First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2026 **9:30 AM**

The Congregation Gathers:

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements – *Shellene Smidt*
Lighting the Advent Candle – *Derek & Emily Sitter family*

For Praise:

✞Song of Praise #559 “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”
✞Prayer of Confession (read in unison)

Merciful God, always with us, always coming: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season. Forgive us, God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us. Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming. Amen.

✞Words of Assurance
✞Ascription of Praise #614 “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”
✞Passing of the Peace
Ministry in Music – *Video*

For Reflection:

Children’s Message
Old Testament Lesson – Isaiah 64:1-12 (pages 1161-1162)
Response Psalm – Psalm 130 (page 969)
New Testament Lesson – Mark 13:24-27 (page 1578)
Message: **“In Those Days”**
Prayer of Commitment
✞Hymn #124 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

For Response:

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings
✞Offertory Response #625 “Doxology”
✞Presentation of our Gifts to God (read in unison)

God of hope, you gave your Son to free a lost world. You give your Spirit to comfort and encourage. You give us hope for a future free of pain, sorrow, and tears. You promise us a future with you. In gratitude, we bring you our time, talents, and tithes. May our gifts be used so that many others will taste and see the goodness of knowing you. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Church Family Ties
Congregational Prayer and *“The Lord’s Prayer”*
✞Benediction
✞Closing Song #125 “Joy to the World!”
Postlude

✞*Please stand during these acts of worship.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The scripture and message will be posted on Facebook. You may view the worship service live in the kitchen, the Family Life Center, and the nursery.

Christmas program practice is held during the Sunday School time for children and youth from Preschool-High School. Sunday School classes will resume in January.

December newsletters have been sent by email. Printed newsletters are available by the mailboxes in the fellowship hall.

The youth are holding a Butter Braid fundraiser. Sign-up in the fellowship hall or place an order with a youth member today.

Contact Charish Weeldreyer with special requests for when you serve coffee/cookies in 2027. Let Charish know if you would be willing to serve alone or more frequently so that we can get all the slots filled.

Contact Kristi Rops with special requests for the 2027 greeter/special music coordinator list. Thank you to all who serve in these ways.

A special worship service with the Lord’s Supper will be held this Wednesday, Dec 2, at 2:00 PM. All are welcome.

Children are invited to take part in a bell ringing processional on Dec 13. Bring bells of all types and sizes and meet in the Family Life Center at 9:20 AM to join the processional. Extra bells will be available.

Our Christmas program will be held at 4:00 PM on Sunday, December 13. The special offering will go to the Lennox Area Ministerial Association.

Help spread the Christmas spirit. Christmas cards are in the fellowship hall for your use with a list of names available. Please return cards to the basket on the table by December 15 and they will be delivered.

Christmas Eve worship will be at 5:00 PM on Dec 24. The service will include candlelight and the Lord’s Supper. Meet in the Family Life Center at 4:45 PM to participate in the candle processional. The special offering will go to Inspiration Hills and the Union Gospel Mission.

“Words of Hope” devotionals are available by the mailboxes in the fellowship hall or online at **woh.org.** Please share them with others.

Families are invited to join Pastor Guthmiller at First English Lutheran Church in Lennox at 1:00 PM on Sunday, December 6, for a reflection and teaching on the birth of Jesus Christ. Love INC will host several fun activities for children of all ages. Fellowship time will follow.

The Union Gospel Mission Lamplighters will meet on Friday, Dec 11, at 2:00 PM at the Union Gospel Mission 8th St building. The Love Gift for December is hand sanitizer, liquid hand soap, and/or alcohol-free cold medicine. Also, the UGM is always in need of Ibuprofen/Tylenol.

Go to **www.secondreformed.com** to join our email prayer chain group. Click "services" at the top of the page, scroll down and click the "join" button in the prayer chain section. Contact Jerod Zimmer or Kristi Rops for assistance. **You may also participate in a phone prayer chain group.** Contact Kristi Rops to be added to a phone group.

Contact Jerod Zimmer, Shellene Smidt, or Charish Weeldreyer if you would like to give offerings by automatic bank withdrawals.

Last Sunday we received $1,469 for the general fund ($3,457 needed weekly to meet the general fund budget) and $400 for missions.

TODAY:

Welcome to Second Reformed Church! We invite all visitors to sign the guest book and to join us for fellowship following worship.

Music: Helen Groen
Greeters: Keith & Leanne Lefers
Coffee: Jerod & Tonya Zimmer and All & Roxie Osborn

8:55-9:25 AM – Koffee Kiosk (bring your own covered mug)
9:30 AM – Worship Service
10:30 AM – Coffee/Fellowship Time
Christmas Program Practice

THIS WEEK:

Wednesday – Worship service with the Lord's Supper at 2:00 PM
6th-8th Grade Youth at 6:30 PM
High School Youth at 7:40 PM
Friday – Bulletin information due by 9:00 AM

NEXT SUNDAY:

Koffee Kiosk from 8:55-9:25 AM; Worship Service at 9:30 AM; Music – Helen Groen; Greeters & Special Music Coordinators – Gary & Sandy Zwart; Coffee/Cookie Servers – Steve & Patty Sinning and Alex & Elizabeth Sinning; Christmas program practice for Preschool-High School at 10:30 AM

PRAYERS:

During this Advent season, pray for hearts to be open to hear and believe the Good News of Jesus' birth. Pray that we will share the Good News and the hope that we have in Jesus.

Glorify God

Renew Through Christ's Resurrection

Affirm the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Commit to Compassion

Evangelize All the Earth

I wait for the Lord,
my soul doth wait,
and in his word do
I hope.
Psalms 130:5

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