

**SUNDAY, November 21, 2021**

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## **WORSHIP NOTES**

### **Worship Services Online**

Click [here](#) to go to Covenant's Facebook page (or copy this link and paste it into your browser: <https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-CRC-520064914738965/>). Then click on the "Videos" section and watch for the live video to show shortly before 10:00 AM. You can also watch a recorded version of the service after it is over.

### **Sunday Morning Worship**

This Sunday, **November 21**, we acknowledge Christ's reign over the world as we end the church year. Pastor Duane Tinklenberg will be preaching while Pastor Joel takes some time off. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

### **Faith Formation Sunday Evening**

We will gather at 6:00 PM for a service of evening prayer, also known as Vespers. These services use prayers and litanies from *The Book of Common Prayer* and give us space and time for thanksgiving and praise, silence, and meditation on scripture. Services last between 45 minutes and an hour and will include a brief meditation. This evening Bob DeSmith will share a reflection on Christ the King Sunday along with sharing a few related poems. Please note that there will be no evening gathering next Sunday, **November 28**.

### **Thanksgiving Day Worship**

We hope you will join us in a service of Thanksgiving on Thursday, **November 25** at 10:00 AM. This will be a service of song, scripture, poetry and, of course, thanks-giving to God. Before our Thanksgiving meals and all we savor there, we will gather to savor all that God has given us.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



### **Pastoral Group Dinners**

Today we finish up our fall season of pastoral group dinners with the **Rhoda/Sybesma** pastoral group gathering for fellowship and a meal together at 12:00 PM. Visitors and college students are welcome to join them!

### **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever Rehearsal Schedule**

This Sunday, the Herdmans, narrator, and readers rehearse at 4:00 PM, with the rest of the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders (except the tech helpers and stagehands) joining at 4:45. Practice will end at 5:30. There will be no rehearsal next Sunday, **November 28**. And please save Saturday, **December 4**, 3-5 PM for an important rehearsal for all the Sunday school kids in grades 1-8. Contact Jeri Schelhaas with any questions!

### **Pastor Joel's Schedule**

Pastor Joel is taking some time off and will be back to work on Wednesday, **December 1**. Please direct any pastoral concerns during this time to your pastoral group elder or deacon.

### **December Courier**

I will be working on the December Courier this coming week. If you have something to include, submit it to the office by Monday morning, **November 22** ([covenant@mtcnet.net](mailto:covenant@mtcnet.net)).

### **Thanksgiving Photos**

Many of you have posted beautiful photos of creation on Facebook or Instagram – photos from vacation or walks in the prairie, of animal friends, of your garden delights. Can we borrow them? We are looking to put together a slideshow for our Thanksgiving Day service. If you have photos you are willing to share, email them to [rebecca.ann.devries@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.ann.devries@gmail.com) or share them with her via Google Photos or Facebook Messenger by Monday, **November 22**.

### **Early Bulletin Deadline**

Because of the holiday this week, please submit any bulletin announcements to the church office by Wednesday at noon.

### **Covenant Education Schedule**

There will be no Covenant Sunday Morning, Sunday School, or catechism next Sunday, **November 28**.

### **Blue Christmas Service**

Advent starts early for us this year. Next Sunday we light our first Advent candle and change our worship posture to one of waiting, expectation, longing, and hope. On **December 5** we invite you to gather at 6:00 PM for a "Blue Christmas Service." This service will give us time and space to acknowledge the sadness that we may feel throughout the Christmas season. Through song, prayer, scripture, and meditation, we will bring our sadness and lament before God who comforts his people.

### **From the Deacons:**

Two reminders: 1) Thanksgiving envelopes were in your church mailboxes and there are extras on the table in the fellowship hall. Any loose offerings on Thanksgiving Day will be assigned to the General Fund. 2) There is still time to turn in your Peter Fish or any offerings for World Hunger! Peter Fish can be put in the basket in the back of church and checks can be deposited in the offering box. Be sure to designate it for World Hunger.

### **Buy Your Fruited Plain BOGO Cards Soon!**

Time is running out! The Fruited Plain pizza BOGO cards are available through the end of the month, so either pick them up on Sunday or stop by the Fruited Plain or SCCS office to buy them! \$25 gets you 5 BOGO pizzas, with a portion of each card benefiting our Christian Education Fund. (These also make great gifts!)

### **Christmas Program Costume Needs**

We would love to borrow 8 child/small adult bathrobes for the Sunday School Christmas program. Do you have one we could use? Contact Rose Postma if you can help! ([rose.postma@yahoo.com](mailto:rose.postma@yahoo.com) or 605-988-7931)

### **Liturgy Committee**

Covenant has a long and beautiful tradition of having lay people plan our Sunday worship services. In songs chosen, prayers written, dramatized scripture imagined, the Holy Spirit has worked through these dedicated liturgists to shape the worship life and identity of Covenant. We are currently looking for a couple more planners to join the Liturgy Committee. If you are interested in hearing more about what this involves, please talk to Rebecca De Vries.

