



Covenant Reformed Church

2805 Fifield Road, Pella, IA 50219

Phone: 641/620-1777

Worship Times: 9:30 am and 6:30 pm

E-mail: covenant@iowatelecom.net

Website: www.covenantpella.org

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Covenant's Media Ministry

In addition to our downloadable internet sermons,
Covenant Radio Ministry can be heard on KCWN 99.9 FM

Our worship services are broadcast live every Sunday at
9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

We also sponsor the Reformed Pulpit heard every weeknight
on KCWN at 8:05 p.m.

Our services can also be heard on KCOB 95.9 FM or 1280 AM
at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday Mornings.

The congregation is requested to be seated at 9:25 am and 6:25 pm
so that they can enjoy the prelude and adopt a
worshipful attitude in preparation for the service.

Although Covenant Reformed Church is equipped with ample nursery capacity for
both infants and toddlers, parents who wish to take their young children to the
sanctuary during worship are welcome to do so. However, if a child becomes
disruptive at any time during the service, parents are urged to remove the child
promptly in order that the congregation may worship undisturbed.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Covenant Reformed Church
or for more information about our church or its ministries,
please contact the pastor or the elder at the door.

For the
Word of God
is living
and powerful.

Hebrews 4:12a NKJV

Covenant Reformed Church

December 11, 2011 AM

To Our Visitors:

We heartily welcome you to our worship service today! In this morning, we will celebrate the Holy Supper of our Lord. While the worship service is open to all, the communion portion is restricted to those who have made public profession of faith or received adult baptism, and are members in good standing in a biblical Protestant church.

Our elders are under biblical obligation to safeguard the purity of the Lord's Table by ensuring that only eligible participants are granted access. Therefore, we ask that all visitors fill out a card as indication of their intent to participate. This card will require you to furnish current church membership information. Please note that in certain cases, the elders may deem it proper to refuse a request. This might happen if it is known that a person is not a member of a church, or not a member in good standing, or if there is insufficient evidence of genuine faith or awareness of the sacredness of the Supper on the part of a visitor. In such an instance, the person will be informed directly by the elders. Please note further that your home church will receive notification from our elders that you communed with us. These steps are intended to help us maintain the purity of the Supper, the unity of the body of Christ, and accountability to our fellow churches.

If you are not eligible to participate in the Supper, we kindly request that you not do so. We also ask that you please refrain your little children from partaking.

Whether or not you are able to participate in the Supper, we are delighted that you are here. And it is our prayer that you will grow in the knowledge of our Lord, as your faith is strengthened by the most necessary means of grace—His Word. If you are not yet a member of any church, or would like to seek membership in our congregation, please let us assist you in finding a home church. If you have recently relocated and are a frequent visitor among us, we encourage you to become a member of our church family since it is biblical that one be a member of a *local* church. These words are conveyed in the spirit of deepest humility and utmost concern for the glory of our God and the good of His church.

Finally, please note that the innermost rings of the wine tray contain (white) grape juice. This exception is in deference to those who cannot drink wine owing to medical reasons.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of our practice, please speak to an elder or the pastor.

Today at Covenant...

Morning Worship Service

9:30 am

Sunday School & Catechism

10:45 am-11:35 am

December offerings are for the Le Mahieus (Wycliffe).

Adult Sunday School

Consequences of Ideas – Council Room

God and Government – Room 106

Parish 5 leaves for the County Care Facility

1:30 pm

Evening Worship Service

6:30 pm

Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-11

Sermon: "Good Tidings"

Choir Rehearsal

7:45 pm

Offerings

(am) Ligonier Ministries / Benevolence

(pm) C.E.A.F. (Christian Education Assistance Fund)

Infant Nursery

(am) Wanda Brand, Darlene Van Hal

(pm) Nikki Hol, Lu Ann Blom

Toddler Nursery

(am) Doug & Lisa Van Gorp, Roberto Worthington

(pm) Libby Te Grotenhuis, John Meinders

Floater: (am) Jenna Horstman (pm) Kyndal Reimer

Enfolding

Brad & Michele Worthington

Greeters

Jerry & Darlene Van Hal

Impromptu Hospitality Hosts

Francis & Marie Schiebout

Librarians

(am) Deb Braafhart, Sharon Fopma, Leah Fopma

(pm) Linda De Jong, Jan Dieleman, Michelle Meinders

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”
Colossians 3:17

Welcome to all who worship with us this morning!

