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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: Tuesday-Friday : 9:00 am-1:00 pm

### 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  
disruptive 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.

For the  
Word of God  
is living  
and powerful.

Hebrews 4:12a NKJV

Covenant Reformed Church

December 26, 2010 PM

# EVENING WORSHIP

December 26, 2010

## Order of Worship

- Prelude Organist, Laura Rus  
"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"
- Call to Worship Psalm 34:1-3
- Prayer of Invocation
- \*Hymn of Praise #281: 1-2, 9-10 "O Praise Ye the Name of Jehovah"
- \*God's Greeting
- \*Apostles' Creed - **PH, inside front cover**
- \*Gloria Patri #491 "Glory Be to the Father"  
(unannounced)
- Congregational Prayer
- \*Hymn of Preparation #335 "Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus"
- Scripture Reading, Page 1111 Matthew 1:1-17
- Text: Vv. 1, 17
- Sermon "The Beginning of Matthew's Gospel" page 4
- Prayer of Application
- \*Hymn of Dedication #331: 1-4 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
- Offertory The offering is for the Christian Education Assistance Fund (CEAF).  
"O Come, All Ye Faithful"
- \*Doxology #326: 1-2 "Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise"  
(unannounced)
- \*Benediction
- \*Postlude "Angels We Have Heard on High"
- \*Please stand if you are able.

Dear Visitor,

We heartily welcome you to our worship service today. It is our prayer that the Lord will richly bless us as we worship Him. In our attempt to get to know you, and avail ourselves of your spiritual needs, we have designed this form to make us more aware of your presence, and if desired to establish contact with you. Please take a moment to fill it out, and drop it in the offering plate.

### Name

Mr.

Mrs.

Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

(Last)

(First)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone number: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

I am currently a member of:

### Future Contact

I live in the area, and do not belong to any church.

I live in the area and belong to a local church.

I am just passing through town on a visit, business, or vacation.

I just moved here and am looking for a church to affiliate with.

I would like a visit from the deacons.

I would like a visit from an elder or the pastor.

I would like to obtain literature about your church.

Please let us know in what way we may be of service to you:

### Comments:

## 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

"For You are my hope, O Lord God;  
You are my trust from my youth."  
Psalm 71:5

Welcome to all who worship with us this evening!  
Our service will be led this evening by our guest minister,  
Dr. Cornel Venema.

## Birthday

We wish birthday blessings to Peter Rus (Parish 14) who will be 97 years old on December 28. Peter's address is 1333 Hazel Street, Pella.

The Christmas Program has been rescheduled for January 2 following the morning service. Installation of new elders and deacons will take place in the evening D.V.

The elders remind the congregation that as your pastors we are willing to help you with any pastoral needs and concerns. Please call your parish elder. The retiring elders are available for assistance also.

The Wednesday evening Adult Study Group will begin January 5, 2011. Dale Van Donselaar has agreed to lead this group through *The Truth Project*, a DVD series produced by Focus on the Family. Please refer to the Announcement Bulletin for a more complete description of the material. The Adult Education Committee thanks Dale for his willingness to assist with this class.

There will be a Council Meeting at 7:30 pm on Monday, December 27, including newly elected elders and deacons. Elders and Deacons Meetings to follow.

## *The Beginning of Matthew's Gospel*

Scripture Reading : *Matthew 1:1-17, Page 1111*

Text: Vv. 1,17

## *Tonight at Covenant...*

Evening Worship Service

6:30 pm

### Offerings

Christian Education Assistance Fund (CEAF)

#### Infant Nursery

Denise Ver Meer, Rachel De Jong

#### Toddler Nursery

Coretha Rozendaal, Emma Farwell

**Floater:** Jill Van Soelen

#### Enfolding

Bob & Mary Vander Wilt

#### Greeters

Harold & Carolyn Vos

#### Librarians

Linda, Jon, & Elizabeth Verhoef