

New Era CRC ~ Sunday ~ December 13, 2020

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us today!

As we gather together in response to our Lord's call to worship, may we hear His Word with gladness, respond with hearts of love and gratitude, and go forth from this place with renewed commitment to serve Him every day.

SCHEDULE

TODAY: 9:30AM: Morning Worship - Today we celebrate communion. If you are truly sorry for your sins, sincerely believe in Jesus as your Lord and Savior, earnestly desire to lead a Godly life, and are a participating (professing) member in a Christian Church you are invited to join us at the Lord's Table Those who are worshipping at home and joining us via live stream, please have your elements available so you can join us at the table of our Lord.

TODAY is the 3rd Sunday in Advent. In the 3rd chapter of Ruth we find Naomi encouraging Ruth to seek rest and joy. Christ came to bring rest and joy. The angels announced good news of great joy for all people. We long for rest and joy, and yet we may find ourselves too easily satisfied with less than the real joy of Christmas.

If you are at home and would like to join us in worship via live stream click on this link <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsJnzi7vpo5Hr9u3dxOULcA> after 9:20AM and you should be able to watch the service live. You should also be able to watch the service at a later time by clicking on the same link.

6:00PM: Evening Worship Gathering - TEXT: Revelation 5

Join us for a time of Prayer, Praise and Listening to God's Word

Wednesday: 7:00PM - Executive Committee Meeting

PRAYER CONCERNS

Joan Mulder is in the hospital in Arizona with pneumonia.

The families and homes affected by COVID.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember to fill out a ballot with your council nominations and return them in the mail, with an email, or drop them off at church **TODAY**, December 13.

We express our sympathy to Dan and Sandy Whitaker. Sandy's brother died on Friday Dec. 4.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry knitters have not been meeting during the COVID 19 pandemic crisis. However we have many shawls available for those in need. If you know of someone who is sick or any person who would benefit from one of our shawls please pick one up from Ellen Prince to deliver to that friend in need. The ministry continues with your help and to God's glory.

Women's Fellowship. It has longtime been a Christmas tradition to send a monetary gift to our missionary families: Vermaires, Canches, and Schmidts. Although we are not currently in fellowship with one another with a Bible Study, we would like to continue the blessing for Christmas of 2020. If you would like to donate money to our special families, please put a check written out to Women's Fellowship of NECRC in Barb Young's church mailbox **today**. We will send our greetings to wish them a blessed Christmas and New Year. Thank you from Barb and Sharon Z.

Deacon Report

12-06-2020 - Total Offering \$6,711.00 General Fund - \$6,691.00
Benevolence - \$20.00

Today's Offering - General Fund /Missions

December 20 - Love INC

Christmas Day - Personal Care Pantry

December 27 - General Fund

Because of COVID we will not be placing Christmas bags with cards for our shut-ins in the narthex this year. If you would like to remember our shut-ins, here is a list of their addresses.

Dave Brace
3424 Fruitvale Road
Montague, MI 49437

Lois Bush
2374 W. Hayes (M-20)
New Era, MI 49446

Bob De Jonge
121 W. Spring St.
Whitehall, MI 49461

Ben Malda
6141 S. 100th Ave
Rothbury, MI 49452

Brenda Kieft
3971 W. Arthur Road
New Era, MI 49446

Alice Miller
Addington Place
1175 68th St. SE Rm #9
Grand Rapids, MI 49508

Paul and Joan Mulder
5001 E. Main St. #1168
Mesa, AZ 85205

Ruth Newmyer
Raybrook Manor
Fourth Floor Nursing
2121 Raybrook SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Dorothy Nienhuis
Story point
28855 10Mile Rd Apt #126
Rockford, MI 49341

Betty TenBrink
1350 W. Hackley Ave Rm#113
Muskegon, MI 49441

Roger Westrate
4246 W. White Lake Drive
Whitehall, MI 49461

Morning Worship ~ Pastor Greg Dyk

The Third Week of Advent

"Under the Bethlehem Star "

*"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy
that will be for all the people." Luke 2:10*

Prelude

God Calls Us Into Worship

Welcome and Call to Worship

Opening Songs : **"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"**

Joyful, Joyful, we adore Thee, God of Glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father Christ, our Brother--All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

Advent Candle Lighting: **JOY**

Advent Prayer

*The God Who Gives Us Joy Through Jesus Greet Us

*Songs of Praise: **"Meekness and Majesty"**

Meekness and majesty, manhood and Deity in perfect harmony, the Man who is God.
Lord of eternity dwells in humanity, kneels in humility and washes our feet.

REFERAIN: Oh, what a mystery -- meekness and majesty;
bow down and worship, for this is your God.

Father's pure radiance, perfect in innocence, yet learns obedience to death on a cross,
suffering to give us life, conquering through sacrifice, and, as they crucify, prays,
"Father, forgive." (refrain)

Wisdom unsearchable, God the invisible, love indestructible in frailty appears.
Lord of infinite, stooping so tenderly, lifts our humanity to the heights of his throne.
(refrain)

PsH#337 :1, 2, 3, 4 **"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"**

To Give Thanks

Congregational Prayer

To Listen to His Word

"Under the Bethlehem Star"

Scripture - Ruth 3

Message - ***"Good News of Great Joy"***

To Celebrate at the Lord's Table

We Prepare to be United with Christ

*Song: ***"My Soul in Stillness Waits"***

Refrain: For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits; truly my hope is in you.

O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory, your radiance shines in all who look to you,
Come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow. (refrain)

O Spring of Joy, rain down upon our spirits; our thirsty hearts are yearning for your
Word. Come, make us whole; be comfort to our hearts. (refrain)

O Root of Life, implant your seed within us, and in your advent draw us all to you,
our hope reborn in dying and in rising. (refrain)

*The Apostles Creed

We are Fed at the Lord's Table

*Song: ***"How Great Our Joy"***

While by the sheep we watched at night, Glad tidings brought an angel bright
How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

There shall the Child lie in a stall, This child who shall redeem us all.
How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

This gift of God we'll cherish well, That ever joy our hearts shall fill.
How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

This gift of God we'll cherish well, That ever joy our hearts shall fill.
How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy! Joy! Joy! Joy! Joy! Joy!
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

To Go Out and Serve

*God's Blessing

*Sending Song: ***"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"***

Good Christian men, rejoice With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: joy! joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, And man is blessed evermore:
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

