

Church Calendar for week of: Sunday, December 3, 2017

Sunday, December 3 – Advent I, Pastor Joel is preaching.

Sunday School resumes, and offering is for General Fund.

5:00pm Youth Group

Monday ~ December 4: Church office is closed

Tuesday ~ December 5

1-3pm - Staff Meeting in Room 21

6-9pm – Women’s Ministry Event

Wednesday ~ December 6: FAMILY NIGHT

7:00am – Men’s Huddle in Emerson

5:45pm – Family Night Meal in Fellowship Hall

6:30pm – GEMS/Cadets; Coffee Break in Emerson, Adult classes

Thursday ~ December 7

6-8pm – Holy Yoga/Bible Study in Rooms 12/13

Friday ~ December 8

Saturday ~ December 9

7:00am ~ Men’s Morning Bible Study in Room 21

8-12 am ~ Classical Conversations Event

10:00am ~ Circle of Hope in Room 21

Name Tag Sunday, December 10th ~ Advent II, Pastor Joel is preaching,

Offering: Project “I See You”. Lord’s Supper will be celebrated.

5-7pm Club 68

Thank you to all serving This Sunday, December 3rd:

CIW: *Three Men in a Fire* **Christine Nibbelink**, Hannah DeBoer, Wyatt Vermeer & Savannah Blohm

Prayer Ministry Elders: Nancy Waanders & Anne Buteyn

Coffee: Vander Ark

Thank you to all serving Next Sunday, December 10th:

CIW: *Jonah & The Big Fish* **Nancy Waanders**, Jessica Cleveland, Ari Waanders & Katherine Elgersma

Prayer Ministry Elders: Ed Schans & Sheri DeHaan

Coffee: Van Heukelem

Warm Greetings to our visitors. We are so glad you chose to worship with us today. Elders are available up front to answer questions and pray. Coffee, Tea and fellowship are served in the foyer! We will celebrate the Lord’s Supper on December 10th. All baptized believer’s who place their faith and hope in Jesus Christ are welcome to participate.

Worshiping Together

Advent and Christmas:

- **December 3rd** – Sunday School resumes today!
- **December 5th** – 7:00pm Women’s Holiday Event
- **December 6th** – 5:45pm Family Night Meal & Activities
- **December 12th** – 9:00am Senior Moment’s Christmas Party
- **December 17th** – 5:00pm Christmas Party for Youth Group
- **December 20th** - 5:45pm Family Night: Gift bags for YFC kids
- **December 24th** – **Advent worship at 9:30am** & **4:30pm Christmas Eve Service with Nursery**
- **December 25th** - Christmas Day- no service

Sermon Notes:

Old Testament Life & Witness: LUYH #53: Song of The Prophets ~
“With what shall I before the Lord come bearing as my due?
God’s blessings are a boundless store, my offerings but a few.
Yet God does not unmeasured gifts of wealth require of me,
but acts of justice, kindly love and true humility.” Micah

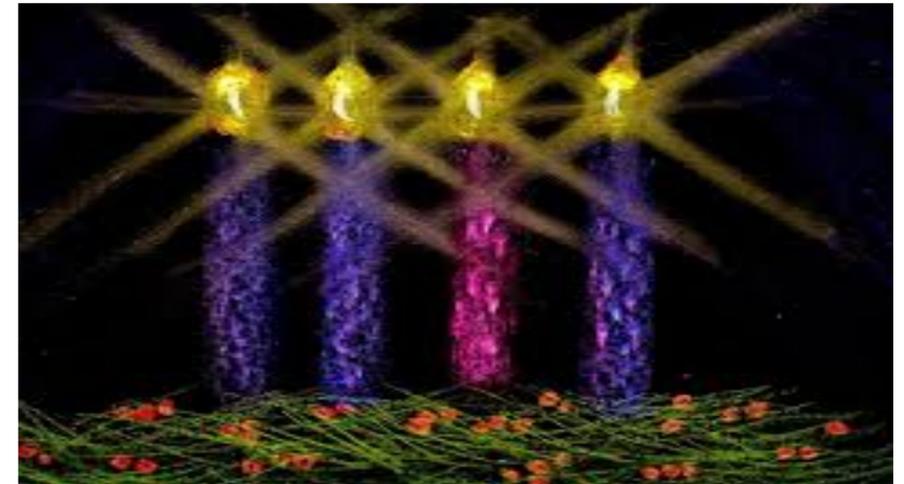
First Christian Reformed Church: 1814 South Emerson Street

