

WELCOME to all who have joined us for worship today!
We extend a special welcome to those who are visiting.
Please join us for beverages and fellowship following the service and take a moment to sign our guestbook...we would like to get to know you.

The worship of our Lord...

*--Indicates to stand, if able PH—*Psalter Hymnal*; SANC—*Sing! a New Creation*
Please **read**, in unison, all sections in **bold** type; *sing* sections that are ***bold/italicized***.
Bibles are available in the fellowship hall; page numbers listed behind Scripture passages correspond with those Bibles.

We Gather in the Presence of the King

*Call to Worship

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
Know that the Lord is God.
**It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**
Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.
**For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness to all generations.** Psalm 100

*Hymn of Praise: PH 408 stanzas 1 & 2 “Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

*God’s Greeting from Revelation 1:4-5

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.
Amen.

We Are Reconciled to God

Assurance of Pardon:

Through the crucified body and blood of Christ the King, we have been given a pardon from God.
“For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” (Col. 1:13-14)
Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence in the forgiving love of Jesus and confess our sins...

A time of silent prayers

Communal Prayer of Confession:

**Sovereign God,
we confess that although we willingly say that
“Jesus is King,”
we don’t always live that way.
In your mercy, hear our prayer of confession.
Grant us the humility to bow before you,
the Ruler of all nations,
so that we may be loyal servants in your kingdom.
Through your Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords.
Amen.**

Song of Response: SANC 42 “We Bow Down”

Children age 3 through Kindergarten are dismissed for their worship time in the Multi-Purpose Room.

We Hear God’s Word

The New Testament Reading: Ephesians 1:3-10 and 17-23 (page 1817)

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

*Song: PH 590 “Jesus, Our Mighty Lord”

Scripture: Matthew 13:10-17 (page 1517) & Mark 4:10-12 (page 1557)

Message: "Believing too quickly?"

*Song of Response: PH 232 "You Are Worthy"

We Respond with Thanksgiving

We give our gifts for Mission Support: Dave & Joyce Campbell

We share joys and concerns, followed by pastoral prayer

*We affirm our faith:

From the beginning,
through all crises of our times,
until his kingdom fully comes,
God keeps covenant forever.

Our world belongs to God!

God is King! Let the earth be glad!

Christ is Victor; his rule has begun.

Hallelujah!

The Spirit is at work, renewing the creation.

Praise the Lord! (from Our World Belongs to God: A Contemporary Testimony 1&2)

*Hymn: PH 621 st. 1,2,4 "The God of Abraham Praise"

*Benediction

*Hymn: PH 621 st. 5

Pastor: Herm Van Niejenhuis

Organ: Donna Brue

6:00 p.m. Evening worship. "The dance of love" message comes out of the Apostles' Creed's frame...and the hour of worship celebrates the mystery of the Trinity...the God we image!

The offering will be for the Dordt College Fund. This fund helps with program changes, building improvements, and keeping tuition costs down. Some of the changes made on the Dordt campus this past year were to the core curriculum and nursing programs, as well as library renovations.

Come and worship.

WORSHIP NOTES

Thanksgiving Day Worship will be Thursday, November 27 at 10:00 a.m. Envelopes for the Thanksgiving Day Offering were placed in your mailbox last week. Please prayerfully consider what organizations you will support. Additional envelopes are available on the information table in the fellowship hall.

Next Sunday, November 30, the "church year" begins with the season of Advent. The worship services will be centered around the richness of John 1...celebrating the shining of God's light in the darkness!

Each Sunday a verse or two from John's gospel will be offered for memory-work...for example, for next Sunday:

"In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God!...
In Him was life,
and that life was the light of all people."

There will be candles, of course, and somewhere in Advent, we'll also take note of the "winter festival" (John 10:22)...Happy Hanukkah?!

Offerings for next Sunday, November 30—

AM: Lao/Tai Dam Ministry

The message of salvation is brought to the Lao and Tai Dam people in this area by Keo Phommarath and Khay Baccam. Support their work in Sioux City, Storm Lake, Sioux Falls, and Worthington.

PM: Genesis One Christian School in Mendenhall, Mississippi

GOCS was started in 1978 as half-day kindergarten in an attempt to provide an enriching and challenging environment for the children. It is the mission of GOCS to break the cycle of poverty, racism, and despair that steals the future of children. Genesis One offers hope to these children, many who come from homes where the financial, spiritual and emotional resources have been shattered.

