

Daily Scripture Readings for Advent

The weeks of Advent remind us to set aside some of the hectic business of the holiday season, and to quietly reflect on the promise of the baby born in Bethlehem 2000 years ago. The Bible readings listed below relate to the Advent themes of waiting, preparation, light in the darkness, and the coming of the promised Messiah.

<p>First Week of Advent Hope Sunday: Isaiah 40:1-5 Monday: Psalm 42 Tuesday: Romans 8:18-27 Wednesday: Isaiah 11:1-10 Thursday: Hebrews 6:13-20 Friday: Psalm 33 Saturday: Isaiah 35</p>	<p>Second Week of Advent Peace Sunday: Isaiah 40:9-11 Monday: Philippians 4:4-7 Tuesday: Jeremiah 33:7-16 Wednesday: Isaiah 42:1-9 Thursday: Zechariah 9:9-17 Friday: 2 Corinthians 1:2-5 Saturday: Isaiah 52:7-10</p>
<p>Third Week of Advent Joy Sunday: Habakkuk 3 Monday: John 16:5-28 Tuesday: Isaiah 55:9-13 Wednesday: Psalm 66 Thursday: 1 Peter 1:3-9 Friday: Psalm 96 Saturday: Isaiah 12</p>	<p>Fourth Week of Advent Love Sunday: Zephaniah 3:14-20 Monday: Psalm 89:1-4 Tuesday: Ephesians 2:1-10 Wednesday: Matthew 2:1-16 Thursday: Isaiah 9:6-7 Friday Luke 2:1-20</p>

Council:

Rev. Andrew Eenigenburg

Elders:

William Reed
Richard Kearney
Mel VanEssendelft

Deacons:

Allen VanEssendelft
Steve Boogertman
Bill Stellwagen

Missions:

Christ Community Church
Messiah's Reformed Fellowship
Christian Reformed World Relief Committee
Campus Crusade for Christ- The Parretts

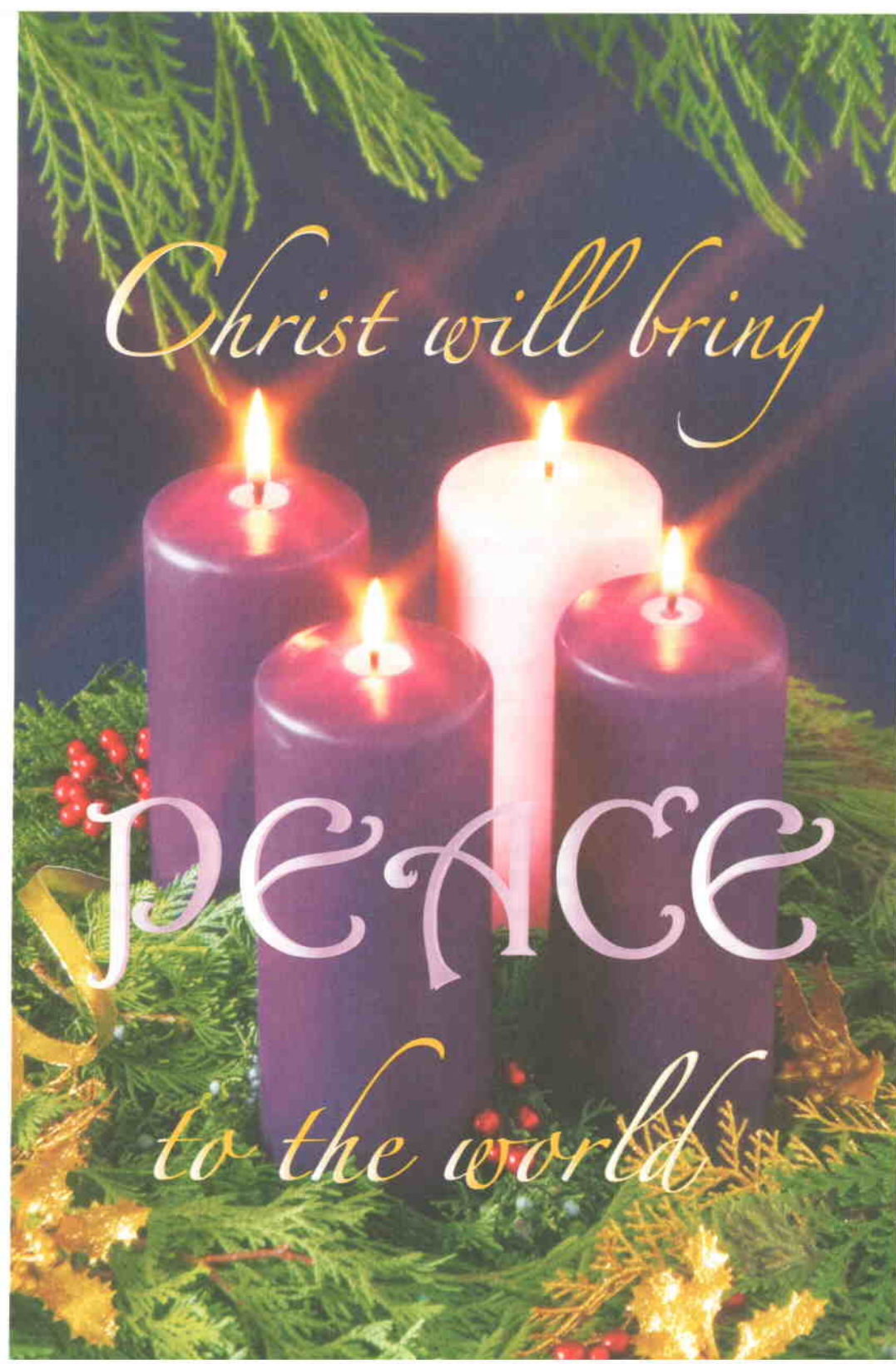
The Palmers (CRWM)
Christ for Russia
Neal Hegeman
The Back to God Hour

