“I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.” Jeremiah 33:14

First Sunday in Advent

Prelude: “Fantasie for Oboe and Organ” Johann Krebs

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERED FOR WORSHIP

Call to Worship: “Come, Lord Jesus” Carey Landry

Come, Lord Jesus. Come Lord Jesus.
Come, Lord Jesus; come and be born in our hearts.

Come, Hope of all the world. Come, Hope of all the world.
Come, Hope of all the world; come and be born in our hearts.

Our hearts are open. Our hearts are open.
Our hearts are open; come and be born in our hearts.

Lighting of the First Advent Candle: Hope Henry TerBeek

* Processional hymn: “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” #56:1-4
* Hymn: “Make Way” verses 1-4

Make way, make way, for Christ the king in splendor arrives.
He comes the broken hearts to heal, the prisoners to free.
And those who mourn with heavy hearts, who weep and sigh;
We call you now to worship him as Lord of all,

Fling wide the gates and welcome him into your lives.
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance, the blind shall see.
To have no gods before him; their thrones must fall.

Make way, make way, for the King of kings.

Make way, make way! And let his kingdom in.
Make way, make way! And let his kingdom in.
* God’s Greeting

Advent Scripture: Annika Baker
   Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14
   New Testament Lesson: II Corinthians 1:20

Choral Alleluia Response [LUYH #552]
   Descant group: Ethan Baker, Ella Jansen, Charlie Molenbeek,
                  Lucy Molenbeek, Allory Netz, Luke Spoelma, Lydia Tolsma

Advent Reading and Prayer Ella Jansen and Annika Baker

Advent Song: “Waiting for a King” Joseph M. Martin
   Descant group: Fuka Mochizuki, Mei Mochizuki, Grace Spoelma,
                  Henry TerBeek
   Waiting for a King; when will He come?
   Waiting for a King; God’s holy One.
   Will the world be ready? Is His advent near?
   Waiting for a King; when will He appear?
   Waiting for a King; when will He come?
   Waiting for a King; God’s only Son.
   Will the world receive Him? Will He stand alone?
   Waiting for a King to come and take His throne.
   In the fullness of time the Prince of Peace will come,
   The promised Messiah, God’s chosen One.
   For those who are righteous, hope will be restored.
   Their eyes will be opened, eyes will be opened,
   Eyes will be opened; they will know the Lord.
   Waiting for a King, ruling in might.
   Waiting for a King to shine in our night.
   Will the world be ready when He comes to stay?
   Waiting for a King; will this be the day?

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*Affirmation of Faith: Apostles’ Creed front cover of hymnal

PRAISE AND PRAYER

*Song of Response: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #61:1.4.6

Message for Children
Anthem: “Come, Come Emmanuel”  
Lynn Shaw Bailey, Becki Slagle Mayo  
Handbells: Annika Baker, Clara Tolsma

Come, come Messiah, come. Come, Emmanuel.  
Come, come O Promised One. Come, Emmanuel.

Prophets of old have told of your coming; long we have waited,  
Long we have prayed. Kingdoms and kings will bow down before you.  
Come, Emmanuel, today.

We are your children, you are our Savior.  
Lovingly guide us, guide us we pray.  
Help us to follow, help us to listen.  
Come, Emmanuel, today.

Come, come Messiah, come. Come, Emmanuel.  
Come, come O Promised One.  
Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel!

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

PREPARATION AND PROCLAMATION

* Hymn of Preparation: “You Are Our God, We Are Your People”  #35:1,3,4

Presentation of Offerings and Passing of Friendship Pads  
Offering Prayer: Dan Bode  
Offering for GRCSA Minority Scholarship Fund  
Offertory: “Gabriel’s Oboe”  Ennio Morricone

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-26  page 645

Sermon: I Promise

Prayer of Application

* Hymn of Response: “Blessed Be the God of Israel”  #67:1-3

* Benediction

* Doxology: “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”  #965

* Postlude: “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”  Paul Manz; Karl Karow

Liturgist: Rev. Douglas MacLeod  
Preaching Pastor: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys  
Organist: Kenneth Bos  Oboe: Jacqueline Jellison-Landis  
Ministry of Music: Covenant Choir and Cherub Choir  
Directors: Maria VandenBosch and Amy Netz  
Accompanist: Nancy Triezenberg
WORSHIP Today, November 29  The First Sunday of Advent


6:00 PM Evening worship: We are invited to gather at Church of the Servant for a combined service. Todd Cioffi is preaching. Nursery is provided.

WORSHIP Next Sunday, December 6  The Second Sunday of Advent

Morning worship: We'll light the second Advent candle (Peace), celebrate the Lord's Supper, and consider the words of Zechariah's prophecy concerning Christ as Rev. MacLeod preaches from Luke 1:76-80. Our offerings will be for Safe Haven Ministries and Benevolence.

