

This is how God showed his love among us:  
He sent his one and only Son into the world  
that we might live through him.  
1 John 4:9

December 21, 2025  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
LOVE

## **Order of Worship**

Welcome and Announcements

### We Come to Worship

Opening Prayer

*Reader: You, Lord, are forgiving and good,  
abounding in love to all who call to you. Psalm 86:5*

\*Opening Song ~ CH 92 v1-2 O How I Love Jesus

\*Call to Worship ~ Waiting in LOVE

Leader: What are you waiting for?

**People: May your unfailing LOVE come to me,  
LORD, your salvation, according to your  
promise.**

*Reader: Though the mountains be shaken and the hills  
be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be  
shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says  
the Lord, who has compassion on you.*

Leader: Where is your LOVE?

**People: I love the Lord, for he heard my voice.  
The Lord says to me, "I have LOVED you with an  
everlasting LOVE; I have drawn you with  
unfailing kindness."**

*Reader: We LOVE because he first LOVED us.*

—adapted from Psalm 119:41; Isaiah 54:10; Psalm 116:1;  
Jeremiah 31:3; 1 John 4: 19

\*Song of Praise ~ CH 256 Love Has Come!

\*God's Greeting & We Greet One Another

Special Music

Advent Reading

Reader 1: Advent is a time of waiting.

We wait in hope. (light 1<sup>st</sup> candle)

We wait in peace. (light 2<sup>nd</sup> candle)

We wait in Joy. (light third candle)

Reader 2: As we wait, we are filled with love: love for  
God, love for others, and, yes, love for ourselves. We  
love because God first loved us. God loved you so  
much that God sent his Son, Jesus Christ, into this  
world to save you. Nothing can satisfy our longings  
except God's love.

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

Song ~ CH 196 O Come, Let Us Adore Him

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 Christ, we confess our willingness to be  
loved, but also our reluctance to love.

**People: We confess our readiness to accept your  
forgiving love, but also our refusal to forgive.**

Leader: We confess our eagerness to grasp your offer of  
redeeming love, but also our resistance to follow you  
without question. In this Advent time, forgive us our  
failure to respond as we should.

**People: Come to us anew, and by your grace, help  
us to receive you**

Leader: with joy, with gratitude, with faith and  
obedience,

**People: with love, as you have loved us. Even so,  
come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

Assurance ~ John 3:16-17

Leader: For God so loved the world that he gave his one  
and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not  
perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his  
Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save  
the world through him.

Song of Response ~ CH 79 My Jesus, I Love Thee

Congregational Prayer

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

God's Word for Us

\*Song ~ Fullness of Grace

Scripture Reading ~ Luke 2:1-8

Message ~ No Room

Prayer

\*Song ~ CH 292 v 1, 2, 4, 5 Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

We Depart to Serve

\*God's Parting Blessing

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

## *Celebration of The Lord's Supper*

Zechariah's Song ~ from Luke 1:68-79

Leader: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people.

**People: He has raised up for us a horn of salvation, a mighty Savior, from the house of his servant David.**

Leader: To show the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our father Abraham,

**People: To deliver us from the hand of our enemy, so that we might serve and worship him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our lives.**

Leader: Because of the tender mercy of our God, the Sunrise (of Christ) shall visit us from on high, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet in the way of peace.

Our Profession / The Word Became Flesh ~ John 1:1-5,9, 14.

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

**People: The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

The Institution ~ 1 Corinthians 11:23-29

## Prayer of Consecration – Conclude with the Lord’s Prayer

### The Dedication

Leader: “Oh taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in Him.”

**People: We praise you Father, for sending us your son Jesus, who fills our hearts with the fruit of advent. We offer you our lives as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing in your eyes – our offering of thanks.**

### The Invitation

Leader: All of you who are sorry for your sins and believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and have professed this in a Christian Church, God invites you to take part in this celebration. For those of you who have not yet made this commitment to Christ, God asks that you wait until a time when you are able to profess Him as your Savior.

**People: Come, then, for all is ready. Christ was raised to life, death is swallowed up and victory is won. Alleluia!**

### The Communion

#### Our Thanksgiving

Leader: People of God, since the Lord has fed us at his table, let us praise his holy name with Thanksgiving.

**People: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and riches, wisdom and strength, and honor and glory and blessing. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor, glory and power, forever and ever! Amen**

(Rev. 5:9, 12 & 13)

**RUDYARD CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
**THE SUNDAY BULLETIN – December 21, 2025**

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

**Attendants today:** Eve Cheney, Donell Beelen, Bryce Mitchell, and Jessie English

**Next week:** Lauren Borowski, Natalie Hoolsema, Raya Morley and Tristian 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:** Dana Rogers, Liam Hoolsema, and Elise Rice

**Next week:** Leah Beelen, Quinn Rogers, and Lily Lubben

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

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

**Next week:** A.M. – General Fund

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

**December 14 Offerings:**

**General Fund: \$3821; Milk Can: \$210.98.**

**THIS WEEK – December 21 - 27**

**TODAY:**

- We will celebrate the Lord's Supper during the morning service.
- There will be a Candlelight Service at 6:00 pm.

**WEDNESDAY:**

- **Women's Prayer Group** will meet in the Council Room at 10:00 am.

**THURSDAY**

- **Merry Christmas!** Our Christmas Service will begin at 10:00 am.

## **FAMILY NEWS**

Even though they've worshiped with us for some time now, this morning we would like to officially welcome Jeff & Julie Wallis as members of our church family.

We Praise the Lord for the following young people who made profession of faith before the council this past week: Miriam Beelen, Jenelle Hoolsema, Liam Hoolsema, Bryce Mitchell, Ashlyn Mitchell & Quinn Rogers. They will be professing their faith in church on January 4th.

~ The annual Congregational Meeting will be held after the morning service on Sunday, December 28, where election of Elders and Deacon will take place. The yearly budget will be presented for approval. The nominations for Elder are Bruce Berkompas, Bob Miller, Mike Hoolsema, Nate Beelen, and Ray VanSloten. The nominations for Deacon are Glenn Cheney, John Rogers, Tim Hoolsema, Billy Mitchell, Loren Hoolsema, and Darrel Hoolsema.

~ Monday Craft Day will begin on January 5 at 10:00 am. Bring your project and a sack lunch and join us for this time of fellowship (even if you just want to visit).

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.