Scripture readings for next Sunday:

Isaiah 64:1-9

"Tear open the heavens...!"

Psalms 80:1-3, 17-19

"Let your face shine...!"

I Corinthians 1:3-9

"Grace to you and peace..."

John 1:1-5

"...the darkness has not overcome it."

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Dear Covenant Family, thank you so much for the beautiful quilt that was given for Tate. It is such a great reminder of the church family we belong to and we appreciate it so much.

Dale, Janelle, Bennett and Tate Swager

Membership Transfers:

IN: Laremy and Rebecca De Vries and Cornelia Ann from Washington D.C. CRC

OUT: Syne and Judy Altena to Hope Community Church in Springfield, Missouri

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS for this week are due by **12:00 noon** on **WEDNESDAY**.

Today the **Mellema/VandenBerg Pastoral Group** will meet for a potluck at 12:00 noon in the fellowship hall.

Thanksgiving Dinner: It is still not too late to join us for a communal Thanksgiving dinner this Thursday at 12:30 p.m. If you would like to come, please put your name on the sign-up sheet on the information table or telephone us by Tuesday evening (722-4455). We will be touch with you to ask what you would like to bring. Herm & Dee Van Niejenhuis

Remember to look at and respond to the article, “These Uganda Children Know About Us” on www.covenantcrc.net, for the urgent appeal for the **Shammah School**. Alida would like to send a good amount of money before Thanksgiving, if possible. Questions? See Alida.

Covenant Sunday Morning: Next Sunday at 9:00 AM—*Denominational Issue*: “Righteous Acts, Filthy Rags, and a Mission Cemetery” Jim Schaap

The NAMI Sioux County Support Group will meet in the Fireside Room of Central Reformed Church from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 2. Adults with a mental illness and family members are invited to come for education and support. For more information call Shirley Matheis (722-4462).

Women's Evening Bible Study: We will have an organizational meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 3 at Dee Van Niejenhuis' home. Please bring your ideas of what to study—a book of the Bible, a Biblical theme, or topic of interest. We hope to begin our regular meetings in January, D.V.

The Sunday Evening Adult Bible Study Group will meet again on Sunday, December 7 in the fellowship hall immediately following the evening service.

A MEXICAN SUPPER will be provided for us by Isabelle Castelan prior to the 7:00 p.m. Congregational Meeting on December 8. The menu will be made known soon. There will be a free-will offering taken to cover the expenses of the meal. Any funds above the cost of the dinner will go to the Tuition Assistance Fund. Our commitment for tuition assistance is approximately \$1,500 per month which is a significant increase over last year. Please help us support the members of our congregation who are unable to pay the full cost of their tuition.

From the **Service and Missions committee:** Do you like to participate in service projects? The Service and Missions committee is planning a trip to Nicaragua for February 14th thru the 23rd. The team will doing construction work with Worldwide Christian Schools (Ryan Postma). If this is something you would like to experience then contact Kurt Vos for additional details.

To all Covenant Singers: The Advent Season will soon be here. In our readings for this season the 40th chapter of Isaiah is scheduled for the Second Sunday of Advent, December 7. This beautiful chapter is the script for much of the Christmas section of Handel's “Messiah”. We hope to use several of these in our service for that day. We'd like to invite anyone in the congregation who is familiar with this music to join an impromptu choir for the chorus, “And the Glory of the Lord”...similar to what we have been doing with the “Hallelujah Chorus” on Christmas Day. We'd like to have one rehearsal on Sunday, November 30 at 4:00 p.m. for the sake of the musicians who will be accompanying the choir. (Might be good for choir members as well!) Attendance at this rehearsal is encouraged but participation is not limited by it. If you have musical scores for this chorus please take them along. Covenant has eleven copies of the *Messiah*, and many of our members have their own copies. You can prepare yourself by listening to the *Messiah* at home and singing along. Vocal chords may need a little stretching.

High school and college students—we would love to have you join us! Take some of your musical friends along, too.

Listed below are the receipts for the General and Building Funds through October:

General Fund receipts for the year through October:	\$219,348
General Fund budget through October:	\$226,629
Building Fund receipts for the year through October:	\$ 46,034
Building Fund budget through October:	\$ 50,000

Currently the General Fund is \$7,281 behind budget and the Building Fund is \$3,967 behind. Thank you for your generous giving as we continue to strive to meet our commitments.

