

DECEMBER 14, 2025
THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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

MORNING WORSHIP (9:30)

Prelude: *Jamie Van Voorst*

Welcome

Call to Worship

*Christian Greeting

*Worship Hymns: **#173** "*Joy to the World*"
"*Light of the World*"

*Invocation

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Ministry in Music: *Adam Nibbelink, Shelly Robyn, Nate Van
Otterloo, Beau Van Voorst*

Congregational Prayer

Song: "*Make Room*"
(Offerings for the General Fund & Christian Care Fund)
(Please pass the Guest Registers during this time)

Scripture: Jude 1

Message: **"Joy? Or Joy!"**

Video: "*Thank You*"

*Closing Hymn: **#174** "*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*"

*Benediction

Postlude: *Jamie Van Voorst*

*(*please stand if you are able)*

Song sheets are available for those who are unable to see the screen.

EVENING WORSHIP (6:30)

Prelude: *Jamie Van Voorst*

Welcome

Call to Worship

*Worship Hymns: **#69** "*Great Is the Lord*"
#433 "*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*"

Invocation

Responsive Reading: *A Call to Bless God*

Congregational Prayer

*Hymn: **#607** "*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*"

Scripture: Romans 1:18-32

Message: **"The Good and Beautiful Life"**

*Hymn: **#33** "*How Great Thou Art*"

*Benediction

Postlude: *Jamie Van Voorst*

*(*please stand if you are able)*

The time draws near to celebrate our Savior's birth! Welcome to worship, which is part of our preparation. It's good to be here together. Please join us for refreshments after the morning worship service.

A warm welcome to Stacy Jasper as he leads our morning worship service and to Pastor Doug Van Aartsen as he leads our evening worship service.

Thank you to *Adam Nibbelink, Shelly Robyn, Nate Van Otterloo, and Beau Van Voorst* for their ministry in music.

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

All Preschool-6th Grade students please meet in the Sanctuary when the bell rings. We will be practicing for the Christmas Program.

Sunday School Guide Class meets in the library.

4:15 p.m. – SR RCYF

Meet at church at 4:15 p.m. We will be going to the Ranschau gym (3469 Dogwood Ave, Rock Valley, IA) for our Christmas party! We will be back at church by 7:45 p.m.!

6:00-7:30 p.m. - JR RCYF

Wear festive clothes and bring a friend!

8:00 p.m. -Homebuilders

Nursery Attendants: Edan B., Morgan H., Aniya R., Kierra W. **Door Attendant:** Wayne. **Ushers:** Eric O. (M), Orlin O. (NE), Mitch N. (SW). **Refreshments:** Jami S., Aubrey V.K. **Audio:** Dan. **Video:** Dale. **Power Point:** Tonia. **After Service Greeters:** Shawn & Leon (M), Brian Renes (NE), Dennis (SW).

THIS WEEK

Monday, December 15

7:00 p.m. – Congregational Meeting

We will be electing two elders and two deacons to serve three year terms on the Consistory.

The nominees (in alphabetical order) are: Elders - Phil Hooyer, Loren Punt, Henry Sandbulte, and Verlyn Van Regenmorter; Deacons - Greg De Wit, Mitch Nettinga, Sean Robinson, and Chris Van Essen.

The JR RCYF will provide free babysitting during the meeting. Infants-3 years old will be cared for in the nursery. Children 4+ will be in the Sr. RCYF room for games and movies.

The JR RCYF will sponsor an **Ice Cream Social** following the Congregational Meeting for a **freewill donation**.

Wednesday, December 17

6:00-8:30 p.m. - Cadets Christmas Party at Van Essen's Shop

7:00-9:00 p.m. – Diamonds Ministry presents: *Adore Him-A*

Christmas Reflection Experience

Come and go experience designed to help you pause, reflect, and refocus your heart on the true reason we celebrate Christmas: Jesus Christ.

Saturday, December 20

Church Reserved

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

**Sunday School Christmas Program at 6:30 p.m. (note time)
no JR RCYF, no SR RCYF**

Nursery Attendants: Hannah Smolders, Rachel Van Roekel, Alydia Sandbulte, Hannah Van Roekel. **Door Attendant:** Gene Sandbulte.
Ushers: Brad Oostra (M), Todd Noteboom (NE), Brady Punt (SW).
Refreshments: Glenda Van Meeteren, Denny De Jong. **Cookies:**
Rachel Van Roekel, Amy McAlpine, Glenda Van Meeteren, Carmen Maassen, Amy Rozeboom. **Special Music:** Worship Team. **Special Offering:** Property Fund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Uphold in Prayer

Vicki Fischer will be going to the neurological center for an EEG
Monday, December 15.

