

# Fourth Reformed Church

To celebrate and worship  
our Lord and King

**14 December 2025**

Welcome! If you are visiting this morning, we're glad to have you with us today.

This morning, we're going to look at the story of the Magi to consider what it looks like to live the kind of life that allows us to seek the Lord. We'll contrast the Magi with Herod, and others, to see how we spend much of our lives in a hurried state, chasing after the vapor of earthly satisfaction, instead of resting our hearts in Jesus.

Prelude *Joy to the World*

Welcome  
Call to Worship

Singing *Hark the Herald Angels Sing  
O Come O Come Emmanuel*

Prayer of Confession

Singing *Holy Forever*

Kingdom Prayers  
*Children's worship (ages 3-5) begins in room 14 upstairs*

Message **UNHURRIED CHRISTMAS: SEEKING JESUS**  
*Rev. Eric Schalk* **MATTHEW 2:1-12 (P. 934)**

Communion

Singing *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*

Closing Blessing

Our offering this morning will be received  
following our worship service



This week at **Fourth**

|                  |                           |   |
|------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Today</b>     | <b>Greeters</b>           | Marty Berthiaume, Mary Kay Townley<br>Next week: Ryan & Morgan Faasse |
|                  | <b>Nursery</b>            | Laura Shoults, Sarah Parler<br>Next week: Nicole Donovan, Ruby Parler |
|                  | <b>Children's Worship</b> | Kristi Dennis, Ruby Parler<br>Next week: No Children's Worship        |
|                  | <b>Coffee</b>             | Steve & Jeni Wammack<br>Next week: Branson & Sarah Parler             |
|                  | 11:15 AM                  | <b>CE Classes &amp; Middle &amp; High School Small Groups</b>         |
| <b>Monday</b>    | 6:00 PM                   | <b>Fourth/Coit Cadet Christmas Party</b>                              |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | 10:00 AM                  | <b>Women's Bible Study</b> <i>in the Fireside room</i>                |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 6:30 AM                   | <b>Dude's Group</b> – <i>New Beginnings, Michigan St</i>              |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | 9:30 AM                   | <b>Men's Bible Study</b> <i>in the Fireside Room</i>                  |
|                  | 10:00 AM                  | <b>Knitting Group</b> <i>at Rest Haven</i>                            |
|                  | 6:00 PM                   | <b>The Forge Group Meets</b> <i>in the Fellowship Hall</i>            |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | 9:00 AM                   | <b>Women's Passion Prayer</b> <i>in the Fellowship Hall</i>           |

## Praise & Prayer

Continue to pray for healing and encouragement for **Nancy Aukeman, Etta Denbesten, Sandy Gleason, Marge Jeltrema, Bill Pyper, Linda Randall** and **Lorraine Smith**.

Please be in prayer for our **Associate Pastor, Office Staff and our Faith Formation Leaders**. Pray that they are encouraged in their work.

**Pray for the homes on your street:** that God's name will be glorified, His kingdom come, and His will be done. Expect great things!

## Announcements

### Missionaries of the Month: Mission Trip

McLain, Mississippi is a small town in the deep south with a significant issue of poverty. The MOSES organization has been partnering with a few local ministry leaders there and this year we'll have the opportunity to take a group of middle and high school students to help with various projects in this impoverished area. Please consider how you can invest in, not only the work being done in this very needy area, but in the growth and spiritual stretching that happens with our students as they learn to love their neighbors well. Donations for the mission trip can be given throughout the month of December.

### **The Forge**

The Forge 2.0 begins our second year. Men have come to discuss a life question together and share their thoughts and lives, making a connection. You are welcome to join us as we meet for a light dinner Thursday, December 18 at 6:00pm and have our talk from 6:30-7:30. Please sign up for the meal if you plan to come. (Please note the time change.)

### **Christmas Cards**

We want to encourage you to send cards to folks in our church who could use some encouragement and love. A list of those who have been unable to worship with us recently or long-term is available on the table in the narthex if you'd like to pick one up.

### **Christmas Eve Service**

We will gather on Wednesday, December 24 at 7:00pm for a candlelight service worshipping Jesus, and reflecting on his arrival in our world. Join us for a time of celebration and joy!

### **Calling young adults!**

We are having a progressive dinner on Tuesday, December 30, a time to eat and connect or reconnect. Plan to meet at the church parking lot at 5:30 PM to carpool to several host homes for appetizers, a meal & dessert. RSVP to Erin Broene at 616.822.2926 by December 27, please include any dietary restrictions.

### **Rooted Small Groups**

This week, high school will continue to work on their Spiritual Gifts projects and Middle School will be diving into the amazing nature of God's omnipresence.

### **Rooted**

Next Sunday Night, we'll be doing a special Christmas program with a gift exchange. Each student and leader should bring a gift (NOT a white elephant gift) of about \$10-15 for the exchange. Talk to Abbie or Aaron if you have questions.

### **Foundry course: Engaging the New Testament**

Do you want to dig deeper into the New Testament? Do you want to understand what Jesus and Paul (not Calvin and Keller) mean by the gospel? To explore how "justification by faith" is about the ethnic makeup of the church? To understand how Acts 2 and the Holy Spirit only make sense in light of the Old Testament? To see how Revelation isn't really about "Left Behind" or the rapture but God's faithfulness in the first century and today? Branson Parler will be teaching this class, which meets at Remembrance Church on Wednesdays, Jan. 7, 21, Feb. 4, and 18 from 12pm-3pm and is FREE for people from Fourth Church. You can find more info and register at [www.thefoundrygr.org/iml/gr-nt/](http://www.thefoundrygr.org/iml/gr-nt/).

## **Fourth Reformed Church**



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Empowered by the Spirit  
to **follow** Jesus together, **serve** others,  
and **share** God's love.

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