West Sayville Reformed Bible Church

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**Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.
December 20, 2009**

Prelude: Betty Miller

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Welcome

*Call to Worship and God's Greeting:

The angel of the Lord announced to Mary that she would bear the Son of the Most High.

And she received the message in faith.

The prophets had foretold that he would be born in Bethlehem.

Yes, he was born in Bethlehem.

The angels came to the shepherds in the brightness of God's glory,

And they were directed to the Son of God lying in a manger.

The choir of angels filled the night sky with praise for God's gift.

And we bring him our praise together this day.

Grace, mercy and peace to you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen!

*Song: (Red) #258 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

*Affirmation of Unity, concluded by singing: "**Great and Mighty is the Lord our God, Great and Mighty is He. Great and Mighty is the Lord our God, Great and Mighty is He. Lift up your banner, let the anthems ring praises to our King; Great and mighty is the Lord our God, Great and Mighty is He.**" CCLI #410888

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

The Lighting of the Advent Candle – Reed family

Special Music: Sunday School Choir

God's Will for Our Lives

Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Pardon: John 3:16-17

Song: (Red) #255 "Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming"

WE BRING OUR NEEDS

The Congregational Prayer

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD

*Song of Preparation: (Red) #634 "More Love to Thee"

The Children's Message

The Prayer for Illumination

The Reading of Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10 (page 1156)

Sermon: **God's Unbreakable Advent (4) Love in Christ**

The Prayer of Application

*Song of Application (Red) #270 "Joy to the World!"

WE BRING OUR GIFTS

The Offertory: Today's special offering is for the West Sayville Christian School

WE LEAVE WITH A SONG IN OUR HEARTS

*The Benediction with Congregational **Amen!**

*Song: (Red) #815 "Doxology"

Postlude:

*You are invited to stand.

Worship Service, 6:00 p.m.

Prelude Betty Miller

Call to Worship

*Opening Prayer

*God's Greeting and Congregational Response: "AMEN"

Confession of Faith: Apostle's Creed

Praise Time/Evening Offering (During Last Praise Selection)

Congregational Prayer

*Hymn of Preparing to Hear the Word of God:

(Blue) #335 "Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus"

Scripture Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sermon: **Heavenly Peace in Our Midst**

Sermon Text: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Prayer for Blessing of the Word

*Hymn of Application: (Blue) #339 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

*God's Parting Blessing/Congregational Response: "AMEN"

*Closing Hymn: (Blue) #491 "Glory Be to the Father"

*Postlude

(* indicates those who are able, please stand)

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 20

- 8:30 a.m. - Prayer for the day's ministries
- 9:30 a.m. - Worship (Nursery)
- 10:45 a.m. - Fellowship Time
- 11:15 a.m. - Sunday School Christmas Program
- 6:00 p.m. - Worship (Nursery)
- 7:30 p.m. - Youth Group Caroling

Monday, December 21

- 7:00 p.m. - A.A.

