

Sunday, December 15, 2019

Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Psalm 105:1

THANK YOU to those who are serving us during worship today.

MUSICIANS: Jan Johnson & Angie Meester

GREETERS. Today – North Door – JoLynne & Lauren Husz
South Door – Arnie & Kay Swanson

Next Sunday: North Door – Marlyn & Marcia Allspach

South Door – Melvin Riebkes & Rod Mulder

USHERS. Today – Ken Meester

Next Sunday – Mark Kramer

VALET PARKING. Today – Ken Mehmen

Next Sunday – Kevin Meester

COFFEE SERVERS. This week – Larry & Mary Johnson

Next week – Dennis & Lois Mennen

Please note: If there are any differences between the schedule in the bulletin and the schedule in the Shepherd's Staff, please follow the schedule in the Shepherd's Staff.

THIS WEEK AT PARKERSBURG CRC

Today	9:30 a.m. – Morning Worship Service 10:45 a.m. – Sunday School 6:00 p.m. – Evening Worship Service
Wednesday	6:15 p.m. – Life Plus Christmas Program
Next Sunday	9:30 a.m. – Morning Worship Service 10:45 a.m. – Sunday School 6:00 p.m. – Home for Christmas

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations to Duane Anderson, who will be observing his 87th birthday on December 20.

Rod Mulder is back home after his surgery and therapy. Please keep Rod in your prayer for continued healing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Everyone is invited for coffee and fellowship following the worship service this morning.

The second offering next Sunday will be for the Food Pantry.

The third candle of the Advent wreath will remind us of our eternal home in heaven. Jesus, who slept in a manger and was buried in a borrowed tomb, is preparing a place for us. He will come again and take us to himself. Our Advent series, “In Those Days”, is written by Carol Geisler.

The Life Plus/Sunday School children will be presenting their program, “The Light of Christmas,” this Wednesday evening, December 18, at 6:30 p.m. Please come out and listen as they share the Christmas story. Children should meet in the basement at 6:15 p.m.

Please join us Sunday night, December 22, at 6:00 p.m. for our annual “Home for Christmas” celebration! We will be “Singing Through Christmas” with special guest musicians, Christmas carols, and retelling the Christmas story, followed by a light supper. Bring a friend or two as we look forward to sharing holiday fun and fellowship with you!

Donations of Christmas goodies for the “Home for Christmas” program next Sunday night would be greatly appreciated and thoroughly enjoyed!

“Home for Christmas” participants are asked to meet at 4:00 p.m. next Sunday to walk through the program.

The gift bags in the Fellowship Hall are to gather cards for the holidays that will be distributed before Christmas. Please place your cards in the bags no later than December 22 morning worship.

There will be no Life Plus on December 25 or January 1. We will resume classes on Wednesday, January 8.

The General Fund Collection for December 1 was \$3,093.50. The December 8 collection was \$2,212.50. The target amount for each week is \$2,411.00.

Morning Service
December 15, 2019 – 9:30 AM
WE COME NEAR TO GOD

A big “thank you” to everyone who participated in Operation Christmas Child’s National Collection Week. Our church (drop-off center) delivered 665 shoeboxes from the local and surrounding areas to Waterloo to be transported to the Processing Center in Chicago. Overall numbers aren’t in yet, but preliminary reports are saying that NE Iowa collected 15,260 boxes, which is a 29% increase from last year. Thank you for your part in sharing the gospel opportunity!

There is now another way to give offering! You can now give your offering electronically on the church website. It can be set up on a one-time, weekly or monthly basis, using your credit card or from your bank account. You can give to special or faith promise offerings as well. There is also an option to add extra to the offering to cover the transaction fees that are involved. Giving is confidential, no one else on the website will see what you are giving or who is giving. To get started, go to: <http://www.parkersburg-crc.org/give>

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship: Responsive Reading Psalm 107:1, 4-7**

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

C My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord;

P My heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God. Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,

C Where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

P Blessed are those who dwell in your house,

C Ever singing your praise.

*Song: TCH 249 **O Come, All Ye Faithful**

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

Reader: During his public ministry, the Lord Jesus said, “The Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” The son of Mary first laid his head to rest in a manger bed. “And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son,”

Cong.: **“And wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”**

Reader: We light the third candle on our Advent wreath to remember our Savior’s humble birth. There was no place for him; a manger was his bed.

Cong.: **Jesus, crucified and risen Lord, you ascended to prepare a place for us. We look forward to the day when you will return to take us to yourself forever!**

*Song: TCH 281 **What Child Is This?**

Confession and Absolution Responsive Reading

P Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.

C Almighty God, we confess that we have turned away from your will for us. We do not follow your commandments and we daily sin against you in our thoughts, words, and actions. We seek to satisfy our own sinful desires and listen to the temptations of the world around us. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

P God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son to be our Savior. Jesus suffered, died and rose from death for us. Through faith in his name we will have a home in his presence forever. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!

Children's Message

Song: TCH 284 **The Birthday of a King**

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 12:1-5 (pg. 17)

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Scripture: **John 14:1-6** (pg. 1675)

Message: **NO PLACE FOR THEM**

Prayer of Dedication

RESPONSE OF LOVE, GRATITUDE AND SERVICE

Special Music by Janet and Marcia: No Room

*Song: TCH 292 (v.1,5) **Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne**

Morning Prayer

Offertory and Offering: 1) General Fund
2) Faith Promise

*Song: TCH 278 (v. 1,3,4) **Angels We Have Heard on High**

*God's Blessing

*Closing Song: TCH 243 **Emmanuel**

*Postlude

MESSAGE NOTES

December 15, 2019
Evening Service – 6:00 PM

Prelude

Welcome and Call to Worship: Psalm 139:17-18

Songs of Praise: By Request

*God's Greeting

Praise Selection: Psalm 138

Hymn: TCH 596 **I Surrender All**

Time of Prayer

Offertory and Offering for the General Fund

*Hymn: TCH 486 **Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy**

Scripture: **Jonah 3** (pg. 1438)

Message: **HEARING AND ACTING**

Prayer of Application

*Hymn: TCH 435 **God of Grace and God of Glory**

*God's Blessing

*Closing Song: TCH 815 **Doxology**

*Postlude