

*F*or the  
Word of God  
is living  
and powerful.

Hebrews 4:12a NKJV

Covenant Reformed Church  
January 3, 2010 PM

## EVENING WORSHIP

January 3, 2010

### Order of Worship

- Prelude *Accompanist, Jan De Zwart*
- Call to Worship *Psalm 35:5-9*
- Prayer of Invocation
- \*Hymn of Praise #**170** *“Almighty God, Thy Lofty Throne”*
- \*God’s Greeting
- \*Nicene Creed - **PH, inside front cover**
- \*Gloria Patri #**491** *“Glory Be to the Father”  
(unannounced)*
- Congregational Prayer
- \*Hymn of Preparation #**446:1-3** *“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”*
- Scripture Reading *John 14:15-31*
- Text - **PH, Page 85** *Belgic Confession, Article 33*
- Sermon *“Channels of Indispensable Blessings (Part 1)” page 4*
- Prayer of Application
- \*Hymn of Dedication #**314** *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*
- Offertory *The offering is for Christian Education Assistance Fund*
- \*Doxology #**488** *“Now Blessed Be Jehovah God”  
(unannounced)*
- \*Benediction
- \*Postlude
- \*Please stand if you are able.

## **Welcome to all who worship with us this evening!**

Our service will be led tonight by our pastor, Rev. Patrick Edouard.

### **Prayer Matters**

#### **Illness**

Verlan Van Gorp (Parish 8) has begun to respond positively to the treatments he is receiving at Iowa City. He had hoped to return home yesterday, Lord willing. We pray that the Lord will bless those treatments, and restore His servant's strength.

We are grateful to the Lord for granting John Vande Haar (Paish 11) a successful knee surgery this past Wednesday, at Mercy Hospital.

Peter Rus (Parish 9) remains in the Skilled Care section of the Pella hospital, where he is receiving physical therapy for a recent hip surgery.

#### **Birthdays**

We wish God's blessings to Conrad De Vries (Parish 15) who will be 102 on January 6. His address is 404 Jefferson, Pella.

We also wish birthday blessing to Vernon Menninga (Parish 15) who will be 83 on January 9. His address is 911 Liberty, Pella.

#### **Sympathy**

We express our Christian sympathy to Wilma Den Besten (Parish 8) and Timothy Den Besten (Parish 8) in the death of Wilma's husband and Timothy father, Harold Den Besten, on Friday, December 25. The funeral was held last Tuesday at Van Dyke-Duven Funeral Home in Pella.

#### **The Gift of New Life**

We rejoice with Mike and Tara Fransman (Parish 7) in the birth of a healthy son, Levi Michael, on Monday, December 28.

#### **New Members**

As a congregation, we welcome into our fellowship (Parish 10) Mr. and Mrs. Steven and Judy Farwell and daughter Emma. They come to us from the Palos Heights Christian Reformed Church of Palos Heights, Illinois. We know that our Heavenly Father will strengthen us as He uses their gifts among us. They will be formally welcomed at a later date.

#### **Membership Transfer**

The membership of Mr. Dan Van Rees has been dismissed so that he might affiliate with the Otley Reformed Church (RCA). We pray that he and his new church home will be used to advance the cause of Christ.

## *Channels of Indispensable Blessings (Part 1)*

Scripture Reading: *John 14:15-31*

Text: *Belgic Confession, Article 33*

Our gracious Lord institutes the sacraments for our establishment:

I. Their spiritual nature; and

II. Their spiritual nurture

*Tonight at Covenant...*

Evening Worship Service

6:30 pm

**Offering**

CEAF

**Infant Nursery:** Marie Schiebout, Delores Rus  
**Toddler Nursery:** Wanda Brand, Meghan Parman  
**Floater:** Karen Parman

**Enfolding**

Bruce & Marla Schiebout

**Greeters**

Harold & Carolyn Vos

**Librarians**

Denise Ver Meer, Darlene Van Hal, Linda De Jong

## Explanation of Our Worship

This brief explanation is intended to help explain the rationale for our mode of worship. In our day, it is customary to classify worship as "traditional" or "contemporary." Since the God we are worshipping is timeless, we avoid such time-bound references to characterize His worship. We prefer to call our worship "biblical."

