

Luke 2:1–21
Series: The Dawn of Redeeming Grace
“Glorify God for His Son”



Main Point: When we truly see the glory of God in Christmas, we should glorify God in our response to the good news....

I. See the Glory of God in Christmas (Lk 2:1-12)

a. The King of Kings in a Manger (v. 1-7)

b. Our Lord & Savior in a Manger (v. 8-12)

II. Glorify God in Our Response to Christmas (Luke 2:13-20)

a. Like the Angels (v. 13-14)

b. Like the Shepherds (v. 15-18, 20)

c. Like Mary (v. 19)

December 24, 2023

Liz Eberspacher

Prelude
Congregational Sharing
*Greeting One Another

APPROACH TO GOD

Micah 5:2-5a

*Call to Worship
*Song of Praise
Joy to the World
*Prayer of Praise
*Song of Praise
O Come All Ye Faithful

RENEWAL IN CHRIST

Confession of Sin
Assurance of Forgiveness 2 Cor. 8:9 & 5:21
*Song of Assurance
What Child is This

THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Message
Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-21
Sermon "Glorify God for His Son"

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RESPONSE TO GOD

Offertory Prayer
Song of Response *Hark! The Herad Angels Sing*
*Affirmation of Faith WSC Q. 27
Congregational Prayer
*Benediction
*Doxology
*Postlude

Nicole Velzke

*Congregation standing if able

FAITH REFORMED CHURCH

Rev. Zach Tarter, Pastor Jon Damkot, Youth Director
243 S 4th St, Cedar Grove, WI 53013 920.668.6725
www.faithreformedchurch.org

Our Worship

As we gather to worship this morning through faith in Christ, we are entering into conversation with God as He speaks in His Word and is with us by the Spirit. Our worship service has an intentional movement that focuses on the Gospel:

- We begin with our **APPROACH TO GOD**, hearing a call to worship from His word and then responding to Him with songs and prayers of praise.
- We then have a time of **RENEWAL IN CHRIST** in which we confess our sins and hear His promise of forgiveness in His word and through song.
- Assured of His grace, we then listen to **THE WORD OF GOD** as it is preached from our passage for that day, and we all receive the sacrament of communion monthly as a “visible word” from God.
- After hearing the Word preached, we end our service with our **RESPONSE TO GOD**. We give offerings, affirm our faith, pray for needs in the congregation and world, and hear a blessing from God before singing a final praise to Him.

Through it all, God intends to bless us and change us by His grace so that we would go into the world to live for His glory. So let us come in humble faith, ready to hear and respond to our God and Savior.

Reflections

“A stable once had something inside it that was bigger than the whole world” (CS Lewis).

“Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian fear for sinners here, the silent word is pleading: Nails, spear will pierce him through, the cross be born for me, for you. Hail hail, the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary” (*What Child is This*).

If you wish to reach Pastor Zach, you may dial the church office or reach him by cell phone at 920-212-5489. His office hours are Tuesday-Friday 9:30-5:30. If you are unable to reach Pastor Zach you may contact the Elder on call. The Elder on Call for December is Carl Velzke (920-917-0902).

Prayer Guide

Praises and Thanksgivings

Jesus Resurrection
Our living hope in Jesus

Petitions

That our state and nation would value life and protect life in the womb
For people to hear the gospel hope
A heart of submission to Christ
Spiritual wisdom and discernment
Commitment to be reading Scripture
Discipline and courage to obey
To be guided by Scripture, not culture
Courage to stand firm for the gospel
Our ministry in the PCA
Pastor Zach Tarter
Jon Damkot – Youth Director
BJ Hilbelink – Pastoral Assistant
Disciple making at Faith Reformed
Spiritual revival
Our government leaders
Our youth to grow in Christ
Those serving in the military
The unity of Cedar Grove churches
Those with addictions/in jail or prison
Our persecuted brothers & sisters

Health

Glen Ten Dolle – will be having a defibrillator put in to help with his heart on Dec. 26th.
Norm DeRuyter - the surgery to open up stents went well. Prayer that now the antibiotics can get to the infection in his foot and heal it.
Wayne Navis - is home and is working on regaining strength
Ruth Ann Wieberdink – back has been some better, continue to pray for healing
Donna Caljouw –continued prayers as she continues to get treatment for her cancer
Linda Dykstra – prayers as she learns how to deal with the scarring of her liver.
Rich Dykstra – prayers as he is getting treatment for his prostate cancer
Larry Wieberdink – heart surgery went well, pray for continued healing
Edie Beernink – prayers as she received a smaller oxygen tank that will allow her to get around easier and prayers as the doctors try to figure out what is causing the problem.
Don Schreurs – moved to Pine Haven Oostburg Campus – room 115 prayers as he continues with therapy

