

Sunday December 1, 2019

Advent's first Sunday

~We welcome all who worship with us today~

Prayer Needs:

- God's indispensable blessing on the preached word, may the Holy Spirit draw us all to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- For the repentance and full restoration of those who have been placed under the first step of church discipline.
- Those sorrowing the loss of loved ones, those with afflictions of the body, mind and spirit, the lonely, elderly, widowers and widows in our midst.
- For our nation, that we would be drawn back to God and biblical living. Pray for our president in the weighty task entrusted to him.
- Thanksgiving for the harvest & for our farmers being kept safe thru this season
- For truly humble hearts of thanksgiving to the Lord for all his mercies and benefits given unto us.
- Marge VandenToorn, as she continues to recover from a fall.
- Karlin & Carolyn Bleeker and family in the loss of Karlin's sister, Donnadell Van Holland at 70 years of age. Funeral services were held this past Friday.

Announcements:

Today: Pastor Elshout serves.

Congregational Prayer Time, today before the morning worship service.

Today: Christmas song practice for young people (ages 4-12) will be today in the sanctuary, following the morning service.

Coffee and fellowship follow the morning worship service. Catechism, Sunday School, and the Adult Class commence at 11:20 am.

1st Offering: General Fund 2nd Offering: General Fund

Next Lord's Day: Pastor Elshout serves. 2nd Offering: Local Mission Fund

Wednesday: *Church Family Night*, Hope Haven @ 6:50 pm. Adult Study will be discussing chapter 21 in our book.

Christmas Soup Supper & Singalong: Please see sign-up sheet in the narthex for food and drink items.

Practice dates for our young people to sing (ages 4-12) will be on Sunday 12/1 and 12/8 in the sanctuary, directly following the morning service.

New this year: We would like to invite anyone who can play the piano, or another instrument, to play at the soup supper for the beginning of our evening as background music. Young people are encouraged to help us out with this too! See the sign-up sheet in narthex. Any questions can be directed to the committee members. (Kip & Annette, Steve VV, Esther VDB, Lee & Kerri, Pete & Linda)

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"The winter prepares the earth for spring - so do afflictions sanctified prepare the soul for glory." Richard Sibbes

December:

Tuesday 3rd: Consistory Meeting at church at 6:00 pm

Wednesday 4th: Ladies' Bible Study, same time and location

Wednesday 4th: *Monthly Church Family Night*, Hope Haven at 6:50 pm

Tuesday 10th: Singing at *Whispering Heights*, Rock Valley at 6:30 pm

Wednesday 11th: Ladies' Bible Study, same time and location

Thursday 12th: *Christmas Soup Supper & Singalong*, Faith Reformed Church, Rock Valley at 6:30 pm

Sunday 15th: Lord's Supper, morning worship service

Wednesday 25th: *Christmas Day*, morning worship service at 9:30 am

January:

Wednesday 8th: *Monthly Church Family Night*, Hope Haven at 6:50 pm

Wednesday 15th: Ladies' Bible Study, same time and location

Wednesday 22nd: Ladies' Bible Study, same time and location

Members and friends with ongoing needs:

Wilma Koedam George & Chris Vonk Nellie Fintelman Mrs. Joan Maassen

Birthdays:

December 6: Caleb Zomer

Greeters:

December 1: Les and Heather Van Grootheest

December 8: Dick and ClaraAnn Bleyenbergh

Lunch Schedule:

December 1: Mary M. and Carolyn B.

December 8: Emily VB and Linda VB

Grateful acknowledgement is given for the following collections:

11/03/19: General - \$3,322.00

11/10/19: General - \$851.00

11/17/19: General - \$1,264.00

11/24/19: General - \$889.00

Thanksgiving: General: \$21,680.00

11/10/19: Building - \$2,172.00

11/17/19: HRC Mission - \$4,249.00

11/24/19: Student Support - \$4,270.00

Thanksgiving: Construction - \$43,543.00

All the LORD willing

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"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of man. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not." John 1: 1-5

They Shall Never Perish

“And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand.” John 10:28-29

What rich blessings Christ promises to those who “hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me” (v. 27). To think that the omnipotent Creator knows us and gives us eternal life! He is certainly powerful enough to see that this life is in no danger, either from our own weaknesses (“they shall never perish”) or from the enemy without (“pluck them out”). *Temporary* eternal life simply cannot be. The eternal life that *He* gives lasts for *eternity*.

Actually, the promise “they shall never perish” is very strong in the original Greek. A repeating negative precedes the word “perish,” and the specific form of the word “never” literally includes “eternally,” or “forever.” A more complete rendering would then be, “They shall not, in no wise perish, no, not for eternity.”

The word “man” is not in the original, and the word “any” is more properly translated “any one” or “any being.” This includes Satan—no match for the Savior. He is powerless to *pluck* or *snatch* us from either the Father’s or the Son’s hands. How could we be any more secure?

Note that the Father gave us to His beloved Son as gifts of His love. In turn, Christ values these precious gifts so much that He holds us securely in His hand, so tightly that no created being can snatch us away. The Father even assists in providing us this security, for we are also in the “Father’s hand,” and “I and my Father are one” (v. 30).

When we consider the size and strength of the Creator’s hand, we can understand why no one, not even Satan, can snatch us out of its protective care. ~ *Dr. John D. Morris*

Heritage Reformed Congregation

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Sunday December 1, 2019

*“O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel
before the LORD our maker.” Psalm 95:6*



*Hull, Iowa
712.439.1630*

Pastor: Rev. Bartel Elshout

E-mail: belshout@gmail.com - Cell #: 712-451-9302

Worship Services: 9:30 AM & 6:00 PM

Online services available on hullhrc.com or sermonaudio.com/hullhrc

Member Church of HRC Denomination heritagereformed.com

Bulletin information to lindamvanbeek@aol.com