

## LIVING THE STORY OF GOD THIS WEEK

- M 2:00p Open Door: Foundation  
6:30p Celebrate Recovery
- T 2:00p Open Door: Foundation  
6:30p Divorce Care: Howard's Office  
6:30p GriefShare: Fellowship Hall & Online
- W 5:00p CR Women's Step Study: Office in the Nursery  
6:15p Mid-Week @ PS  
7:00p Prayer Meeting: Classroom E
- Th 2:00p Open Door: Foundation  
7:00p CR Men's Step Study: Office in the Nursery

### FROM COUNCIL

Thank You to all who joined us this past Wednesday for our annual congregation meeting. We heard encouraging updates from Pastor Matthew, President Steve Haringa, Elder Jack Crawford, Deacon Phil Knapper, our Worship Director Transition team and the Building Restoration team. Brett Buma, Sue Cooper and Chuck McGrath were received as new elders and Mike O'Rourke was selected as deacon. The 2022 budget was approved. We look forward to what God will do through our church in 2022! **Thank you for your continued prayers and support.**

### CARE — COME ALONGSIDE OTHERS

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER — Our condolences and loving sympathy is extended to Trevor & Alice Tomasino and family in the passing of her Alice's mother. Please pray this family feels God's peace and comfort at this time *"We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him."* — 1 Thessalonians 1:14

OUR LOVING SYMPATHY... to the Swart family and friends in the passing away of Harold Swart—*The Lord be with you!*

In Loving Memory of: Harold Swart  
December 17, 1933 - November 28, 2021  
'Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.'  
Psalm 23:1

### GROW — CULTIVATE YOUR FAITH

CHRISTMAS EVE — Friday, December 24, at 6pm. Invite your family and friends to join us. A special offering will be received for the Deacons' Benevolent Fund. *"O come let us adore Him!"*

WORSHIP SURVEY — The Director of Worship Transition Team wants your input. Please complete the Worship Survey on-line <https://bit.ly/PSCRCWorship> or via a paper copy which is available on the table by the entrance to the sanctuary. The deadline to complete the survey is December 19. Feel free to contact Emily Fortna or Chris Epplett if you have any questions.

PAGEANT FAMILY SERVICE & GATHERING — Is rescheduled for Sunday, **December 26**, at 9:30am. Join us for stories, songs and an interactive pageant. After the pageant we will celebrate with a gathering. Desserts will be provided—hope you can join us and celebrate the season with friends and festive fun!

WOMEN'S WEEKLY PSALMS BIBLE STUDY — will reconvene on January 10 at 9:30am in the Foundation. All women are welcome!

BEREA DEEP FREEZE RETREAT — Will be January 14-16. Registrations and \$50 deposit are due to Diane Williams by **TODAY!** All students in grades 6-12 are welcome to attend!

### SERVE — CONTRIBUTE YOUR TALENTS & RESOURCES

FINANCIAL GIVING ENVELOPES — Are available in the mailboxes; if you did not receive envelopes and would like them, contact Sadie in the office. Please note your envelope number has more than likely changed. Forms to give electronically, or to change your giving for 2022 are available in the fellowship hall.

OUR SECOND OFFERING — Today, is for "Healing Heart Hospitality House"; Carol Lewis' charity that provides physical, emotional and spiritual support and comfort to the families and friends of hospitalized patients in the greater Worcester area.

FAITH PROMISE TEAM — Thanks the congregation for their pledges given to support our Mission causes for 2022! If anyone has not yet turned in their pledge, pledge cards will continue to be available at the entrances through December.

## Pleasant Street Christian Reformed Church

508.234.5268 + Office: 8a–3p Mon-Fri

December 12, 2021 + 9:30 am

Welcome! We are so glad that you are here!



*If you have been worshipping with us for a long time or you are entering the doors of a church for the first time, it is our hope that you will experience a kind welcome, a sense of genuine community, and the grace and truth of Jesus Christ that the Christian Church has celebrated for centuries. If you're asking questions about faith and spirituality, join us in our formation opportunities and ministry events to learn more and meet others. Help us get to know you or let us know how we can pray for you by filling in the Communication Card in the fellowship hall and putting it in the offering basket—we'll be in touch.*

### WORSHIP — Celebrate What God Is Doing

*We would love to help your kids become devoted followers of Christ! Please visit the Children's Ministry check-in station in the fellowship hall to get a security tag so your children can join us downstairs. The nursery is open for infants through 3 year olds during the whole service. KidStreet Children's Church for age 4-2nd grade is dismissed to go with teachers right before the sermon. Please bring your security tag to pick up your children in the nursery or classroom C after the service. Echo for kids in 3rd-5th grade will meet in classroom B but will be dismissed to the fellowship hall at the end of the service.*

*We are excited to serve you!*

*The Lord be with you!*

*Prayer of Preparation*

*Immanuel, as we wait for your return, help us to see your glory and love through the reading and preaching of your Word. We pray in your name. Amen.*

**GATHER**

*Welcome and Announcements*

*Call to Worship — Hebrews 11:16; Psalm 130*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

We continue on our Advent journey with a reminder - this world is not our home.

**Even now we live by faith, longing for a Better Country and a New Creation.**

Even now I wait for the Lord and in his Word I hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.

**Even now there is no darkness with you, O Lord.**

People of God, hope in the Lord! For even now we do not wait in vain.

*(The water is poured in the font) We wait marked by God's promises.*

*(Bread is placed on the table) We walk toward God's Future Feast.*

*(the Bible is set on the Pulpit) We carry the book of God's Story.*

People of God – Welcome home!

**Even now there is no darkness with you, O Lord.**

SONGS: *My Soul in Stillness Waits*

*Joy to the world*

*Lighting the Advent Candles*

*\*The First Reading: Hebrews 11:1,7,13*

Friends, this is God's Word.

**Thanks be to God!**

*\*The Gospel Reading: Luke 4: 16-19*

Friends, This is the Gospel of Jesus!

**Thanks be to God!**

SONG: *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

**RENEWAL**

*Prayer of Confession*

Merciful God,

Always with us, always coming:

We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your arrival. Hear our prayer of confession:

O Promised Christ,

We are a world at war.

**Our peace depends on your coming.**

We are a sinful people,

**Our pardon depends on your coming.**

We are a people full of good intentions but who lack the strength to keep our promises.

**Our only hope of doing your Will is that we do it in your Strength.**

*Silent Prayer*

Lord Christ, Word made flesh,

our world waits

For your peace,

For your pardon,

And for your grace.

**Even so come, Lord Jesus.**

**AMEN.**

*Words of Assurance — Isaiah 55:6,7*

Friends, The good news of this Advent season is forgiveness of sin and new life; Christ's life of hope and peace.

**Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**

SONG: *He Has Come For Us (God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen)*

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

*KidStreet Dismissal*

*[Children age 4 through 2nd grade are dismissed]*

**WORD**

*Morning Prayers*

*Isaiah 40:1-8 (p 586) +*

*“This Great Hope: New Breath in the land of Death”*

**COMMIT**

*ECHO Dismissal [Students in grades 3-5 are dismissed]*

*Morning Offerings:*

*1) Pleasant Street Ministries;*

*2) Healing Heart Hospitality House*

**SEND**

*Benediction*

Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.” May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

SONG: *Land of The Rising Sun*

*The candle in the front is lit as a symbol that Jesus Christ is present in our worship this morning*