

**Sunday, December 17, 2023**

***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

### **THIS WEEK AT PARKERSBURG CRC**

Today 9:30 a.m. – Morning Worship Service

10:45 a.m. – Sunday School

4:00 p.m. – Home for Christmas

Next Sunday 9:30 a.m. – Morning Worship Service

6:30 p.m. – Candlelight Service

### **OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

**Congratulations** to Duane Anderson, who will be observing his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday on December 20.

**Congratulations** to Mark and Lanae Kramer, who will be observing their 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary on December 17.

**Please remember** those of our congregation who live alone and those alone in care facilities through a phone call or a card.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Everyone is invited** for coffee and fellowship following the worship service this morning. There is a sign-up sheet on the counter for volunteers to serve.

**The second offering** next Sunday will be for the A-P Food Pantry.

**Today is** the last day to drop off cards in the gift bags for the shut-ins as they will be delivered this week.

**This afternoon** we will have the Home for Christmas program featuring the Union Victorian Carolers. This begins at 4 PM with refreshments served afterward. Feel free to bring some Christmas goodies to share if you'd like!

**The Consistory** has approved having a Retirement Gathering to honor Pastor Rus and Mary's last day as Pastor and Congregation on December 31 following our morning service. There will be a catered meal by Nate (Woody) Woodley. He will be preparing pork loin, cheesy potatoes, baked beans, and salads. There will be cake for dessert. **In order for Woody to have enough for everyone, there is a sign-up sheet for all who plan to attend on the podium in the south entryway.** The sign-up sheet will be picked up on Sunday, December 24. Please sign up and let's fill the Hall!!

**This year the** Worship Committee has decided to focus on the genealogy of Jesus through specific women of the Bible: **Tamar** (*Genesis 38, Matthew 1:1-3, Romans 8:35-39*); **Rahab** (*Joshua 2, Matthew 1:5, James 2:25-26, Romans 8:1-2*); **Bathsheba** (*2 Samuel 11:1-12:25*); **Ruth** (*Ruth, Matthew 1:3-6, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 16:10, Micah 6:38*); **Mary** (*Matthew 1:15-25, Galatians 4:4-7, Ephesians 3:17-19*). By the end of this Advent Season, we will know how God can use anyone to be a part of His Redemption plan.

### **SPEC'N DICKEN / PANCAKE FUNDRAISER MEAL:**

Please join Timothy Christian School for an authentic German spec'n dicken pancake meal served with applesauce and drink at the Parkersburg Veterans Building (101 Colfax Street) on Monday, January 8, 2024. Serving from 4:30-7 PM. Regular pancakes are also served. Sugar-free syrup available. Carry-outs available. Free will donation. We hope to see you there!

**The General Fund collection** for December 10 was \$1,295.00. The target amount for each week is \$2,126.68.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sun., Dec. 17 – 4:00 PM** – Home for Christmas feat. Victorian Carolers

**Sun., Dec. 24 – 6:30 PM** – Candlelight Service

**Mon., Dec. 25 – 9:30 AM** – Christmas Morning Service

**Sun., Dec. 31** – Pastor Rus's farewell sermon followed by a catered meal in the Fellowship Hall

**Parkersburg Christian Reformed Church**

December 17, 2023 – 9:30 AM

**WE COME NEAR TO GOD**

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship: Psalm 122:1, Psalm 124:8

\*Hymn: TCH 256 **Love Has Come!**

\*God's Greeting

\*Mutual Greeting

Advent Reading

Song: TCH 259 **Angels, From the Realms of Glory**

New Testament Reading: **I Thessalonians 4:1-12** (pg. 1840)

\*Hymn: TCH 251 **It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

Morning Prayer

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

\*Hymn: TCH 255 **Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming**

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

Scripture: **II Samuel 11** (pg. 486)  
**Matthew 1:6** (pg. 1496)

Message: **DECEIT AND MURDER**

Prayer of Dedication

**RESPONSE OF LOVE, GRATITUDE AND SERVICE**

\*Hymn: TCH 258 **Go, Tell It On the Mountain**

\*God's Blessing

\*Closing Song: TCH 243 **Emmanuel**

\*Postlude