Tuesday, December 22

Wednesday, December 23

- 8:30-9:30 a.m. - WSCS Chapel

Thursday, December 24

- 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Friday, December 25

- 7:00 p.m. - A.A.

Saturday, December 26

Sunday, December 27

- 8:30 a.m. - Prayer for the day's ministries
- 9:30 a.m. - Worship (Nursery)
- 10:45 a.m. - Fellowship Time
- 6:00 p.m. - Worship (Nursery)

Serve the LORD with Gladness

Host/Hostess: Today: Bruce Style *12/27:* Sandy VanEssendelft

Greeters: Today: Amy Sullivan, Ginny Lackey

12/27: Lins Reed, Pat Stellwagen

Nursery: Today: a.m. Sandy VanEssendelft, Alex Peterson

p.m. Lois Garrett, Becky VanEssendelft

12/27: a.m. Sue VanEssendelft, Caroline Painter

p.m. Darlene Kempf, Carissa Lackey

Ushers: Today: Bill Sullivan, Dean Painter, David Garrett

12/27: Brad Peterson, Ray Lackey, Michael Kearney

ANNOUNCEMENT

Sunday School Christmas Program: This morning following the fellowship time the Sunday School invites everyone to come watch the Christmas Program that they have put together.

Caroling: Everyone is invited to join the Youth Group this evening following the evening service to go caroling.

Special Offering: The special offering for Christmas Eve will be for Bethany Christian Services. Next weeks special offering will be a Youth Offering for the Calvinist Cadet Corps.

Christmas Eve Service: We will be having our Christmas Eve Service on December 24th at 7 p.m. Please feel free to invite your friends, family and neighbors to help us celebrate Jesus' birth.

Old Year's Service: We will be having our Old Year's Service on December 31st at 7:00 p.m. Please feel free to invite your friends, family and neighbors as we look forward to the New Year.

2010 Calendars: The calendars that are provided by Raynor & D'Andrea Funeral Homes are available on the table in the Narthex.

Office Hours: This week the secretary will be in the office working on bulletins up to Jan 3rd. If you have announcements or information that needs to be published please have it to the office by the following days: Christmas Eve and Sunday 12-27 by Tuesday 12-22 and New Years Eve and Sunday 1-3 by Thursday 12-24

Sunday Morning, December 20, 2009
“God’s Unbreakable Advent (4) Love in Christ”
Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10
Rev. Andrew Eenigenburg

Theme:

1. Without a trace of grace v.1-3
2. God’s quickening grace v.4-7
3. God’s gracious preparation v.8-10

Sunday Evening, December 20, 2009
“Heavenly Peace in Our Midst”
Scripture: Zephaniah 3:14-20
Rev. Andrew Eenigenburg

Theme:

1. The people’s song of peace v.14-15
2. The common report of peace v.16-17
3. God’s pledge for peace v.18-20

We Believe In Prayer

Our Church Family:

Praise and Thanksgiving:

- Praise God for answered prayer in this past year and for all near and far who pray for the church in West Sayville
- Praise God for His daily providence in our lives. Praise Him for the advent season where we can renew our focus on the plan of salvation put into place from the beginning of the world
- Praise God that Cheryl Garrett arrived home safely. Pray for other family members and college students who will be coming over the holidays

Pray For:

- Pray for Brenda Peterson as she has a biopsy this week. Pray for her also as she witnesses to CJ's preschool class and parents on the reason for Christmas
- Praise God that Steve Boogertman's biopsy came back negative. Pray for Steve's grandson Luke as he is having trouble with his adenoids and will also have tubes put in his ears
- Pray for Linda Lingner who has been sick
- Praise God that Alena Van Essendelft's blood pressure is being regulated through different medication
- Pray for Betty Klaassen & May Boogertman and all our elderly that God would give them strength every day
- Pray for Pastor Don and Deb that God would provide Pastor Don with a position within a church. Especially pray that God would grant comfort & wisdom as they deal with the terminal illness of Deb's nephew because of colon cancer

Our Friends & Family:

- Pray for those in our families, especially our children, who have not made a commitment to the Lord

Be sure to make these items part of your prayer life this week. Take this home with you and if you request prayer below then request another sheet.

