

# GRACE REFORMED CHURCH

Sunday, November 20, 2022

## Order of Service

Prelude

Announcements

Silent Prayer

\*Call to Worship: Psalm 107:1-8.

\*Salutation – [Opening Blessing]

\*Invocation – Opening Prayer

\*Opening Hymn 363: We Gather Together

Scripture Reading: Psalm 107:8-22.

*The Apostles Creed*

Tithes and Offerings

Congregational prayer

\*HYMN 432: We Give Thee but Thine Own.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 10:32-42.

Scripture Text: Matthew 10:32-33.

Sermon Title: Openly Confessing Jesus.

\*Prayer of application

\*Closing Hymns 715: Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

\*Benediction [Closing Blessing]

\*Doxology [Hymn #731]

\*Postlude

\*Congregation Stands

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The Lord Jesus said: "where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20).

**Welcome:** to our guests and visitors. May you receive strength from God's Word, and experience the love of Christ within our church family.

### **Schedule**

- **Today:** Nursery is available for children up to 3 years old.
- **Today:** Sunday school for all ages at 9:00 am.
- **Tonight:** Bible Study at 6:00 pm. Joshua 9: The Gibeonite Deception.
- **This Wednesday** at 6:00 pm our weekly prayer meeting.
- **This Thursday:** Thanksgiving Day.
- **Next Sunday:** No Sunday School. Thanksgiving weekend.
- **Sat. Dec. 3:** Ladies Tea and Devotion 9:00 – 10:30 am.
- **Wed. Dec. 7:** Spiritual Council meeting at 6:30 pm.
- **Dec. 11:** Christmas program practice at 9:00 am
- **Dec. 11:** 3:00pm. Dakota Choral Union invites all to their annual Christmas concert at the Cathedral. No admission charge/ freewill offering. Non-perishable food donations will also be received at the door for the KOTA Care and Share Food Drive.
- **Dec. 18:** Christmas program at 9:00 am. Let pastor know if you are interested in playing special music.
- **Dec. 18:** Fellowship Dinner.
- **Wed. Dec. 21:** Consistory meeting at 6:30 pm.
- **Dec. 25 and Jan. 1:** No Sunday School or Bible Study. Both return on Jan. 8.
- **Wed. Jan. 4:** Spiritual Council meeting at 6:30 pm.
- **Wed. Jan. 18:** Consistory meeting at 6:30 pm.
- **Jan. 22:** Annual Meeting of the congregation, to hear officer reports, approve the annual budget, and elect officers. The Consistory has nominated Don Oliver to serve another three-year term as elder. "Recommendations for nominations for the office of Elder and Deacon may be made by any member in good standing to the Consistory, provided such nominations be recommended at least one month prior to the annual meeting" (Constitution, Article 30).

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Mike Loghry will be deployed in Dec. to Iraq for about 9 months.
- Keith Sorensen is recovering from Gall Bladder surgery.
- Darin Mehlhaf's boyfriend Mike is deployed until January.
- Phyllis Grossmann is receiving weekly Physical Therapy.
- Joshua & Rachel Savage, and son Owen. Joshua is a student for the ministry, attending Mid-America Reformed Seminary, Dyer, IN. Our congregation is assisting with support.

## The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Begotten Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THANKSGIVING: Our Pilgrim forefathers, who were puritans that separated from the Church of England, undertook a voyage to America “for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith” (Mayflower Compact, 1620). They sailed from England in the *Mayflower* and landed on the rocky coast of Cape Cod, Massachusetts on November 11, 1620. They came ashore on December 21, 1620, and the following year in the fall of 1621 the Pilgrims celebrated the first Thanksgiving with about 90 Indians after the first crops had been gathered in.

The annual Thanksgiving Day in celebration of harvest became a regular institution in all the New England states by the end of the 18th century.

On the first national Thanksgiving under the U.S. Constitution, President George Washington wrote, “It is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor.”

On August 6th, 1863 President Lincoln appointed a special Thanksgiving to celebrate the victory at Gettysburg, and on Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> of the same year a harvest festival was also observed. From that time Thanksgiving Day (the 4th Thursday of November) has become an annual National Day of Thanksgiving for all 50 states.

“It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that all nations are blessed whose God is the Lord. We know that by His divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world. ... We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. We have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us” (From President Abraham Lincoln’s Thanksgiving Day proclamation).

GRACE  
REFORMED  
CHURCH  
5626 Haines Ave.  
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2022

**Lord's Day, Sunday, November 20**

WELCOME

Sunday School – 9:00 am

Sunday Worship Service – 10:30 am

Bible Study – 6:00 pm

The Lord Jesus said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life” (John 6:47).