Scott Fischer is recovering from surgery to remove cancer cells.

Derek Vande Zandschulp will have surgery to remove more kidney
stones on Tuesday, December 16.

Russ Vande Vegte is recovering from surgery.

David Vander Zwaag is on stronger antibiotics for the infection in his
ankle.

Beth Te Grotenhuis is receiving chemotherapy.

Ashley Vande Vegte is receiving chemotherapy.

Sue Noteboom continues to see progress in her strength and mobility.

Middleburg Free Grace Church as they continue to look for a Pastor.

Praying for our local congregations: This week please be in prayer
for God's blessing for the Christ the King Catholic Congregation and
Father Mauro Sanchez.

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.

Our sympathies to *Scott & Erika Van Kekerix* on the death of
Erika's mother, *Twillia Hoekstra*, who passed Thursday, December 4.
May God grant peace and comfort to Scott & Erika and family,
Brayton & Juliana Van Kekerix and family, and Kendrick & Aubrey
Van Kekerix and family.

Happy anniversary to *Ken & Linda Altena* who will celebrate
their 57th wedding anniversary Thursday, December 18.

"As a family we would like to give a big thank you to our
Carmel Church family. December 15 will be a day that we will never
forget. Tate has proven to be the most resilient little boy. After his
accident we never knew the ride we were going to be taken on. And
the ups and downs that we would have to face. As we close up on a
year we want to let you all know how appreciative and blessed we are
to be apart of the family of God and Carmel Church. After the service
there will be cupcakes as a small Thank You for all the prayers, food,
cards, hugs, words of encouragement and so much more that we have
received over the last year.

-Chris, Whitney, Koston, Tate, Baylor and Jayce Van Essen

"Thank you for all the prayers during and after Scott's surgery.
They got the cancer removed!"

-Scott & Vicki Fischer

In recent ballot changes, if you have cast your vote for the
previous ballot you will need to revoke. Absentee ballots are available
at the church office and any shut-ins wanting an absentee ballot please
contact the church office.

All Preschool-6th Grade students please meet in the Sanctuary
when the bell rings after the church service to practice for the
Christmas Program on December 14 and December 21.

Anyone, **Kindergarten-12th grade students**, who would like
to play a musical Christmas piece for the prelude (while everyone is
finding their seats) on the evening of December 21st for the Sunday
School Christmas Program please contact Donna Renes.

Plan to come early to church on Sunday, December 21. The
Praise team will lead us in singing Christmas Carols from 9:00-9:30
a.m. Come and make a joyful noise!

The Sunday School Christmas Program will be Sunday evening, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. (**note time**). Please have students arrive at 6:15 p.m. and meet in their classrooms with their teachers.

ALL Carmel Groups (GEMS, Diamonds, Cadets, The Bridge, Homebuilders, Women's Life, JR & SR RCYF, etc...) MUST hand in their January events/calendars to the church office by Sunday, December 21!

Articles for the January *HIGHLIGHTS* are due Sunday, December 21.

Carmel GEMS has updated the card rack! Check out the new Christmas Card selections and other options! All cards are priced on the back of the card/package! Please put payment in the little black box! Carmel GEMS pray you all have a blessed Thanksgiving! Thank you for your love and support!

SHARE Group for widows and widowers will meet Thursday, December 18 at 11:30 a.m. at the Hull Pizza Ranch.

The Sioux County Oratorio Chorus is about to kick off a new season, and all are invited to sing! Rehearsals will be held on Tuesdays from 7:30-9:30 p.m., beginning January 6, in the choir room at Northwestern College. This season we will sing the well-loved Handel's *Messiah*, featuring professional soloists and orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Thomas Holm. Our concert will be held on Saturday, April 25 at Northwestern's Christ Chapel. Contact Mike Ochsner at mkchsnr@gmail.com with any questions.

TAKE & BAKE PIZZAS AVAILABLE

Cadets have some Take & Bake Pizzas available for purchase in the Kitchen Freezer. They are \$12 per pizza, please put your money in the box on the counter by the stove marked Cadet's Take & Bake Pizza.

Pepperoni
Bronco

PIGS-IN-THE-BLANKET

Pigs-in-the-blanket are available in the freezer in the Moses Room. They are **\$15 per dozen**. Sign the sheet on the counter and put your money in the box.

Please do NOT take pigs unless they are paid for.

ONLINE GIVING

Supporting our ministry is now easier than ever! You can give safely and securely through our online giving platform.

Visit carmelchurch.org.

Thank you for your faithful generosity!

GENERAL FUND GIVING: Offering: \$4,974.00

Fiscal YTD General Fund offering: \$32,706.09