Evening worship  We will worship in the decorated sanctuary accompanied by the Calvin Church Orchestra and Rev. MacLeod will be preaching from Genesis 21:22-34, "The Treaty of Beersheba." Our offerings will be for Holland Home.

Preaching Schedule:
12/13 AM  Children’s Christmas Program
PM  Rev. MacLeod  Genesis 22  The Wisdom of Ludicrous Faith
12/20 AM  Rev. MacLeod  Revelation 11:19-12:17  The Cosmic Battle
PM  Lessons and Carols
12/31 PM  Rev. MacLeod  Luke 2:15-20  Communion The Gift of Pondering
01/03 AM  Rev. MacLeod  Revelation 4  Behold! A Throne
PM  Combined service at Woodlawn CRC

COUNCIL NEWS

At its meeting on Tuesday, November 17, the Council received and approved the proposed budget for 2016. This will be presented to the Congregation for review on December 6. Council also received the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Pastoral Structure. This report was discussed at length. Council elected to table two of the report's recommendations until December. The Council voted to approve the Committee's recommendation that the Minister to Seniors position be discontinued. In crafting this recommendation the committee conducted numerous interviews with staff and members of the congregation and also collected detailed staffing information from eight similarly sized CRC churches in Grand Rapids. The committee was mindful of our budgetary challenges, and also the decline in membership since that position was first staffed. While acknowledging that continued visitation of our senior members is essential, the committee believed that alternatives were available which did not require this position to be refilled. Council members were encouraged to pray and also to discuss the remaining recommendations from the committee with their districts prior to the December meeting.
CHURCH FAMILY
With praise and thanksgiving, the following birthdays will be celebrated during the month of December:

12/10  Don Ekdom (85)  12/13  Marie VanderPloeg (88)
12/22  Peter DeBoer (86)  12/24  Sylvia Bordewyk (86)
12/31  Chris Dekker (91), Jean Ettesvold (93)

Congratulations to Roger and Lois Posthuma (district 1) who celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on Monday, November 30.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

BIRTHDAYS:
- 12/1  Erin Hubka (15!)
- 12/4  Lydia Meyer (2!) and Nikolai Miedema (2!)

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP:
Kindergarten: “How the Church Tells Time”
1st & 2nd grade: “The Parable of the Great Banquet”

Worship Center children are encouraged to continue their giving for missions and to bring their offerings for Family Assistance each Sunday.

WORSHIP CENTER: The children in Worship Center will have worship and snack in their rooms, then come to the Covenant choir room for Christmas program rehearsal. Parents, you may pick up your child from the Covenant choir room at 11:40 AM.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE: Third through eighth graders will have rehearsal in the Covenant choir room in place of church school today and next Sunday, beginning promptly at 11:20 AM. We will continue with songs, script, add blocking, and assigning of costumes. In preparation for next Sunday practice, sixth through eighth graders, please have scripts memorized.

78ERS: Seventh and eighth graders, please join us on Wednesday, December 2, from 7 to 8:30 PM for our annual Christmas gathering and celebration of Christ’s birth. Please bring gently used children’s books to donate to Family Assistance, and a white elephant gift to pass. Thanks to Adam Baker for sharing a birthday snack.

CYG: Our next meeting will be our Christmas gathering which is scheduled for the evening of December 6. We will be meeting at Maria and Kate Poortenga’s home from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Please plan to bring a food item to share, your monetary donation for our Hope Network residents (if you haven’t yet) and a white elephant gift to exchange. See you then! And thanks to the Poortengas for hosting us!

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS

GLOBAL GIFTS: Thank you to all who attended the Global Gifts fundraiser luncheon. Calvin Church was well-represented and it was a big success, thanks to you. Please remember to shop Fair Trade this holiday season. Your giving multiplies and you touch the lives of others worldwide.

FESTIVAL CHOIR: To prepare for our annual Candlelight Service on Sunday, December 20 at 5:00 PM, we will have three Wednesday rehearsals in the balcony on December 2, 9, and 16 from 7:30-9:00 PM. We welcome any and all interested singers to join us as we get ready to sing some wonderful music.
NURSERY VOLUNTEERS: A reminder to both youth helpers and adults: please sign the nursery sign-in sheet each time you volunteer.

WEDNESDAY December 2: A light supper will be provided at church for young adults and their children, especially those involved in Wednesday evening programming. A suggested donation from each family will cover the cost of the meal. Food will be served from 5:00-6:30 PM, and nursery care will be provided from 5:30-7:00 PM.

