



First Sunday of Advent December 2, 2018

PRELUDE *Trust in You*

WE GATHER IN UNITY

*GATHERING SONG *Hosanna (Praise is Rising)*

WELCOME & GOD'S GREETING

MISSIONARY MOMENT Larry & Pam Moeser

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*SONGS OF PRAISE *Lead On, O King Eternal
Sing to the King*

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE
Josh & Katie DeVries

PRAYER WITH THE CHILDREN

WE GROW IN GRACE

IMMANUEL, GOD WITH US LITANY
SONG *Trust in You*

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD Benevolence Fund

OFFERTORY *My Soul in Stillness Waits*

FAMILY PRAYER

WE GROW IN KNOWLEDGE

*SONG OF PREPARATION *O Come, O Come,
Immanuel*

SCRIPTURE Nehemiah 2:17 (page 384)

SERMON **Nehemiah: Distinctions**

PRAYER

WE ARE NURTURED TO EXTEND

*SONG OF RESPONSE *Come to Me, O Weary Traveler*

WE GO IN PEACE TO LOVE & SERVE

*GOD'S BLESSING

*CLOSING PRAISE *Soon and Very Soon*

**Indicates to stand if you are able*

Preacher Rev. Nicholas Hopkins
Musicians Barb Banaszak, Nate Jen, Matt Kraker,
Phil Van Eck, Joyce Altena, Kendra Malatek,
Aaron Polet, Jim Nyhoff

Welcome to Shawnee Park! We are glad you have chosen to worship with us, and we pray God will bless your time here. If you are a guest, please stop by the Connection Center before you leave.

This morning, God moves the returned exiles to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem (Nehemiah 2:17). Today, we will begin a season of preparation as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Immanuel, Jesus Christ, God with us.

Next Sunday, God providentially provides Esther and Mordecai to bring Israel deliverance from her enemies. We will also remember and receive God's grace through the sacrament of Communion as we celebrate the Love Feast.

CONCERNS & PRAISES

- Carolyn Cooper's son Joel, who lives in Zeeland, will be having 2 surgeries next week, one on Wednesday, the second on Friday. He has atrial fibrillation, and has had three unsuccessful surgeries. The family hopes that this more advanced surgery will be effective. Please for Joel, Carolyn and family.
- Remembering Homebound Members: We continue to pray for our members who are not able to worship with us, regularly or at all. This week, we remember and pray for Robin and Ellinore Jensen, Pearline Bivins, Jerry and Nancy Holwerda. Also, please continue praying for those with various health concerns, including: Hal Hiemstra, Jerry and Nancy Holwerda, Ellinore Jensen, Jeff Van Manen, Lois Vander Vlies, Rich Kuipers, and Doris Hubers. Please pray for the caregivers as they care daily for their loved ones.
- **MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH—Gil and Joyce Suh, Resonate Global Missions in Cambodia:** Pray for for Tepy to hear the voice of Jesus and come to saving faith (she is open and has been taking steps in the right direction). Tepy is one of World Renew's staff for whom Joyce leads weekly Bible study. Give thanks for the testimony of Yean Yean who expressed gratitude for our role in bringing her to Christ and encouraging her journey of faith since 2010.

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

ADULT EDUCATION: ADVENT CONVERSATIONS

For the month of December, we will be using our adult education time as an opportunity to reflect and have conversations around the Advent themes of Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love. This morning Dave Lundberg and Mel Veldman will facilitate as we ponder our definitions and experiences of Hope and how they point to the birth of Jesus.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Tues., Dec. 4, 9:30 AM

Lesson: Heaven, led by Jackie Timmer
Refreshment: Caroll Catlett, Laurie Vis

ADVENT GIVING TREE: Starting today, Shawnee will

be giving back this Advent season by helping supply items for new rooms in the Safe Haven shelter. If you would like to participate, please take an item from the Giving Tree in the lobby. Purchased items may be placed under the Giving Tree and will be delivered to Safe Haven after Sunday, Dec. 30. For more information or to purchase gifts from a registry, please see Katie Salyer DeVries in the lobby or visit safehavenministries.org/wishlist.

WOW NIGHT: Join us for a casual Soup and Salad

Supper and time of fellowship on Wednesday, December 6 from 5:15-6:30 PM.

FALL TEA 2018, December 6 at the Raybrook DeVos

2nd Floor Conference Room. Residents of these communities, as well as congregation members, are welcome to attend the tea from 3 to 4:30 PM. Please RSVP to the church office at 616-452-6971 if you would like to attend.

A FUNDRAISER PANCAKE BREAKFAST & CRAFT

SALE will be hosted by the Shawnee youth group on Saturday, December 8 from 8:30 – 10:30 AM in the Fellowship Room.

SHAWNEE PARK CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON: Reserve

the date for the annual Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 11 at 10:30 AM. Everyone is invited—men & women!

VALET SERVICE AVAILABLE: Let us park your car for

you on Sunday mornings! A volunteer valet service is offered by the Safe Church Team each Sunday at the curb on the circle drive.

CALENDAR: 2018 DECEMBER

Sun 2	8:40 AM College/Career Breakfast 9:30 AM Morning Service First Sunday of Advent Offering: Benevolence Fund Nursery, Children's Worship 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Adult Education
Tues 4	9:30 AM Women's Bible Study
Wed 5	5:15 PM W.O.W. 5:00 PM Worship Planning 6:00 PM Worship Rehearsal 7:00 PM Chorale Rehearsal
Thurs 6	3:00 PM Raybrook Fall Tea
Sat 8	8:30 AM Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser 9:00 AM Respite Care
Sun 9	8:40 AM College/Career Breakfast 9:30 AM Morning Service Second Sunday of Advent Communion Sunday, Offering: Thailand Mudslide Nursery, Children's Worship 11:00 AM Sunday School 5:00 PM Youth Teens & Youth Group
Mon 10	7:45 PM Worship Committee
Tues 11	10:30 AM Christmas Luncheon
Wed 12	5:00 PM Worship Planning 6:00 PM Worship Rehearsal 7:00 PM Chorale Rehearsal

SENIOR ADVENTURERS – SAVE THE DATE:

All seniors (55+), are invited to a New Year's Eve Party, December 31, 2018 at 7:30 PM following the New Year's Eve service, at Quail Crest Party House. Watch your mail folders for details.

DECEMBER SOUP SISTERS

Jeanne Engelhard & Jackie Timmer

SHAWNEE *park*
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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