PRAYER REQUEST

Do you or a friend need prayer? Submit this request in the offering plate.

We Believe In Prayer

- **World Missions (Haiti):** Timothy Leadership Training is a practical, results-based training method built on biblical principles for equipping local leaders to serve their communities. The Haiti field has begun the initial stages of implementing this program and is encouraging participation from a variety of denominations. Pray for a Spirit-filled openness to consider collaboration between churches and Christian organizations to meet the pressing need of sharing the gospel in this way
- **World Missions (MINTS):** Pray Rev. Alan Vander Pol and the students in Myanmar as he travels and teaches them. Pray for funding so that he can continue his work on a full-time basis
- **CRWRC (Disaster Response Services):** Remember CRWRC Disaster Response Services volunteer site managers this Christmas season. Pray that they may be refreshed and restored as they enjoy time with their families and fellowship at their home churches. Ask for God's special blessing as they return to oversee projects throughout North America in 2010
- **CRWRC (Free a Family):** Pray for needy families in Asia, Africa, and Latin America who are breaking the cycle of poverty through CRWRC's Free a Family program. Ask that the spirit of Christ may touch their hearts and their homes this Christmas, as they give thanks for God's blessing in their lives
- **Home Missions (Campus Ministries):** Pray for campus ministries as they seek to raise up young people passionate about their walk with our Father
- **Church Ministry (Small Groups):** Pray that many people will be reached through the ministries of this church. Pray that ministry developers and small group leaders, other Bible Study leaders, Cadet and GEM leaders will succeed in sharing the gospel with many people
- **Back To God Ministries (West Java):** Pray for A.Y. and his family, who had to go into hiding after becoming Christians. A.Y. is a member of one of our listener communities and is now trying to witness to his Muslim neighbors. "I'm so grateful to YKB [Indonesia ministry] who helps me to share the Word of God through radio ministry," he wrote

Thank you for your prayers that are helping to transform lives around the world!

Think About It:

Holiday or Holy Day?

Matthew 1:18-25

For centuries, society has been slowly drifting down a broad river of change, but speed is picking up, and we have now entered the rapids. Even Christmas is not immune to these changes. It has become just a “holiday” to the world—and, sadly, even to some Christians.

“Merry Christmas” has been replaced by “Happy Holidays,” and carols about Jesus have been traded for songs celebrating Santa Claus, winter, family, and friends. Finding Christ-centered Christmas cards has become a challenge. Snowmen and sleighs have taken the place of manger scenes, which were once common in both private and public settings.

This slide away from Christ is the natural progression of the world, but it is not the direction that believers should go. Drifting is easy: you just relax and follow the path of least resistance. But going against the stream requires constant awareness and diligent effort. We must actively guard against letting the world steal Christ from our celebrations.

Christmas is not just a holiday; it is a *holy day*—the day God came to earth in the flesh of a tiny baby for the purpose of reconciling sinful mankind to Himself. Holidays are numerous, but there is only one Christmas.

The world tries hard to find pleasure in Christ-less holiday observances, but happiness is often elusive when experiences don't match expectations. If you feel a sense of letdown, you may have drifted away from an authentic celebration of Christmas. Allow Jesus back in, and joy will return.

Source: In Touch Ministries, Daily Devotional

PARTNERS IN PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL

NIGERIA



Tim and Wilma Palmer
Daniel, Michelle

BIRTHDAYS:

Tim March 11
Wilma September 1
Daniel At Dordt College
Michelle At Dordt College

ANNIVERSARY: September 5

SERVICE WITH CRWM:

Since March 1984
Wilma since November 1979

FIELD ADDRESS:

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Christian Reformed
World Missions

MISSION

The growing church in Africa needs pastors to lead them. Tim Palmer has been teaching at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria (TCNN) for 25 years. This seminary plays a vital role in Nigeria by training pastors and Bible teachers for the Nigerian churches, seminaries and public schools.

TCNN has 330 full-time students and 25 instructors. Tim is writing theological textbooks in addition to his teaching. Please pray for the teachers and students of this pivotal institution.

Wilma volunteers part-time in a ministry that includes an income-generating program for women with HIV/AIDS. Many of them are widows. Please pray for the physical and spiritual needs of these women.



Christian Reformed
World Missions

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