

Bethel Reformed /Ebenezer CRC
December 6, 2020
9:30 a.m.

Joining in Fellowship

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering to Worship

*Call to Worship / Advent Reading: **Preparation – Isaiah 40: 3-5**

Leader: A voice cries: In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD.

Congregation: Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Leader: Every valley shall be lifted up.

Congregation: And every mountain and hill be made low.

Leader: The uneven ground shall become level.

Congregation: And the rough places a plain.

Leader: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed.

Congregation: And all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

*Prayer of Invocation

*God's Greeting

*Hymn of Praise: #123 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Preparing Our Hearts

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hymn of Response: #271 "Standing on the Promises"

God's Will for Our Lives

Congregational Prayer

Hymn of Preparation: #121 "The Word Made Flesh"

Hearing the Word

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: **Mark 1: 1-8**

Message: **Prepare the Way**

Prayer of Application

*Hymn of Application: #335 "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

Departing to Serve

*Confessing Our Faith: The Apostles' Creed

*Parting Words

*Closing Song: #622 "Gloria Patri"

*Postlude

-Organist today: Glenda Van Hill

~Today, we come to the table of our Lord Jesus Christ. He us is our host. In sharing Holy Communion, we remember how he gave his life for us and how he wants us to respond to his gift. (*Bethel's communion offering: Western Seminary*)

~ Welcome to Bethel! *With the busyness of the holidays upon us, we are thankful to come together on this ADVENT Sunday to pray, worship, and reflect on Christ, the true reason behind the holiday season.*

THIS WEEK

~Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Leota Community Youth Night.

“ 6:30-8:30 p.m. Cadets @ Bethel CRC, Edgerton.

~Thursday, Bulletin notices are due before 4 p.m. Either by email or telephone: to vmtink@ hotmail.com or call 443-5751.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~Special Congratulations! to:

-**Bud Van Peurse** who will celebrate his 89th Birthday, Thursday, December 10

-**Glenn Blom** who is celebrating his 87th Birthday on Friday, December 11th.

~If you would be interested or know someone who would be willing to help with special music, we would love to have you be part of our worship services in 2021. Please contact Julie Ruiters, Julie Vis, Myron Hulstein, or Randy Landhuis.

~Good Used Winter coats, sweat pants/shirts, stocking caps, gloves etc. can again be brought to church for the CENTER OF HOPE. Drop-off box is provided.

~At our Congregational Meeting – last week week Verlyn Ruiters was elected to the office of Elder. Roger Vander Linden was elected Deacon.

~Elder on Call for the month of December: Doug Van Peurse - 507-360-5139

PRAYER REQUESTS & CONCERNS

- ~Pray for all those who continue to recover from covid.
- ~Please pray for *Martha Pronk*, she had an unfavorable cancer report.
- ~Pray for *Baby Zoe Joy Sinnema* that she will be able to come home soon.
- ~Prayers for *Bud Van Peurse*, who spent the week in Rochester for treatments.
- ~Prayers for *Huxley Schaap*, that he will be able to come home soon..
- ~Pray for all those who are undergoing treatments for cancer in our churches.
- ~Prayers for our teachers, school and college students during this year.
- ~**Remember those of our congregation who are in care centers,** especially during this covid epidemic, with a card, note, phone call, or window visit:

Edgebrook Care Center
Tena Winkelhorst
Betty Engeltjes
Dow Rummel – Sioux Falls
Craig Vastenhout

Edgebrook Estates
Esther Evink
Poplar Creek – Luverne
Fran Anker

~Thank You Notes-

- There were many THANK YOU’S from the staff at **Union Gospel Mission** for the pumpkin pies and grocery shower on Thanksgiving Day.
- We would like to express our sincere “thank-you” to all of you praying for us the last few months. Your support and encouraging words have meant so much to us. Thank you for the food, cards, gifts, calls, etc. We appreciate you all. Our God is an awesome God. *–Al & Barb and family*
- Milo & I would like to thank all of you for all of the prayers, cards, text messages, phone calls, kind words, expressions of concern, meals brought in, and rides to chemotherapy. Your love and concern for both of us on this cancer journey has blessed us in ways beyond what you would ever imagine. We could not get through this without the love of our Heavenly Father, and the love of His saints. We ask for your continued prayers for the ongoing chemotherapy, and shrinkage of the tumors so that eventually surgery would be an option. *–Nancy and Milo Van Dyke*

-Thank you for your gift of 5 bags and 1 box of miscellaneous clothing items. We so appreciate you and your kindness. Center of Hope enjoys sharing God’s love and grace through visits, bikes, clothing and prayer.
-God Bless, Center of Hope Team

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

~**Cookie lovers...**do you love cut out cookies but don’t like making them? SWC Circle #11 is once again doing their cookie sales. They are frozen sugar cookies packaged in varieties of Christmas trees, bells, and stars for \$5 a dozen (it comes a wonderful frosting recipe too!) Please order by December 11, as pick up this year is December 12 at SWC Elementary School from 9 am-11 am or Luverne ARC church from 9 am-11 am. Please call or text Denise Nerem-507-276-1535, or Melissa Kookier-507-227-7719, or Dixie Snyder-507-227-6341 with orders.

*Encouragement
 may be the
 greatest gift
 we give this
 Christmas!*