SAVE AROUND/ENJOY THE CITY Coupon book fundraiser sale. This is an excellent way to contribute $10 to the youth group as well as easily save yourself money at restaurants, retail stores, and at entertainment venues. Included in the coupon book are more than 50 Buy One, Get One meals!

NOTE CARD SALE: Beginning Sunday, December 6, please check out our new note cards for this year, which add to the great shots taken by youth and leaders the past many years! This is a significant opportunity for our youth to earn funds toward our summer trip. Perhaps you can consider purchasing some as a gift. Over 75% of your cost of purchase goes to benefit the youth for their trip.

CAMPUS SCHOOL: Join the Deacons and the Evangelism Committee in supporting the Holiday Shop at Campus Elementary School. If you'd like to donate toys, wrapping paper, or a check made out to Calvin CRC with "Campus Holiday Shop" in the subject line, please do so by Sunday, December 6. See the green flyer in the church mailboxes for more information about this important opportunity to support families at our neighborhood public school. Contact Jan Wilkins or Pastor Rebecca with questions.

ATTENTION COOKIE BAKERS: We are in need of Christmas cookies for our Children’s Christmas program. If you are willing, please bring baked but undecorated Christmas cookies to the upstairs kitchen the week of December 7, Monday—Thursday between 8 and 4:30 PM. The children will decorate the cookies on Saturday morning, December 12, to be enjoyed by the congregation at the fellowship time after the Christmas program the following day.

FISH FOR MY PEOPLE: The next date for Calvin Church participation in the Fish program is Tuesday, December 8. Our volunteers are appreciated and can expect to receive a call on Monday, December 7 if their services are needed. It would be helpful if you let Ken Lobbes know if you will not be available to drive on December 8.

2016 GLOBAL GIFTS CALENDAR: The 2016 limited edition Global Gifts calendar will be out soon. Please look for it on-line (www.globalgiftsgr.com) or here at Calvin Church in the next couple of weeks. The calendar is in celebration of Global Gifts’ thirtieth anniversary in 2016.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Raybrook Estates II invites you to a Christmas Tea and Bake Sale on Friday, December 4 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM. Enjoy a cup of tea and goodies with a friend in a lovely Christmas setting in the dining room. The bake sale includes banke, strudel, currant breads, and many home made goodies, plus soup. There will be someone at the front door of Estates II to greet you.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:40a</td>
<td>Atrium Greeters: Doug &amp; Anne Poortenga</td>
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<td></td>
<td>East Greeters: John &amp; June Primus</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nursery Supervisor: Kim Stapert</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nursery Helpers: Mike &amp; Kathy Cok</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fuka Mochizuki, Natalie Poortenga</td>
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<td>Parking Attendant: Gord Vandenberg</td>
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<td>11:15a</td>
<td>Library Volunteer: Lois Huisman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Coffee Servers: Crothers, Bulthuis</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:20a</td>
<td>Christmas Program Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00p</td>
<td>Combined service at Church of the Servant</td>
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**Tuesday, December 1**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30a</td>
<td>Family Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00p</td>
<td>Building and Grounds committee meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30p</td>
<td>Evangelism committee meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30p</td>
<td>Elders meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00p</td>
<td>Family Supper</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30p</td>
<td>Junior Bells</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:15p</td>
<td>Cherub Choir and Covenant Choir (snack: Poortenga)</td>
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<td>Allegro Ringers</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00p</td>
<td>GEMS and Cadets</td>
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<td></td>
<td>78ers</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30p</td>
<td>Festival Choir rehearsal</td>
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**Wednesday, December 2**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:00a</td>
<td>Take Charge meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30a</td>
<td>Family Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00p</td>
<td>Eastown Basketball</td>
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**Thursday, December 3**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:00a</td>
<td>Take Charge meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30a</td>
<td>Family Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00p</td>
<td>Eastown Basketball</td>
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**Friday, December 4**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:30a</td>
<td>Prayer Time (Prayer Room)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:40a</td>
<td>Atrium Greeters: Glen &amp; Audrey Prince</td>
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<td>East Greeters: Tom &amp; Laura Prince</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nursery Supervisor: Lindsay Molenbeek</td>
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<td>Nursery Helpers: Mike &amp; Lisa TerBeek</td>
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<td>Henry TerBeek, Emily DeKoster</td>
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<td>Parking Attendant: Kyle Visker</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15a</td>
<td>Library Volunteer: Chris Ekdom</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Coffee Servers: Rosema, DeKoster</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:20a</td>
<td>Children’s Christmas Program Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30a</td>
<td>Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:40p</td>
<td>Parking Attendant: Corrin Meyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30p</td>
<td>CYG</td>
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Church office hours: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday—Thursday
Bulletin deadline: Wednesday Noon
616-451-8467  Office@CalvinCRC.org  www.CalvinCRC.org