**It's Egg Roll Time!**

Siouxland Unity CRC in Sioux City is again taking orders for their homemade egg rolls. Order by Friday, **December 3** for pick-up in the Faith CRC kitchen at 10:00 AM on Saturday, **December 11**. The eggrolls are \$15/dozen; \$5 for a bottle of sweet chili sauce. Order by contacting Henry Kraayenbrink (712-540-8617 or [svinc@mtcnet.net](mailto:svinc@mtcnet.net)).

**Dordt Concert Choir to Sing "Carol-o-grams"**

The Dordt University Concert Choir will be delivering the true message of Christmas with their voices this December by travelling around Sioux County and singing 4-5 classic Christmas carols for the person, family, business, or Christmas party of your choosing! A donation for each "carol-o-gram" is appreciated, and proceeds will support the choir's May 2022 international tour to Austria and the Czech Republic. To place your order please visit [www.dordt.edu/carol-o-gram](http://www.dordt.edu/carol-o-gram), pick up a form at the Info Desk of the Dordt Campus Center, or contact Ryan Smit directly at [ryan.smit@dordt.edu](mailto:ryan.smit@dordt.edu).

**At-Home Faith Formation Tip**

The Practice of Generosity: Read 1 John 3:16-18 and ponder or discuss the following questions. This passage clearly ties love of our neighbor to sharing material possessions with people in need. How do you discover needs in your neighborhood, city, country, and world? What needs are you able to meet? How might you remind yourself daily of God's generous love for you? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices](http://crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices).)

**Praying for Our Local Congregations**

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the Peace Lutheran congregation and the ministry of Pastor Bill Loeffke.

**Offerings for November**

7	General Fund	14	Christian Education Fund
21	Missions Fund	28	World Renew

<b>Last week's offering</b>	General Fund	\$6,180.00	World Renew	\$100.00
	Christian Education Fund	\$2,842.00		

**Online Giving**

To give online, click [here](#). You can also give by mailing a check to church, paying via online bill pay at your bank, or by ACH Bank Transfer. All checks will be used as needed unless designated. Contact your deacon with any questions.

**Helpful Links:**

- The Bulletin Announcements and a link to Sunday's bulletin and liturgy are posted [here](#).
- The Community Activities (Blue) Sheet is posted [here](#).
- Mission & Ministry News: Read the latest newsletter from the Maletoungous [here](#) and from the Crulls [here](#). Hope Haven's annual report is [here](#).

**Sunday Servant Scheduling:**

*If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, please find your own replacement. Thank you.*

	TODAY	THANKSGIVING, November 25	NEXT SUNDAY, November 28
Greeters		AM: Deb H, Carol O, Sarah S	
Ushers		AM: Paul C, Barb H, Sherri TN	
Coffee		Rebecca DS, Lee R, Courtney R, Marv W	
Subs		Jenni B, Daryl H, Jason H, Joan MC, Marty VP, Jake VW	
Sound/Projection	Doug DB ♦ Jason W	Nick B ♦ Tom C	Jeff P ♦ Marty VP
Nursery Nov. POM: Janssens	AM: Dave & Jeri S, Barb T	AM: Ross & Lisa F, Laura J	AM: Doug & Marge DB, Jo F

**Encouraging our Missionaries**

Got a minute? Send one of our missionaries a note of encouragement by email!

Kelly & April Crull <a href="mailto:crulls@caimail.net">crulls@caimail.net</a>	Gianni & Georgina Gracia <a href="mailto:giannigracia@yahoo.com">giannigracia@yahoo.com</a>	Sos & Kara Maletoungou <a href="mailto:smaletoungou@crcna.org">smaletoungou@crcna.org</a>	Mike & Megan Ribbens <a href="mailto:mribbens@gmail.com">mribbens@gmail.com</a>	Ben & Tricia Groenewold Van Dyk <a href="mailto:tvandyk@crncpartners.org">tvandyk@crncpartners.org</a>
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**OUR CHURCH FAMILY**



**Happy Birthday this Week**

*Cambri Zonnefeld, Bob DeSmith, Sadie Landman, Louisa DeVries, Titus Wesfall, Georgina Gracia, David Taylor, Tim Kamp, Ryan Zonnefeld*

**Happy Anniversary this Week**

*Alejandro & Isabel Castelan*

**THIS WEEK AT COVENANT**

<b>Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup></b>	9:00 AM	Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	12:00 PM	Pastoral Group Dinner (Rhoda/Sybesma)
	4:00 PM	Christmas Program Rehearsal (Herdmans, narrator, and readers)
	4:45 PM	Christmas Program Rehearsal (all 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> graders except tech and stagehands)
	6:00 PM	Vespers
	7:30 PM	Sunday Evening Bible Study
	7:30 PM	ETM (at First CRC)
<b>Monday</b>	7:00 PM	Full Council Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
	7:00 PM	Youth Group
<b>Thursday</b>	10:00 PM	Thanksgiving Day Worship Service
<b>Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 AM	Morning Worship