

“Put your hope in the LORD both now and forevermore.”  
Psalm 131:3

November 30, 2025  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent  
HOPE

## **Order of Worship**

Welcome and Announcements

### We Come to Worship

Opening Prayer

\*Opening Songs ~

CH 244 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

\*Call to Worship ~ Waiting in Hope

Leader: What are you waiting for?

**People: We wait in HOPE for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. But if we HOPE for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.**

Leader: Where is your HOPE?

*Reader: For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to live in this present age while we wait for the blessed HOPE—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

**People: But as for me, I watch in HOPE for the LORD, I wait for God my Savior.**

—adapted from Psalm 33:20; Romans 8:25;  
Titus 2:11–13; Micah 7:7

\*Song of Praise ~ King of Kings

\*God’s Greeting

\*We Greet One Another

Special Music

Advent Candle Lighting

Reader 1: Advent is a time of waiting. We wait in anticipation of Christmas, the celebration of Christ’s birth. We wait in expectation and hope for the day when Christ comes again.

**People: Today, the candle of hope is lit. As we wait, let us be people of hope.**

Reader 2: You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you;  
I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you,  
in a dry and parched land where there is no water.  
Psalm 63:1

Song ~ CH 638 I Need Thee Every Hour

Message for the Children

### We Are Renewed in God’s Grace

Call to Confession ~

Leader: O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.

Prayer of Confession ~

Leader: Lord, we confess that we are not a patient people. So, in anticipation we gather and with expectation we wait.

**People: We gather to watch for the coming of the good news into our world and into our lives. We wait to see the fullness of God’s vision.**

Leader: O God, open the doors to our often hardened hearts, that this year we may have room for the birth of Jesus.

**People: O God, as we marvel over all that you are doing, overwhelm us with so much wonder that words of praise spring forth from our lips!**

Leader: In this time of waiting, let true worship begin in our hearts. “Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,”

(Hebrews 12:28) Let our praises rise up to the heavens and let our celebrations spread new hope over a tired world!

**People: Let us gather together to worship our God and spread His light through Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.**

Song of Response ~

CH 245 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Congregational Prayer

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

God’s Word for Us

\*Song ~ CH 572 Blessed Assurance

Scripture Reading ~ Luke 12:35-40

Message ~ Waiting in Hope

Prayer

\*Song ~ Christ Our Hope In Life and Death

We Depart to Serve

\*God’s Parting Blessing

Leader: As you wait for Christ to return, live as people of hope, and go with God’s blessing. May hope in Christ’s return sustain you, God’s peace saturate the world around you, the joy of the Holy Spirit strengthen you, and the love of the triune God encircle you, in this moment and in all the moments to come. Amen.

\*Closing Song ~ CH 270 v 1 Joy to the World!

**RUDYARD CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
**THE SUNDAY BULLETIN – November 30, 2025**

**Nursery** is provided in the Educational Building for children up to age three.

**Attendants today:** Leah Beelen, Alison Cheney, Quinn Rogers, and Elise Rice

**Next week:** Amber Tuzinowski, Wanda Mitchell, Colleen Rice, and Lincoln Hoolsema

**Junior Worship** is provided in the Educational Building for 3, 4, and 5 year olds not yet in school. They will be dismissed before the morning sermon.

**Helpers today:** Lauren Borowski, Elsie Mitchell, and Emmet Rogers

**Next week:** Natalie Hoolsema, Becky Borowski, and Jessie English

**Sunday School and Catechism** will not meet today.

**Offerings today:** A.M. – General Fund

**Next week:** A.M. – General Fund

A.M. – Building Fund

**2025 Amount Budgeted Weekly for General Fund: \$4338; Building Fund: \$1154.**

**November 23 Offerings:**

**General Fund: \$4353; Building Fund: \$40; Thanksgiving for Salvation Army: \$1398.**

**THIS WEEK – November 30 – December 6**

**MONDAY:**

- Hiawathaland Community Chorus will practice at 6:30 pm.
- **Happy Anniversary** to Ray and Sue VanSloten! 52 years!

**TUESDAY:**

- **Youth Group** will meet at 7:00 pm.

**WEDNESDAY:**

- **Women's Prayer Group** will meet in the Council Room at 10:00 am.
- **Women's Bible Study** will meet at 11:00 in the fellowship room. We are on Lesson 11.
- **Cadets and GEMS** will not meet this week due to Rudyard Jr/Sr High Band Concert.

**THURSDAY:**

- **Happy Birthday** to Jan Essenburg!

## **FAMILY NEWS**

Christmas Trees are available at Tim and Marilyn Hoolsema's and at Rudyard Auto. The cost is \$40 and proceeds go to the Christian School.

### **Advance News:**

~ The Annual Community Christmas Sing-a-long will be held on Sunday, December 7, at 6 pm at the Rudyard Bible Church. If you have an instrumental or vocal piece to share, please be there at 5:30.

~ Hiawathaland Community Chorus Christmas Concert will be held here on Sunday, December 14, at 7 pm. An additional concert will be held on Tuesday, December 16, at 7 pm at St Joseph Catholic Church in Sault Ste Marie.

~ The Rudyard Christian School invites you to stay after Sunday School on December 7 for a Potluck lunch at noon followed by the kids Christmas Program at 1 pm. We hope to see you there!

~ There is another Painting with Bonnie fundraiser for the Christian School on Friday, December 12, at 6:30 pm. Please RSVP to Beth English to reserve your spot.

~ The Cadet Wild Game Dinner will be held on Wednesday, December 17, at 6:30 pm. Bring a hot and cold dish to pass and your own table settings and beverage. Each Cadet can invite 2 people (Dad, Grandpa, Uncle, etc.). If you have any questions, please contact Bob Folkersma.

Please join our prayer team in the prayer room at the front of church every Sunday from 9:00 – 9:20 am as we pray for our church, our Council, and our church family.