

Preaching: Pastor Dan Walcott

Sermon Notes

## Welcome

Advent Reading — Lori Maxfield

Call to Worship

\*Songs: *Jesus the Light of the World*

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

Congregational Prayer

\*Songs: *While Shepherds Watched Their  
Flocks*

*Once in Royal David's City*

Offering

Scripture: Revelation 3: 1-6

Message: **What Jesus Thinks of the  
Church #3-The Church in Sardis**

\*Song : *When I Survey the Wondrous  
Cross*

Communion

\*Song: *Lift High the Cross*

## Offerings

**Ministry Shares:** Monies to help with missionaries, training, starting new churches, denominational services, as well as synodical and fundraising expenses.

## Church Announcements

**Collection Envelopes** | We will not be providing printed envelopes for church collections in 2026. Blank envelopes will be on the back table in church that you may use. Please include your envelope # and cause on the envelope. Our collections will follow the same schedule as before—1st Sunday— Faith Promise, 2nd—Building Fund, 3rd—Ministry Shares, 4th (and 5th if applicable)—General Fund. Thank you for your understanding. **The Deacons**

**Items from Church** | Any church members that are interested in items from our church, are asked to put their request in writing. You may place it in the collection plate or give to a Council member. These will be reviewed by Council and, if needed, forwarded on to the Properties Team.

**Distribution of Church Funds** | Distribution of church funds. Church members can submit organizations or places they would like to be included in the disbursement of our funds. Please put the request in writing and give to a Council member. These will be reviewed by Council.

**Voting** | Information from our Articles of Incorporation as it relates to voting. You will be able to vote if you are a professing member in good standing and have attended church during the last 2 years. Absentee ballots will not be made available due to information that will be shared at the time of the vote.

**Bad Weather Policy:** | If there is a winter storm warning, tornado watch or warning, or any severe weather warning one hour before a scheduled event, the event will be canceled. If schools are canceled due to weather, all church activities will be canceled. The closing will be on Wood TV also.

## Church Ann. Cont...

**Year End Donation** | If you want your year end donation recorded, please have it in to the church by Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025. Thank you.

**Cookie Sign-Up** | Just a reminder, cookie sign-up sheets are in the back of church. If you don't bake, you can always buy cookies! We appreciate any help with this!

## Church Calendar

The **Christmas Day Service** of Lessons and Carols will be at 9:30 AM on Thurs., Dec. 25.

**DATE CHANGE FOR JANUARY BREAKFAST!** We will be going a week later, January 14. Still working on location, will update as soon as we know...for now pencil in Jan. 14! Sign up sheet in back...

## Care and Prayer

**Calling Elder | Calling Elder** | In need of prayer or a visit? Randy Hop is the Calling Elder for December. His phone number is 616.610.1859.

**Prayers for Council and First** | Please continue to pray for Council and 1st Church as we seek God's direction for our future. May His plans be made clear to us. "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you." Isaiah 43:1,2

## Birthdays

We would like to wish **Henkie Beukema** a very happy 86th birthday today! May her special day be great!

## Community Announcements

**Unfading Truth** | In 2026, Unfading Truth will guide your congregation through the entire Bible—from Genesis to Revelation—in a way that's both faithful and accessible. Our daily rhythm keeps readers grounded in God's Word each day, using the Reformed Confessions and a short devotional post to keep their whole life centered on God's unfading truth in between Lord's Days.

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** | It's almost Christmas Day! How many different ways can you think of to say "Merry Christmas!" to people who know the story of Christmas and to people who don't know the story? And how might you say "Merry Christmas!" to God this week in a way that reflects love back to our Creator? Brought to you by Thrive: [crcna.org/Thrive](http://crcna.org/Thrive)

## Thank You

Thank you to the congregation for all the Christmas cards and visits we were given! Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a happy new year! **Bernie and Vieve Mulder**

Thank you to the GEMS for coming to sing carols to me. Also, thank you to the congregation for the beautiful cards I received. Many thanks and Merry Christmas! **Cora Hyma**

The deacons thank the congregation for their generous gifts on **Thanksgiving Day for World Renew and Parkview!** Our total collection was \$5058.00! World Renew is being gifted \$2,299.00 and Parkview \$2,795.00! Thanking God for the generous hearts of our congregation!