church family for all the birthday cards for myself and the anniversary cards for Mike and me. I was non-functional and what a spiritual lift when it was needed the most. We are blessed beyond measure to belong to a beautiful body of believers.  
~Mike and Kim Wiggers

Pastor Harry and Beth thank you for your prayers for their 99-year-old Aunt Dini who came through hip surgery very well and is engaged in therapy. We thank God for answered prayers. Her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday is December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for all the cards I received for my birthday. They were so much appreciated and made me feel very special.  
~Nadine Farran

A big thank you from the Bergsma's on behalf of their kid's parents, Bob Dickerson and Elaine Yskes. They so appreciate your cards, and especially your prayers as they recover!

Thank you to everyone who remembered our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with cards and wishes. Each one was truly appreciated.  
~Kevin & Arlene VanHeukelom

Dear Congregation of 8<sup>th</sup> Reformed, Thank you for sending Peggy and Danielle to Malawi and for your support, both financially and prayerfully. The prayers were felt and the presence of Peggy & Danielle was truly an encouragement to our friends in Dzaleka Refugee Camp.  
~April Palmbo, Int'l. Assoc. for Refugees