While worship is the highlight of our week, indeed of our lives, and while it reunites us with our church family, the focus of worship is not on ourselves, but on God. There are two fundamental principles involved in biblical worship: (1) Worship is governed by what God has revealed about Himself in His Word. A corollary is that worship is to be in accord with what He has prescribed as acceptable worship. (2) Worship is a dialogue between God and His covenant people. So defined, worship is a communication. In this communication God speaks to us through His Word and we respond to Him either in prayer or in singing. Every aspect of worship must have a biblical reason and a biblical defense. It is of utmost importance that we assume a reverential posture in the presence of God.

The Consistory supervises and is responsible for every aspect of our worship service. The pastor, or guest pastor, leads us in worship, under the authority of the Consistory.

The songs we sing are chosen primarily for their theology or biblical accuracy. Biblical worship is aware of the importance of music to God, and has always appreciated melody, harmony, and rhythm. But all of that is secondary to a higher, primary concern: faithfulness to Scripture. Our songs are intended to complement, support, and apply the theme of the message.

1. *Call to Worship*: The Lord officially summons us to worship Him. This is usually done with the reading of an appropriate Scripture passage.
2. *Prayer of Invocation*: We call upon the Lord to assist and prepare us for the solemn task of worshipping Him; that our worship would be acceptable to Him.
3. *Hymn of Praise*: We extol the Lord in singing.
4. *God's greeting*: God welcomes us in His house of worship, and greets with His "Grace, Peace, and Mercy."
5. *Reading of the Law*: Here we hear God's law proclaimed to us. The Law is normative for our lives and reveals God's will for Christian living.
6. *Hymn of Confession*: In acknowledgement of our failure to keep the Law, we implore the Lord's mercy, or sing of His mercy. In some cases, a song of gratitude may also be sung at this point.
7. *Assurance of Pardon*: In response to our song of penitence, the Lord responds with the assurance that our sins are forgiven in Christ, wholly by grace.
8. *Congregational Prayer*: Here, the worship leader addresses the Lord with the petitions of the congregation. Prayer is often composed of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication, or ACTS.
9. *Hymn of Preparation*: This song prepares us to hear the word of God, often anticipating the theme of the sermon.
10. *Sermon*: This is the center of the worship service. It is not because we place a premium on oration or human eloquence. It is because at this point the Lord speaks to His people, through His word and servant. The purpose of a sermon is to focus on Christ and His finished work. The desired response is *never* "what a preacher," but *always* "what a Savior!"
11. *Hymn of Response*: We respond with appropriate singing, again emphasizing the theme of the sermon.
12. *Offerings*: This is an offering to the Lord, usually for a cause we support.
13. *Doxology*: This is a song in which we celebrate the glory and supreme majesty of God, while accentuating our complete dependence on Him and His goodness to us.
14. *Benediction*: The worship service is officially over. The Lord dismisses us with His blessing.

If you have any further questions about our church or ministries, please do not hesitate to contact one of our elders or the Pastor. 6

Dear Visitor,  
We heartily welcome you.  
The Lord will richly bless you,  
and avail ourselves to help  
us more aware of your presence.  
Please take a moment to fill out this card.

### Name

- Mr.  
 Mrs.  
 Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

I am currently a member of \_\_\_\_\_

### Future Contact

- I live in the area,  
 I live in the area,  
 I am just passing through,  
 I just moved here,  
 I would like a visit,  
 I would like a visit,  
 I would like to be contacted.

Please let us know if you would like to be contacted.

### Comments:

me you to our worship service today. It is our prayer that the  
s us as we worship Him. In our attempt to get to know you,  
s of your spiritual needs, we have designed this form to make  
your presence, and if desired to establish contact with you.  
ment to fill it out, and drop it in the offering plate.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First)

\_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

) \_\_\_\_\_

member of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

and do not belong to any church.

and belong to a local church.

through town on a visit, business, or vacation.

e and am looking for a church to affiliate with.

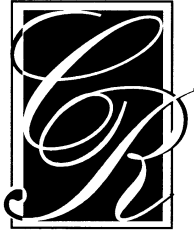
t from the deacons.

t from an elder or the pastor.

tain literature about your church.

in what way we may be of service to you:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



The 2010 budget envelopes will be available for you to pick up on  
Sunday, January 10.  
The Deacons

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### **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](mailto:covenant@iowatelecom.net)

Website: [www.covenantpella.org](http://www.covenantpella.org)

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 1:00pm

### **Pastor: Rev. Patrick Edouard**

Phone: 641/621-1438

E-mail: [edouardness@mchsi.com](mailto:edouardness@mchsi.com)

### **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.

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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.

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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 dis-  
ruptive at any time during the service, parents are urged to remove the child promptly  
in order that the congregation may worship undisturbed.

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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.