Our service will be led this morning by Rev. Matthew Nuiver from the United Reformed Church of Wellsburg, Iowa.

This morning we will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Prayer Matters

Jerry and Darlene Van Hal want to thank the congregation for their prayers and concern for their son-in-law, Scott Kimm. Scott has finished his first round of chemo and radiation. On December 12 he will undergo colon surgery. Following recovery from surgery, he will have more chemo and radiation. Please continue to keep the family in your prayers.

John Stursma (Parish 1) is recovering in the Pella Hospital following successful surgery there this past Monday night. We pray for a speedy recovery that he may return home soon.

Stuart Kanis (Parish 15) underwent successful hernia surgery on Wednesday, December 7. Both Stuart and Jeanne thank the many members of the congregation for their thoughtful deeds, food, and most of all prayer. They have been very much appreciated and answered by our Heavenly Father.

Sympathy

We express our Christian Sympathy to the Daniel and Kristi Kamerick family (Parish 1) in the death of Kristi's mother, Virginia Collins. She passed away on Thursday, December 1. She was 67 years old.

Council Officers

At the Council Meeting this past Monday night, the following officers were elected: President- Bob Vander Wilt, Vice President- Rich Roose, Clerk- Dennis Van Gorp, Vicar- Doug Van Gorp.

Christmas Program Practice

Three-year-old Sunday School through 8th grade catechism students meet in classrooms after the morning worship service. Teachers will escort classes to the sanctuary for practice.

High School catechism students, choir members, speakers, sound, organist and any others involved with the program, please meet in the sanctuary for Christmas Program practice immediately following the morning worship service. Students will be dismissed at normal time.

MORNING WORSHIP

December 11, 2011

Order of Worship

Prelude	<i>Accompanist, Jan De Zwart</i>
Call to Worship	<i>Isaiah 55:1-3,6</i>
Prayer of Invocation	
*Hymn of Praise #14 (refrain after last stanza only)	<i>“Whole-hearted Thanksgiving to Thee I Will Bring”</i>
*God's Greeting	
Congregational Prayer	
Hymn of Preparation #273	<i>“From out the Depths I Cry”</i> (While the offering for Ligonier Ministries is gathered.)
Scripture Reading & Text: Page 21	<i>Genesis 22:1-19, page 4</i>
Sermon	“The Sacrifice of Promise” page 5
Prayer of Application	
*Hymn of Response #284	<i>“Give Thanks to God, for Good Is He”</i>
Reading of the Communion Formulary - PH, Pages 156-159	
Distribution of the Elements	
Hymn of Response #376	<i>“O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire”</i> (While the offering for Benevolence is gathered.)
*Doxology #493	<i>“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”</i>
*Benediction	
*Postlude	
<i>*Please stand if you are able.</i>	

Genesis 22:1-19

¹ Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² Then He said, "Take now your son, your only *son* Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. ⁵ And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad^[a] and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you." ⁶ So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid *it* on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. ⁷ But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸ And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. ⁹ Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. ¹⁰ And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." ¹² And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only *son*, from Me." ¹³ Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind *him was* a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide;^[b] as it is said *to this day*, "In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided." ¹⁵ Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, ¹⁶ and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only *son*— ¹⁷ blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. ¹⁸ In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice." ¹⁹ So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

The Sacrifice of Promise

Scripture Reading & Text: Genesis 22:1-19, Page 4

Theme: The Lord Tests the Faith of Abraham Concerning His Promise Through Sacrifice

I. Dependence (1-8)

II. Deliverance (9-14)

III. Declaration (15-19)