Email: connections@firstcrdenver.org #303.733.4936

Church Office Hours: Tuesday ~ Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm

Address: 1814 South Emerson Street, Denver, CO 80210

Pastor Joel Schreurs:	Minister of the Word	ext. 101
Shirley Van Heukelem:	Programs & Office Admin.	ext. 104
Kyle Cooper:	Worship Coordinator	ext. 103
Bret Lamsma:	Director of Faith Formation	ext. 105
Larry Young:	Custodial & facilities	#303-582-4039
Rebecca J. Schaefer:	Communications & Admin.	ext. 102



Order of Worship Advent: Week 1 ~ December 3, 2017 Gathering

Advent is a season of preparation. We will be continuing our journey through the prophet Micah with longing and anticipation of Christ’s coming afresh into our world: illuminating our path, enlightening our minds and encouraging our hearts...

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements:

Processional

Advent Candle Lighting:

Watch and wait for Christ’s coming!
Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in **hope**.
Hear God’s promise of hope from Isaiah 2:2-4
In the last days the mountain of the Lord’s temple will be established
as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills,
and all nations will stream to it. Many peoples will come and say,

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the temple of the God of Jacob.
He will teach us His ways,
so that we may walk in His paths.”
The law will go out from Zion,
the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He will judge between the nations
and will settle disputes for many peoples.
They will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not take up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war anymore.

Let us pray:

Faithful God, out of war’s chaos,
You bring the order of peace.
Renew us in hope, that we may work toward
Christ’s advent of peace among all nations.
God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come.

*Song: *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* LUYH 56

*Song: *Imagine* LUYH 72

*God's Greeting

Renewal

Call to Confession:

Prayer of Confession:

Lord Christ,
...In this Advent time, forgive us our failure to respond as we should.
Come to us anew, and by Your grace, assist us to receive You:
with joy, as the shepherds;
with gratitude, as Simeon;
with obedience, as Mary;
with love, as you have loved us.
Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Song of Confession/Renewal: *Lord Make Us Servants* LUYH 904 (verses 1,3,4,5)

Assurance of Pardon

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

Word

Children in Worship Dismissal

Leader: The Lord is here. The Lord is there.
The Lord is everywhere.
The Lord is high. The Lord is low.
The Lord is on the path we go.
People: **The Lord be with you.**
Children: **And also with you.**

Prayer for Intercession and Gratitude

Scripture: Micah 3:9-12, page 390

Sermon: *God With Us?*

Prayer for Application

*Song of Response: *Open Our Eyes* LUYH 297 (verses 1,2,4)

Sending

*Sending: from Romans 13:11-12

Love one another, understanding the present time.
It is now the moment for us to wake from sleep.
For salvation is nearer to us now
than when we became believers;
the night is far gone, the day is near.
Let us then lay aside the works of darkness
and put on the armor of light.

*Sending Song: *Sing to the King* LUYH 474

*Blessing

Postlude

Minister of The Word: Pastor Joel Schreurs
Director of Faith Formation: Rev. Bret Lamsma
Worship Coordinator: Kyle Cooper
Accompanist: Christy Bol with First CRC Band

Prayer and Care for God's People:

Our November/December Congregational Prayer Focus for Persecuted Believers is on a country which has one of the fastest-growing evangelical churches in the world. What is that country which despite relentless, extreme persecution continues to grow? The surprising answer is: **IRAN**. Please see the silver connection board in the foyer and the accompanying prayer sheets for how we can praise God for His amazing work in Iran, and for specific ways we can pray for our ever increasing number of fellow believers there.

Please pray for so many who have lost loved ones this year, that the hope of the Lord will bring refreshment and peace as we enter Advent.

