

## Our Response

When you are lonely, tempted, downcast, conflicted, or lost, turn to \_\_\_\_\_; he will fulfill your \_\_\_\_\_.

## Life Application Questions

- ❖ What are the deepest longings of your heart?
- ❖ How can you turn to Jesus this Advent season to fulfill your deepest longings?
- ❖ Are you rejoicing in the Lord for what he has done, for what he is doing, and for what he will do in your life and world?

Sermon audio and notes are available online at [www.rockfordreformedchurch.org/sermons-2/](http://www.rockfordreformedchurch.org/sermons-2/)

## Prayer Fellowship

### Recovery & Intercession:

- ~Ken Westrate is home and continues to improve.
- ~Medical concerns of various Haiti individuals, especially Jorvens.
- ~Carol Riegling continues to deal with health issues.
- ~Sharon Dulyea for continued healing/pain management.
- ~Elaine Pierson is in Hospice care at Raybrook Manor.
- ~Dave Mundwiler – Next MRI on Nov 18. Pray the tumor is stable/shrunk.
- ~Bill Boyd continues dialysis and awaits a transplant.
- ~Ray Dulyea continued prayer his kidney “numbers” will not change.
- ~Be in prayer for **disaster victims**, and **people searching for jobs**.
- ~Pray for our military: **Emily Bowers, Phil Scholten, Nick Welch** and all military personnel.

### Extended Family:

- ~Brandon Homrich (Newkirk's son-in-law) diagnosed with Burkitts Lymphoma. Has started very aggressive chemo.
- ~Kathy Lambers (friend of Bergman's) 6<sup>th</sup> battle with Leiomyosarcoma.
- ~Barry Lambers (Kathy's husband) suffered spinal injury, paralyzed waist down.
- ~Helen Heemstra (Terri Katsma's mom) undergoing chemo treatments.
- ~Jan Lapp (Tyler's mom) has finished treatments, no significant improvement.

### Praise & Thanksgiving:

Congratulations to **Matt & Ashley Edwards** on the birth of their son, **Elliott Preston**, on Nov 13.

## Welcome!

We are glad you're here! We want your experience to be a good one, so we have put together a bit of info to help you know what to expect while you are here.

**Our worship service:** Thanks for joining us today! We will begin the service with singing. Feel free to stand, sing, or just listen as we express our worship to God. If you don't know the songs, don't worry, just follow along with the words on the screen!

**The message:** This is a time of practical teaching from the Bible. Often, multi-media presentations are incorporated to supplement the message. There is space in the bulletin to take notes if you wish.

**The offering:** This is a time to share with the church how God has blessed us financially. If you are visiting, don't feel you have to contribute. The only thing we'd like from you is your connections card (bulletin insert).

**Prayer time:** We will pray together a couple of times throughout the service.

**Refreshments:** Join us for coffee in the lobby after service! Visitors may pick up a complementary gift mug and welcome packet. If you have any questions, this is the place to find answers!

**Childcare:** Your children are welcome to remain with you throughout the service! We love that our church is a welcoming place for families. We do have a nursery for children ages 0-3 years if you would prefer to use that. We also have a parent-infant room near the back of the sanctuary for fussy children and nursing mothers. Children ages 3-7 are invited to participate in Children's Worship, an age-appropriate worship and learning time. Children start service with their parents and will be dismissed part way through. If you are unfamiliar with this program, you are encouraged to accompany your kids the first time. They can be picked up after each service in Room 112 on the lower level. Children 8 and older are encouraged to remain in the service with their parents. Children's bulletins are available.

**Formality:** We have no dress code. Whether you are in jeans or a tux, we're just glad you're here! You are also welcome to sip your coffee or read along with scripture passages on your mobile devices. We just ask that you silence your phones as a courtesy to others.

To learn more about our ministries and beliefs, be sure to pick up a welcome packet in the lobby or visit our website: [rockfordreformedchurch.org](http://rockfordreformedchurch.org).

**Vision:** To always be a living reflection of Christ's hands, feet, and voice in the community.

**Mission:** To connect people to Jesus Christ and encourage them to grow in their relationship with Him through worship and fellowship, so they will reach out to serve and disciple others for the glory of God.

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Rockford Reformed Church  
connecting • growing • serving

Sunday, November 27, 2016  
Worship @ 8:45am & 11:00am



We Have a Savior

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONGS OF WORSHIP

Angels We Have Heard on High

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE (HOPE) Triezenberg Family

O Come All Ye Faithful, Joy to the World

Children (ages 3 years - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade) are invited to KidLife Worship downstairs

OFFERING

PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9:1-7 (p.526)

MESSAGE

"A Christmas Carol: O Come Emmanuel!"

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Pastor Paul Bradford

RESPONSE

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

CLOSING BLESSING

Today's Nursery Volunteers:

(8:45am) Lisa Vergouwe, Lilly Johnson (11:00am) Stephanie Bergman, Tamra Miller

Today's KidLife Worship Volunteers:

(8:45am) Julie Ringnalda (11:00am) Lora & Maddison Jenema, Melissa Vander Tuuk

Next Sunday: "A Christmas Carol: King of Kings!"

