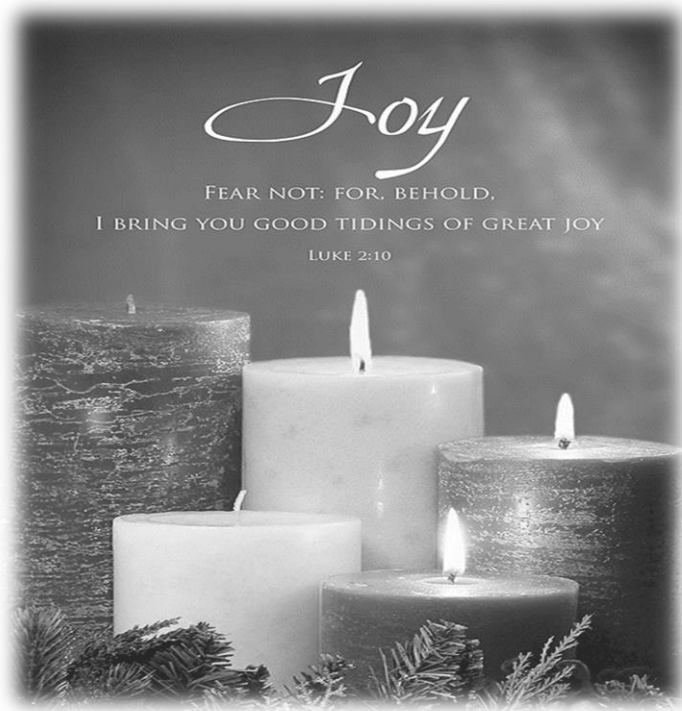


First Christian Reformed Church

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Fulton, IL 61252

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*Growing Closer to God
Through Service & Love*

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Website: www.FultonFirstCRC.com

Facebook: Fulton 1st Christian Reformed Church

First CRC Fulton
December 17, 2023 - 9:00am
Advent Week 3: Joy - The Women of Christmas: Mary

We Gather in Praise and Worship

Prelude: What a Glorious Night

Welcome

Announcements

Call To Worship:

God's Greeting:

Mutual Greeting

Lighting of the 3rd Advent Candle - Joy

Worship Through Song:

Angels We Have Heard On High

O Worship The King

You Are Holy

Congregational Prayer

Offering

Offertory: Mary Did You Know

Worship in Song:

Majesty

Jesus Messiah

O Little Town of Bethlehem

We Prepare For & Hear God's Word

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38, 46-56

²⁶In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant

of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

²⁹Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God.

³¹You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

³⁴"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

³⁵he angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷For no word from God will ever fail."

³⁸"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

⁴⁶And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord

⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for he has been mindful

of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.

⁵⁰His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

⁵¹He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;

he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

⁵²He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.

⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful

⁵⁵to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors.”

⁵⁶Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

Sermon: The Women of Christmas: Mary
Prayer

WE DEPART WITH GOD’S BLESSING

Parting Song: Joy to the World

Blessing: Pastor Michael

Announcements

The beautiful poinsettias are in memory of:

Merle & Carol Bielema from the family

Brad Lown from the family

Sid & Myrna Dykstra & Arthur & Eileen Thompson from

Paul & Sheila Thompson

Sebert & Phyllis Dykstra from the family

Elmer & Alberta Vander Eide from the family

Paul & Wilma Ottens & Janet Mathey from the family

Barb & Gene Kessler from the family

John & Vie Atherton from the family

Jake & Florence Balk & Roger Simon from Bonnie Simon

Angela McGinty & Robert Jackson from the family

Ken Balk & Stephanie Balk from Audrey Balk & family

Please send prayer requests to Pastor Michael at mhooke01@gmail.com.

Please send all bulletin information to FirstCRCFulton@live.com by Thursday at 7:00pm.

December Birthdays	
1 Collin Burns	14 Alida Hooker
1 Genevieve Tiesman	18 Brenda Atherton
1 Tucker Smith	21 Sheila Thompson
5 Kelly Dykstra	27 Paige Vander Eide
6 Rollie Vander Eide	27 Ana Ton
9 Brenda Huizenga	28 Matt Smith
9 Jake Smith	28 Rachel Elliot
12 Don Mathey	30 Stacy Stephenson
	31 Ben Smith

December Anniversaries

28 Albert & Gloria Wiebenga

Deacons' News

Please place your offerings in the plates as they are being passed.

Offerings Today: General Fund & Faith Promise

Next Sunday: General Fund & UCSB

Offerings Received 12/10/23

General Fund

Budget: \$2,042.00

Received: \$788.00

Under: \$1,254

Benevolence Fund: \$153.00

Through the end of October, we are approximately \$4,810.47 under budget for General Fund offerings.

Community News

Felix Adler Children's Discovery Center – Enjoy milk and cookies with Santa on Dec 17. The 11th Annual Family New Year's Eve party is on Dec 31st

The Morrison CRC will hold its last official service on Sunday, December 24, 2023 at 8:45 a.m. We are in the process of selling our property to Crossroads Church. Continue to lift this process in prayer as we navigate uncharted waters with sadness, but yet with hope and joy as the Crossroads leadership teams are very excited about the opportunities their new home will offer them.

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece (May 31 - June 11, 2024): Travel by motor coach (7 days) and cruise ship (3 days) to sites connected with Paul's second and third missionary journeys, as well as visit other major sites of biblical, archaeological, and cultural interest. Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading Pauline scholar, hosts this inspirational tour. For more information, contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

Resonate Global Mission is looking for an accountant to serve for 2-3 weeks in Nigeria. You'll be working with our Nigeria Business Manager to update the accounting system to help our mission run more smoothly. This is a great opportunity to use your gifts and skills to join God on mission. Timeframe for serving is flexible. Learn more at www.resonateglobalmission.org/accounting

Christmas Greeting Video from The Banner - Watch a warm year-end video message where Banner editor Shiao Chong explains the impact The Banner has with its journalistic ministry that reaches thousands of people. He

shares Christmas greetings to all readers. View it now!
tinyurl.com/BannerChristmas23

	Today	Next Week
Recorder & Sound	David D	Paul T
Nursery Attendant	Alida H	Amy D
Snack Provider	Gayle D	Brenda A
Server	Roger D	Elders

Weekly Calendar		
Today	Sunday Worship	9:00 am