We lift up our single parent families, praying for a special touch of God's presence, provision, protection and the peace of Christ to guard minds and hearts of parents and children.

We ask for healing and reconciliation of fractured relationships.

We pray for Don Eyser, experiencing breathing difficulties, and for Betty as she supports her husband.

We pray for smooth surgery and recovery for Marge Rozendaal, having out-patient surgery on her nose, this coming Tuesday.

We lift up all who are battling cancer and undergoing treatments. May the Lord heal, protect, provide and guide medical personnel and care teams.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Allen would like to thank everyone for cards, well-wishes and congratulations on their 70th anniversary.

Current Events & Activities:

Sweet Advent Rewards

Advent activity papers and crayons for children 5-10 years of age are available in the green baskets on the tables near the message boards in the back of church. Children may use these activities to connect with the Advent scripture readings and the lighting of the Advent candles each week. Keep the papers and crayons in your church mailbox after each service so they can be used each Sunday of Advent. If you are visiting, share your activity paper with family, and simply return crayons to the basket.

Women's "Silent" Night Out – 7-9pm Tuesday, December 5th,

We encourage you to sign up at the Angel table in the foyer **today**, so we know how many craft supplies and desserts to have on hand. You are welcome to bring a friend (just please sign them up).

Family Night in December is on December 6 & 20th! A wonderful, home-cooked meal is served at 5:45pm. At 6:30pm adult classes, children's activities and nursery are provided.

Senior Moments

Reminder Tuesday, December 12th is our annual Christmas party. Fun, Fellowship and Food!! Coffee time 9:30, with gift exchange, games, and sing along with Kyle. Please see flyer for more details. Remember to sign up by Sunday, December 10th as we need a final count for our catered meal. Questions: Call Betty K. **303-514-6251** or Beth P. **303-947-1085**.

Opportunities to Help and Serve:

Nursery committee needs another person. If you would like to serve, email christinenibbelink@gmail.com or jill.schreurs@gmail.com. Also, if you would like to be added or removed from the nursery volunteer list, please email jill.schreurs@gmail.com. If you would like to be added, please indicate whether you would like to be a leader or helper.

First Church is partnering with Claire Froehlich and Youth For Christ again this December to assemble the gift bags for young emerging adults in detention centers around the city. Join us **Wednesday evening** after the Family Night meal on **December 20**, for this important way to share with Claire in her ministry. We especially need card writers to encourage recipients who will save these cards to read over and over again.

Wind Band & String Ensemble' Rehearsal Saturday, December 16

On December 17th, the choir will be singing a piece with parts for winds and strings. If you play a wind instrument (brass or woodwind) or string instrument (violin, viola, cello, bass) and would like to participate, please email kylecooper@firstcrdenver.org. We will rehearse Saturday, December 16th from 10:00-11:30am. We'd love to have you!" *Kyle Cooper*

Platt Park Children's Center

A big thank you from Platt Park Children's Center for your continued support of our community preschool that allows us to share the love of Christ to our preschool families. We invite you to join us at **Barnes and Noble, 960 S. Colorado Blvd**, this coming **Monday, December 4 for a Book Fair benefiting PPCC**. Vouchers will be available at the welcome table or just mention our preschool at checkout. If you wish to shop online, visit BN.com/bookfairs. The **Book Fair ID is 12256020**. This is a great opportunity to work on your Christmas list while supporting our school! Thank you! Cheryl Schmitt
Platt Park Children's Center
ppcc@plattparkchildrenscenter.com

Christmas Eve Hospitality: We are looking for a few more helpers to offer a warm greeting, and prepare/serve coffee (and hot chocolate) on Sunday morning at 9:30am, and Sunday evening at 4:30pm for December 24th services. Please let the office know if you have any ideas for welcoming new faces!

Follow in the footsteps of Jesus! - Visit New Testament sites not only in Israel (Bethlehem, Nazareth, Caesarea, Capernaum, Bethsaida, Sea of Galilee, Caesarea Philippi, and Jerusalem) but also in Jordan, including the amazing city of Petra. Contact host Jeff Weima, professor of NT at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar at weimje@calvinseminary.edu or 616-328-3110.