Philippians 2:5-11 (p.894) • Pastor Paul Bradford

## What's Going On?

### Today:

**8:20am: Prayer** in Room #212 to pray over the services. All welcome!

**10:00am: Sunday School** for all ages:

**NOTE: No Sunday School Classes TODAY, Nov 27**

- **Ages 3 – DK** meet in Classroom #111
- **Grades K-5<sup>th</sup> grade** meet in Classroom #101
- **Middle School** (grades 6-8) Youth Room #153
- **High School** (grades 9-12) Classroom #246
- **Adults:** "Staying In Love," led by Kevin & Polly Johnson in the Fireside

**6:30pm: High School Youth Group.** Meet in the Youth Room #153

**NOTE: No Youth Group meeting TODAY, Nov 27**

### This Week:

**Mondays, 6:30-7:30pm: Weekly Prayer Meeting** in the sanctuary

**Tuesdays, 7:00am: Men's Prayer Breakfast.** Join us any time.

**Tuesdays, 9:30-11am: Women's Bible Study** – "Speaking Wisely," led by Marcia Coleman and Jean Boyd in Rm #212. Starts Nov 29.

### Wednesday Night Activities:

6:00pm **Simple Supper**, 6:30pm **KidLife Club** (ages 3 years – 5<sup>th</sup> grade)

6:30pm **Middle School Youth Group**

6:45pm **Adult Classes**

- "Christianity, Cults, & World Religions" – Co-ed class led by Pastor Paul. Fireside Rm #253
- "Discovering God's Will" by Andy Stanley – Women's study led by Polly Johnson. Rm #250

**Last Thursday/month, 7:00-8:30pm: Ladies Book Club.** Fireside Rm #253.

November Book: *South of Superior* by Ellen Airgood. Next meeting is Dec 1.

**Every other Saturday, 7:30-8:30am: Men's Study Breakfast.** "A Man and His Traps." Meet in the Fireside Rm #253. Next meeting – Dec 3.

### Announcements/Events - GENERAL:

**Mailboxes and bulletin boards are in the church office hallway.**

**Communion:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month

**Wed, Dec 7, 12:00noon: Adult Fellowship Group** Christmas Lunch. Lunch will be catered (donations appreciated to cover costs). RSVP w/Wilma @ 866-2389. Musical program by Tammy Bradford following lunch.

**Sat, Dec 10, 5:30-8:00pm: Parents Night Out.** Drop off your kids (ages infant – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) Dinner & snack provided. RSVP w/Beth Jennings, [beth@rockfordrc.org](mailto:beth@rockfordrc.org)  
Donations benefit our youth for events/missions.

**THANK YOU!** 124 boxes for Operation Christmas Child

45 Turkeys and 100 bags of groceries to North Kent Community Services

**Sat, Dec 10, 1:00pm: Adult Singles Lunch** at Timbers Restaurant, then to Barb Ribbons's home for dessert and games. RSVP w/Carol Knox @ 866-4845.

**Sun, Dec 11, 5:00pm: Annual Congregational Meeting.** Selection of Elders & Deacons and approval of the 2017 Budget. Child care provided. *Pre-view packets and Nominee information was emailed last week and also is available on the desk in the back of the sanctuary.*

**Fri, Dec 16, 7-9pm: Rockford Christmas Celebration & Live Nativity** in downtown Rockford. Watch for details.

**Fri, Dec 23: Christmas Candlelight Services at 4:00pm & 6:00pm**

**Sun, Dec 25: Christmas Day – ONE Service at 10:00am**

**Magi Tree** in the lobby of RRC to benefit clients of North Kent Community Services. Needed items include Pajamas, Socks, Underwear, Bath Towels, Dish Towels, Bedding, Pillows, Winter Coats, Pants & Boots. Pick a "Star" off the tree for selected items (or your own ideas) and bring your unwrapped items back to church by Sunday, Dec 11.

**On-line Giving:** You can give directly from your phone or computer! There's a link to the form on the front page of our website [www.RockfordReformedChurch.org](http://www.RockfordReformedChurch.org)



### Announcements/Events - YOUTH:

Brian Ellis: [brian@rockfordrc.org](mailto:brian@rockfordrc.org)

**Sunday School** at 10:00am: **MS** (Youth Room #153), **HS** (Rm #246)

**MS** meets on Wednesdays @ 6:30pm, **HS** meets on Sundays @ 6:30pm

### Announcements/Events - CHILDREN:

Children's Ministries – Beth Jennings, Director: [beth@rockfordrc.org](mailto:beth@rockfordrc.org)

KidLife Club – Laura Jolliffe, Director: [laura@rockfordrc.org](mailto:laura@rockfordrc.org)

KidLife Sunday School for ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade at 10:00am

KidLife Club (formerly Pioneer Clubs)

Wednesdays: 6:00pm Simple Supper, 6:30pm Club

**Wed, Dec 14: KidLife "Simply Christmas" Christmas Program**

6:00pm Dinner in the gym, 6:45pm Program in the sanctuary

### Attendance / Finance:

Last week's attendance: 268

Last week's Ministry & Missions offering: \$12,863.94

Last week's FLC Debt Reduction offering: \$1,755.00

## O Come Emmanuel!

*1<sup>st</sup> in Series: A Christmas Carol*

Text: Isaiah 9:1-7

Sunday: 11/27/2016

### Intro

**In Jesus, our Emmanuel, the \_\_\_\_\_ of the human heart are fulfilled.**

*Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

### God's Word

① **The longing for \_\_\_\_\_.**

*O come, O come, Emmanuel & ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.*

*O come, Thou Key of David, come, & open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, & close the path to misery.*

② **The longing for \_\_\_\_\_.**

*O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny; from depth of hell Thy people save & give them victory o'er the grave.*

③ **The longing for \_\_\_\_\_.**

*O Come, Thou Dayspring, come & cheer our spirits by Thine advent here; & drive away the shades of night, & pierce the clouds & bring us light!*

④ **The longing for \_\_\_\_\_.**

*O come desire of nations, bind All peoples in one heart & mind; Bid envy, strife, & quarrels cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.*

⑤ **The longing to \_\_\_\_\_.**

*O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, & order all things, far & nigh; To us the path of knowledge show, & cause us in her ways to go.*