

First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

10:00 a.m.

The Approach to God

PRELUDE

Wachet Auf (Sleeper's Awake)

J.S. Bach

VOTUM

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING adapted from John 1:1-5, 9-12 *(responsively)*

"At the start of everything there was the Word. ...

They help us stay patient, and rest. They help keep us hopeful.

Dear God,

we are waiting for your Son, Jesus.

As we wait;

help us be patient.

Help us be still.

Help us be full of your light.

Fill us with your Holy Spirit.

Make us more like you--hopeful, peaceful, joyful, loving.

We love you Lord.

Amen.

SALUTATION

*+HYMN OF PRAISE 61 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 1-4)
Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

(The congregation may exchange the Peace.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Lord, remember us.

Have regard for your covenant.

We need your redemption.

Where hands have

brought about destruction, desolation, and desecration,

where words have

condemned, betrayed, and deceived,

where silence has

concealed, isolated, and ignored—

O come, Emmanuel.

Shine light in the dark places,

speak peace in the lands haunted by violence,

and ransom your people.

As we remember

your steadfast love and faithfulness,

we wait expectantly;

we rejoice in your coming.

Amen.

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WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HYMN 480 Wait for the Lord
(first time sung by soloist; second time sung by choir;
congregation sings through twice)
Tune: WAIT FOR THE LORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

The Word of God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 2:1-5

p. 631

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

SERMON “Echoes: The Way That We Walk”

The Response to God

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Pregnant with Hope by Kate McIlhagga (*responsively*)

Now is a time of watching and waiting
a time pregnant with hope
a time to watch and pray.

Christ our advent hope,
bare brown trees,
etched dark across a winter sky,
leaves fallen, rustling,
ground hard and cold,
remind us to prepare for your coming;
remind us to prepare for the time
when the soles of your feet will touch the ground,
when you will become one of us
to be at one with us.

May we watch for the signs,
listen for the messenger,
wait for the good news to slip
into our world, our lives.
Christ our advent hope,
help us to clear the way for you;
to clear the clutter from our minds,
to sift the silt from our hearts,
to move the boulders that prevent us meeting you.

Help us to make straight the highways,
to unravel the deception that leads to war,

refreshments and fellowship after the worship service.

The poinsettias at the chancel are given in loving memory of Dr. Henry and Edna Mooi Tenpas.

ASSISTING TODAY: Deacons/Ushers: Willis Weymon, Jane Johnson Keeter, Jon VanDuinen.

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

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP: Our Children and Worship Program for children aged 4 through the 2nd grade continues today during the 10:00 service. Our Worship Center program takes place in Room 2. (Downstairs: Take the Northwest staircase down to the lower level. The room is the first door to your right.)

EDUCATION HOUR, for children and youth, will not meet this Sunday, November 27.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES, 11:15-12:15

Mosaic: "Why Christians Need to Read Banned Books" led by Mark Hiskes and Deb VanDuinen. This class meets in the sanctuary. Next Week: "Our Interconnectivity with God" led by Debra Rienstra.

The Corinthian Correspondence: The Cross Changes Everything" meets in room 22. Class led by George Hunsberger

EL ENCUENTRO (EN ESPAÑOL): Les invitamos a las 11:30 a.m. a reunirnos en la presencia del Señor, escuchar su Palabra y orar juntos. Favor de invitar a sus familiares y vecinos-- ¡Todos son bienvenidos! Nos reuniremos en **Fellowship Hall**. (gimnasio). ¡Nos vemos!

*[Translation] **EL ENCUENTRO** (SPANISH GATHERING) We invite you to join us at 11:30 a.m. to spend time in the presence of God through his Word, and to pray together. Feel free to invite your family and friends-- everyone is welcome! We meet in the **Fellowship Hall**. See you! English translation via headset is available.*

The Week Ahead

Sunday

9:00 a.m. Kamerkoor
11:15 a.m. Adult Education Hour
11:30 a.m. Spanish Worship Ministry/El Encuentro
5:00 p.m. Carillon Choir

Monday

7:00 p.m. Martha Bible Study

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m. A Different Kind of Advent
7:00 p.m. Special Education Ministry

Wednesday

6:15 a.m. Men's Bible Study
8:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayers (zoom)
9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (zoom)
5:30 p.m. LIFT Dinner
6:15 p.m. LIFT Classes

6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group

Thursday

8:00 a.m. Sunrise Saints

10:00 a.m. Adult Ed Planning Team

Congregational News

Please remember in prayer those in the hospital and in care facilities.

Please remember to have someone notify the church office when you are in the hospital so you can receive spiritual care by the pastoral staff. Call 392-1459.

SYMPATHY is extended to Shelly, Scott, Gabe, Noah, Josiah, and Faith Millen in the death of Shelly's father, Pete Westers, on November 14, in Byron Center.

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT: Spectrum Downtown-Don Triezenberg, Hospice-Lois Jalving, American House-Ed & Jane Westerbeke; Appledorn-Bob Kuiper, Donna Prins, Ellen Rieck; Maple Woods Cottages-Muriel Bolhuis, Beth DuMez, Dennis DeWitt. Missionaries-John & Lynne Hubers (Ethiopia), Angel Lopez (Mexico).

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED: Third Reformed Church will be hosting many events over the next six weeks. We hope you will be willing to show your hospitality to both our congregation and community members by providing Christmas cookies/bars. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/mrxpr6mn> to let us know if you're willing to help in this way. Please mark on your container if your dessert has nuts or is gluten-free.

We, also, are in need of volunteers to set-up, serve, and clean up for these events. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/3jyzjbjw> to let us know if you're willing to help in this way.

MICROPANTRY: Thank you so much for your support! The following are items we are currently in need of: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, hand wipes, canned meats, baked beans. Please: No more peanut butter or jelly until the spring. Apparently freezing weather does bad things to these items.

ATTENTION ALL: Women's Ministries will again put up a "mitten tree" in December but want you to be thinking ahead of what you may like to make or donate for this cause. Some of your gifts will go to Third Reformed Church people, the rest will be distributed by Community Action House free to those in need.

LIFT: December 7 will be a Parents' Night Out. Drop your kids off at 5:30 for food and fun and spend your night tackling your list and checking it twice! Pick up is at 7:30.

A Different Kind of Advent

This event is not meant to replace your traditional Advent observations rather it is a contemplative addition to your Christmas season. It will be an art experience of bizarre sounds and jarring visuals that will challenge our notions of Christmas. Join us because art can help us grow in faith.



11.29
6:30 PM

**Third
Reformed
Church**
Holland, MI

scapegoatarts.org/advent

Dr. David Keep and Prof. Greg Looker from Hope College