

*THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT*  
**MORNING WORSHIP ~ December 14, 2025 ~ 9:30 AM**  
**First Christian Reformed Church, Sioux Center, Iowa**

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

Prelude: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
“O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide”

Chiel Jan van Hofwegen  
Hayo Boerema

Introit: **“Wait for the Lord” LUYH #480**

Welcome

Hymn of Preparation: **“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” LUYH #61:1,6**

**GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP**

Call to Worship/Advent Candle Lighting

Reader 1: Rise up, people of God, and let us shake off the fears that threaten us  
and raise our voices in praise for our light has come.

Reader 2: He refreshes the dry and scorched places, He opens the eyes of the blind,  
He loosens the tripped-up tongues of the silent.

Reader 1: We now freely praise His name.

Reader 2: We light the candle of joy and sing with glad praise to our King.

—from Isaiah 35

**People: The Light has come. Walk in the light, not the darkness.**

\*God’s Greeting

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Grace, mercy, and peace are yours, from God the Father Almighty,  
from the Lord Jesus, and from the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen!**

\*Hymn of Praise: **“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” LUYH #70:1,2,5**

**GOD RECONCILES US TO HIMSELF**

Call to Confession (A Reading from the Old Testament): Isaiah 35

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

\*The Passing of the Peace

\*God’s Will for Our Lives (A Reading from the New Testament): James 5:7-20

\*Psalm of Response: **“Praise the LORD! Sing Hallelujah!” PFAS #146C:1,2,4**

**GOD COMES TO US THROUGH HIS WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

A Reading from the Gospel: Matthew 11:2-19 (New Testament p. 13)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon: *THE ONE WHO IS TO COME*

**WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

Reading the Form (with “Franklin Sanctus”)

Distribution of the Elements

During the Passing of the Bread: **“What Feast of Love” LUYH #96:1-3**

During the Passing of the Cup: Organ Meditation –

“Rorate Caeli (Drop Down Dew, Ye Heavens, from Above)”

Jeanne Demessieux

“Creator of the Stars of Night”

Marcel Dupré

\*Song of Response: **“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout” LUYH #69:1,4 (PFAS 75B)**

**WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING**

Prayers of the People

Offertory: *“Dans une douce joie (In Quiet Joy – tune IN DULCI JUBILO)”*

Henk Klop

Offerings: (1) First CRC Ministry Fund and Christian Education Fund; (2) World Renew

**GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD**

\*Hymn of Dedication: **“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” LUYH #730:3**

\*Sending and Benediction

(cont.)

\*Choral Sung Benediction: “Grant Us Thy Peace”

Felix Mendelssohn, ed. Olaf C. Christiansen

Grant us Thy peace, Almighty Lord,

Thou Source of ev'ry blessing!

Feeble and frail, trust we Thy word,

All things in Thee possessing.

In Thee is our hope and safety.

\*Postlude: “Quand Jésus naquit à Noël (Trumpets Sound and Angels Sing)”

Claude Balbastre

*\*indicates that those who are able are invited to stand*

Worship Leader: Rev. Kurt Monroe

Organist: Leendert van Beek

Advent Candle Lighters and Readers: Sjoerdsma Family

Adult Choir directed by Zach Bivens | Accompanist: Jessica Hummel

Woodwind Ensemble: Addie Groenewold, Elsie Vander Tuin, Ava Van Maanen, Addie and Kira Ochsner

Music streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-723392 and CCLI license #1114896. All rights reserved.