

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 31, 2017 10 AM 1st Sunday of Christmas

ENTER INTO HIS PRESENCE: GOD AWAITS US!

Prelude: "O Christ-Child Sweet" arr. Ellen Lorenz

"The First Noel" arr. David Willcocks

Leader The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

*All Sing: "Joy to the World"

Lift Up Your Hearts 92: 1 – 4

*Welcome

*God's Greeting

*Greet One Another

*All Sing: "That Boy-Child of Mary"

Psalter Hymnal 352: 1 – 3

"What Child is This"

Lift Up Your Hearts 95: 1 – 2

HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE HIM:
GOD ACCEPTS US!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance: Isaiah 62: 11 – 12

*All Sing: "Good Christian Friends"

Lift Up Your Hearts 98: 1 – 3

[Children and parents come forward during last stanza of this song for Children's blessing]

Children's Worship Blessing

Leader: People of God, what is our prayer for these children?

People: May the Lord be with you as you learn of Jesus and his love.

Children: And also with you.

People: May the word of the Lord grow in your hearts.

Children: Thanks be to God.

People: Go in peace.

[Children ages four through Grade 1 dismissed for

Praise and Play, & Children in Worship]

Concerns of our Church Family

Congregational Prayer

OFFER OUR THANKSGIVING: GOD BLESSES US!

Offering: Ministry and Christian Education funds

Offertory: "Mary, Did You Know?"
arr. Mark Hayes

OPENING HIS WORD: GOD SPEAKS TO US!

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3: 1 – 15
(p. 1038)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: A Time and a Season

Prayer

*All Sing: "God of Our Life"

Lift Up Your Hearts 404: 1 – 3

GO BOLDLY AND SERVE:
GOD IS ALWAYS WITH US!

*Invitation

*God's Parting Blessing

People: Amen.

*All Sing: "Forth in Your Name, O Lord, I Go"
Psalter Hymnal 324: 1, 3, 5

*Postlude: "Angels, From the Realms of Glory"

arr. Hal Hopson

(*stand, if you are able)

Minister

Rev. Steve De Vries

Organist

Annelle Dekker

Pianist

Rachel Plasman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP

December 31, 2017

Good morning and welcome to Plymouth Heights Christian Reformed Church! Today Pastor De Vries will lead the morning service and his sermon, ***A Time and a Season***, will be on Ecclesiastes 31-15. Pastor Albers and Pastor De Vries will lead our New Year's Eve Communion service at 7 PM.

Next week Sunday Pastor De Vries will lead the morning service, preaching on Mark 1:4-11, ***Baptized with Jesus***. Seminarian Norm Underland will lead the afternoon service with a meditation on Luke 7:1-10, ***A Disciple's Call***.

Giving @ Plymouth: Plymouth Heights encourages members and regular attenders to follow the Biblical model of giving cheerfully (2 Cor. 9:7), consistently (1 Cor. 16:2) and sacrificially (Ps. 4:5). Contributing to the work of the church is both a renunciation of greed as an idol and an acknowledgement that all we have has been given to us by God and is meant to be used for his purposes (Matt. 25:14-30). Giving is an expression of grateful worship in response to all God has done for us. It's our prayer that God blesses us all with the gift of generosity!

BANNERS

During the season of Advent (which means "coming") we celebrate the birth of Jesus in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. With this double focus on past and future, Advent symbolizes the Christian journey affirming that Christ has come, that He is present in the world today, and that He will come again in power. With this acknowledgment, we are called to holy living "between the times of Christ" and commissioned to "love the Lord your God with all your heart" and to "love your neighbor as yourself."

The rich blues and purples represent penitence (marked by a spirit of preparation, expectation, longing and anticipation) as well as the color of royalty to welcome the Advent of Jesus the King. The four panels on each banner represent the four Sundays of Advent. Cut into the bottom of each banner is one of three symbols. The arrow that points down represents the birth of Jesus. The stepped arches represents the here and now. The arrow pointing up represents the second coming of Christ. The white chords represent Christ in the middle of everything and remind us that, as Isaiah 53:5 says, "by his stripes we are healed."

TITHING OPPORTUNITIES

December 31, 2017 AM: Ministry/Christian Education Funds

December 31 2017 PM: Friendship Ministries

January 7, 2018 AM: Ministry/Christian Education Funds

January 7, 2018 PM: Youth Unlimited

Online Giving available at phcrc.org

Your budget boxes for 2018 are on the table in the narthex. Please pickup your box whether you give online or with the envelopes. We appreciate it if you would take them home. Thank you.

YOUTH AND EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Discovery Hour: We will resume Discovery Hour on Sunday, February 4.

Breakaway: Our first gathering of the New Year will be on Sunday, January 14 from 5:30pm - 7:30pm in the Youth Room. Please, everyone, bring a 2-liter of pop.

Lifeline: Our first gathering of the New Year will be next Sunday, January 7 from 5:30pm - 7:30pm in the Youth Room. Reminder that if you would like to go on

the summer SERVE 2018 trip to Muskegon, Rachel needs a deposit of \$50 to hold your spot. Please let her know ASAP if this is a problem for you and we can talk together. Please make checks out to Plymouth Heights CRC and place them in Rachel's office box.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Carrie Van Wingerden has moved to 4th floor Nursing at Raybrook.

OUTREACH

Basketball Snack Sign Up: Basketball resumes Tuesday, January 9 and will continue through May 8. If you are willing to help out with snacks, please find a sign-up sheet on the table by the elevator. If you have any questions, contact Mark Bardolph at 616-583-8376.

Sunday December 31, 2017

10:00AM Morning Worship Service
Usher: Deacons
Prayer Servants: Eric Utivlugt,
Linda Mulder
Nursery: Susan Holwerda,
Mandi Markosky, Jack Markosky,
Jane Tiesenga
**Kingdom Kidz will resume after
the New Year (2 & 3 yrs old)**
Praise and Play:
(4 yrs old through young 5's)
Lori Tilma, Emma Tilma
Children in Worship:
(5 yrs old through first grade)
Liz Brouwers, Jenna Buist
Coffee Fellowship:
Todd & Missy Harkema

5:30 PM Evening Worship Service

Thursday

9:45AM Women's Bible Study (Library)

Sunday January 7, 2018

10:00AM Morning Worship Service
Usher: Bob & Jane Brouwer,
Chrysanthi Sinniah
Prayer Servants: Alice Geelhoed,
Chrysanthi Sinniah
Nursery: Kristin VanHall,
Donna Anema, Jan Gelder
Kingdom Kidz: (2 & 3 yrs old)
Carley VanSwol
Praise and Play:
(4 yrs old through young 5's)
Children in Worship:
(5 yrs old through first grade)
Liz Brouwers, Christina Block
Coffee Fellowship:
Phil & Deb Hall

5:30 PM Evening Worship Service

5:30-7:30PM Lifeline (9th - 12th grade) meet
in the Youth Room