Designated offering from last week: Worthington International--\$291.

CALENDAR

Today	12:00 Noon	Mellema/VandenBerg Pastoral Group Dinner
	6:00 PM	Evening Worship
Monday	7:00 PM	Elders Meeting
Tuesday	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study at Casey's Bakery
Thursday	10:00 AM	Thanksgiving Day Service

CONGREGATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

Thanksgiving Day:

Valet Parking: James Rylaarsdam with Tim

Greeters: N&S VanNiejenhuis, M&K VanderPlaats, J&L Visser

Nursery: INF—D VanNiejenhuis, K&L Boersma; TOD—J&K VerVelde, S&K Westra

Next Sunday...

TODAY	NEXT WEEK
<u>VALET PARKING ATTENDANTS:</u> AM & PM: Matt Lesage with Jasper or Phyllis	<u>VALET PARKING ATTENDANTS:</u> AM & PM: Katie Tazelaar with Mark or Barb
<u>GREETERS:</u> AM: C&S Taylor, M&B Tazelaar, D&S TenNapel PM: D&K Tinklenberg, R&L VndnHoek, D&G VndrPlaats	<u>GREETERS:</u> AM: J&K VerVelde, K&S Vos, D&D Walstra PM: D&L VanderZee, D&J Versluis, E&M Westra
<u>NURSERY:</u> AM INFANT: B&M Weidenaar, E&M Westra AM TODDLER: B VanDam, L Brand, M&K VndrPlaats PM: K&S Vos, R&V Zonneveld Mom of the Month: Rebecca DeVries	<u>NURSERY:</u> AM INFANT: D&J Bajema, P&R Clousing AM TODDLER: A&I Castelan, B&R DeSmith PM: E&D Brue, M&L Christians Mom of the Month: Rebecca DeVries
<u>USHERS:</u> AM: D Tinklenberg, J VanWyk, D VanderPlaats, D VanderZee, D Versluis PM: C Taylor, M Tazelaar, D TenNapel Subs: M VandenBosch, M VanderPlaats, J Visser	<u>USHERS:</u> AM: D Tinklenberg, J VanWyk, D VanderPlaats, D VanderZee, D Versluis PM: C Taylor, M Tazelaar, D TenNapel Subs: M VandenBosch, M VanderPlaats, J Visser
<u>COFFEE:</u> Monthly: C Jongsma, M Kamp, S Kok, N Kooi, B Kornelis, N Krygsman Weekly: Lisa VandenBosch, CherylN VandeGriend Subs: E Kramer, P Lesage, J Maatman, J Maatman	<u>COFFEE:</u> Monthly: C Jongsma, M Kamp, S Kok, N Kooi, B Kornelis, N Krygsman Weekly: <i>Thanksgiving Break</i> Subs: E Kramer, P Lesage, J Maatman, J Maatman

GREETERS: *The first name/family scheduled for today should stand by the main entrance; the second name/family by the northeast entrance and the third name/family by the southwest entrance.*

GREETERS, NURSERY ATTENDANTS, and USHERS are asked to wear name tags.

NURSERY ATTENDANTS: *It would be helpful, when trading with others for nursery duty, if a trade was done evenly. If you're a couple, please trade with another couple (not a family); if you're a family, trade with another family--preferably of similar size and similar ages of children. Also, please notify the church office of any trades. Thanks for your help in caring for the youngest members of our body.*

MORNING GREETERS are asked to write:

David & Joyce Campbell	Kelly & April Crull	Dan & Jeananne Kuiper
La Mission Protestante Reformee	Calle Montserrat 6, 1C	11408 Randy Petri Lane
B.P. 34	28015 Madrid	El Paso, TX 79936
Dalaba, Republic of Guinea	SPAIN	Djkuip@aol.com
West Africa	crulls@caimail.net	
amourdevivre@juno.com		

EVENING GREETERS are asked to write:

Ryan & Tiffany Postma	Lorna Van Gilst
c/o Worldwide Chr Sch	SJO 513
629 Ionia Ave SW	PO Box 025331
Grand Rapids, MI 49503	Miami, FL 33102-5331
rpostma@wwcs.org	lgilst02@gmail.com