Shut-ins

Neil Bruggink
Delores Droppers
Herb Dirkse – Cedar Grove Gardens, Building 2 – room 10

Mission & Outreach

Wycliffe Bible Translators – Todd & Darlene Voskuil
For our unchurched neighbors

Schedule

TODAY

Worship Service – 9:00am
Candlelight Service – 7:00pm

UPCOMING EVENTS AT FAITH:

January 7 – Installation & Ordination of new Elders and Deacons
January 11 – Food Pantry
January 14 - Communion

Ushers for December: Ward Meinen, Glen Ten Dolle, Chris Konzak
Ushers for January: Eric Meinnert, Jason Hopeman, Jim Wonser

Nursery for December 24: Emily Van Allen & Caleb Heinen
Nursery for December 31: Renee Rauwerdink & Carissa Konzak

Refreshments for December: Care Group #6 (Shelli & Linda)
Refreshments for January: Care Group #4 (Bonnie & Margie)

Greeters December 24 – **Narthex:** Lloyd & Carol DeRuyter
- **Great Room:** Bob & Kelly Dirkse
Greeters December 31 - **Narthex:** Jeff & Steph Diener Family
- **Great Room:** Matt & Lillie Dirkse

Serving in the Military:

Jackson DeRuyter
*Pray for all our troops serving around the world

Family Life at Faith

The Cedar Grove Area Food Pantry served 34 families at the November Food Pantry. The next Food Pantry will be held on Thursday, January 11th. **Right now, we are low on cereal, canned vegetables & fruits, soup, and paper products.** Please check the expiration dates on your donations! If you could help us serve one month – please contact Faith Reformed Church (920-668-6725). Thank you for your generosity!

For Love INC in December, we will be collecting items listed on the Love INC Christmas Advent Calendar. You can pick that calendar up in the information center and return your items to the grey bin in the great room. For questions on your donations, please contact your Love, Inc Representative, Jodi Danforth (920-254-1385). Thank you.

Thank you to all those who have signed up to bring food for the Salvation Army meal the last few months. They have been very appreciative. December is full. However, there is now a **sign-up sheet for January and February** in the information center. If you have any questions, please see Wendy Wonser.

The Ladies of Faith will meet Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at 1:30pm. We will do Bible Study lesson #10 let by Mary Holle. Hostesses are Mary Holle and Mary Ann DeHaai. You can pick up a copy of the secretary/treasurer reports in the information center.



We invite you all to join us for the **Christmas Eve Candlelight service** tonight at 7:00 p.m.

For those of you doing the Reverse Advent Calendar for the Food Pantry, after you collect all your items, you can put them in the kitchen at church and someone will get them where they need to be. Thank you.

Family Life at Faith

EARLY PRICING HAS BEEN EXTENDED ONE MORE WEEK! Give the gift of God's heart for the nations!

If you have been feeling the tug on your heart to register for course, you have **until tonight** at midnight, to register and receive the \$25 early bird discount! Don't forget to let your friends and family know you are registering. We have seen numerous friends take this class together and receive funds for Christmas presents to support taking this class! Visit [Perspectives.org](https://www.perspectives.org) to register. Classes begin the week of January 8th at host site Crossroads Church in Sheboygan on Monday nights (contact Ara at ara.jackson@perspectives.org). Need based scholarships are available by contacting Dan Weiss from our church mission team.

Thank you to all the Care Group Leaders this past year for serving your Care Groups so well and taking the time to serve on Sunday mornings. We all appreciate your time and dedication. We will be organizing the Care Groups going into the new year and if you wish to have your name taken off as a Care Group Leader, please let Wendy Wonser know.

Information for the January newsletter is due TODAY.

Special Birthday in December: Neil Bruggink will turn 89 on December 24th.

Special Birthdays in January: Delores Bruggink will be 92 on January 2nd
Glen Ten Dolle will be 82 on January 2nd
Shirley Wieberdink will be 89 on January 6th
Edie Beernink will be 89 on January 23rd

Please check out the bulletin board across from the information center in the Narthex to see updates and Christmas Blessings from some of our missionaries.



Youth News

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

CONNECT returns Wednesday, January 3rd.

QUEST returns Wednesday, January 3rd.

Sunday School returns Sunday, January 7th.

CORE returns Sunday, January 7th.

HS FORT WINTER RETREAT - All high schoolers are invited to our annual weekend retreat at Crescent Lake Bible Camp from **January 12-14, 2024**. Forms including trip information can be found at the link, which can be turned in at Connect or the outdoor dropbox at Faith **before Wednesday, January 3rd**. <https://www.faithreformedchurch.org/events/youth/>

