

December 22, 2024

*Carmel's mission is to further Christ's Kingdom
through loving God and loving others.*

MORNING WORSHIP (9:30)

Caroling

Ministry in Music: *"Holy" song by the Worship Team*

Welcome

Call to Worship

*Christian Greeting

*Worship Songs: *"Light Of The World (Sing Hallelujah)"
"Behold"*

Invocation

Advent Reading and Lighting of Candle

Congregational Prayer

Hymn: #183 *"O Holy Night!"*
(Offerings for the Property Fund & Missionary Fund)
(Please pass the Guest Registers during this time)

Scripture: 1 John 4:7-12

Message: **"The Gift of Love"**

Closing Hymn: #179 *"What Child Is This?"*

*Benediction

Ministry in Music: *"Make Room" sung by the Worship Team*

Postlude: *Jamie Van Voorst*

(*please stand if you are able)

EVENING WORSHIP: Children's Christmas Program (6:00)

The Christmas Program will be presented this evening by the 4-year-olds-6th Grade Sunday School children. The program begins at 6:00 p.m. An offering will be received for the Sunday School. Please have students at the church by 5:30 p.m. if they have speaking parts and the rest of the students at the church by 5:45 p.m. All students please meet in your Sunday School rooms with your teacher.

Special Note: After the Christmas Program this evening, bags of candy will be handed out to the children. ****For those with peanut allergies, please note that there will be peanuts in the bags****

Welcome to worship. Like Mary and Elizabeth, we share the anticipation of what God is birthing-through Jesus, and in all our lives always. Please join us for refreshments after the morning worship service.

Thank you to *The Worship Team* for their ministry in music this morning; and to the 4-year-olds-6th grade Sunday School students for presenting their Christmas Program this evening.

Guest Register: During the offering this morning, please sign and pass the "Guest" Register down the row. Once it reaches the end and members and guests have signed, please pass it back to the center.

TODAY

10:45 a.m.—**Sunday School**

Preschool-1st grade meet in the music room.

2nd-6th grade meet in the sanctuary.

Sunday School Guide Class meet in the library.

Nursery Attendants: Nikki H., Alyssa K., Ruthie V.B., Akenna S. **Door Attendant:** Kelly. **Ushers:** Eric O. (M), Brian (NE), Adam (SW). **Audio:** Warren. **Video:** Laura. **Power Point:** Barb. **After Service Greeters:** Dan & Mark (M), Shawn (NE), Leon (SW).

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, December 24

Church Office Closes at 12 p.m.

Wednesday, December 25

Church Office Closed

9:30 a.m.—**Christmas Morning Worship**

Door Attendant: Hans Smolders

Ushers: Brad Beukelman (M), Riley Anderson (NE), Eric Ochsendorf (SW)

11:00 a.m.—**Church Reserved**

Thursday, December 26

5:00 p.m.—**Church Reserved**

NEXT SUNDAY, December 29

No Sunday School

No Jr & Sr RCYF

Nursery Attendants: Amy McAlpine, Jo Moget, Karlee Leu-sink, Brody Van Voorst. **Door Attendant:** Jack Soodsma. **Ushers:** Orlin Oostra (M); Marlin Sandbulte (NE); Brad Beukelman (SW). **Refreshments:** Glenda Van Meeteren, Chad Robertson. **Cookies:** Donna Renes, Clarice Van Maanen, Sandi Vonk, Fonda Post, Rachel Terpstra. **Special Music:** Phil Hooyer. **Special Offering:** Christian Care Fund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Uphold in Prayer

Bob Ver Mulm is recovering from surgery on his hip.

Tate Van Essen is in the burn unit at St. Paul.

Harv Sandbulte is recovering from ankle surgery.

Kyle Van Ginkel serving in the army.

Praying for our local congregations: This week please be in prayer for God's blessing for the Peace Lutheran Congregation and Pastor Bill Loeffke.

Please help us to help you: When you have an illness, accident, upcoming surgery, birth or death in the family, or other needs, please notify one of the elders or the church office.

Happy birthday to *Carole Kleyer* who will celebrate her 89th birthday on Monday, December 23.

“Thank you to our Carmel Church family for the support that we, our daughter and sister, Lisa Jasper, have received in the past 15 months. At this point Lisa's cancer numbers are low, she continues oral chemo medication daily with side effects that vary from day to day. Cancer is a journey that no one wants to go on, but every card and prayer is appreciated more than you will ever know. Please continue being “prayer warriors” for those affected by this dreadful disease.”

God's Blessings in 2025!
Shawn & Lisa Jasper & family
Ken & Linda Altena
Mark & Kristi Van Voorst

The church office will be open until 12:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, December 24 and will be closed Christmas Day, December 25. The office will be open until 12:00 p.m. on News Year Eve, December 31 and will be closed on News Year Day, January 1.

Pastor Ron and Karen will be gone on vacation from December 30-January 6. Pastor Ron will be back in the office on Tuesday, January 7. If you need any assistance during this time please contact and elder.

Following this Christmas season a couple of the church's Christmas trees will be available as they are being replaced with new trees. If anyone is interested in these, please speak to Nikki Hulstein or Whitney Van Essen.

There will be no Sunday School, no Jr. RCYF, and no Sr. RCYF next Sunday, December 29.

22:6 Group has frozen sweet corn available for purchase. \$10/bag. The freezer is located in the education wing by the side door. Please pay for corn when you pick it up.

Articles for the *HIGHLIGHTS* are due TODAY!

At the December consistory meeting a project was approved to replace the current 15 passenger van and to purchase an additional 15 passenger van. The current van is at a point where it needs to be replaced and as we assessed our needs it became evident that an additional van would be a great benefit to our church organizations, especially our youth groups. The total amount of this project will total \$125,000.00. If you desire to give to this project, please note "Van Project" in your check memo. The second offering on January 19, 2025, will go towards this project. Thanks for your support!

Bible reading plan 2025 - If you would like to participate in a Bible reading plan together as a church, there are two ways to participate. If you would like to join with an interactive app, you can scan the QR code with the device you would like to use. If you would rather participate using printed materials, please use the sign up form on the coffee table in the Fellowship Hall. If you choose the printed materials, please sign up soon so we can have those ready for you by the end of the year. The deadline to sign up for a paper copy is TODAY!



Come enjoy a Dueling Piano Show on Thursday, January 9 at The District in Sioux Falls featuring Andy and Ryno! This is the perfect event to enjoy some great music requested by the audience, spend a night with your friends, and support Hope Haven! Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the show begins at 8:00 p.m. Purchase tickets at: hopehaven.org/events