

December 13, 2020



The ARC Ministry Staff

Lead Pastor – Kevin Van Wyk
Equipping Adults Pastor – Doug Shotsky
Equipping Youth Director – Jessa Ter Beest
Equipping Children & Families Director – Adrea Daane
Office Administrator – Megan Vande Zande

N3697 County Road EE
Waupun, WI 53963
920.346.5505

office@altoreformedchurch.org
www.altoreformedchurch.org

We Approach God

Welcome & Announcements

Advent – Joy

Praise Singing

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful” Hymn #133

*“Glory in the Highest” Hymn #162 vs. 1-3

Congregational Prayer

*“Joy to the World” Hymn #135

We Hear God’s Word

Message – Discipleship Essentials: Justification

Scripture – Romans 3:21-31 and Luke 2:8-14

We Respond to God

Prayer

“Angels from the Realms of Glory with Emmanuel”

Blessing

**songs played at both 8am & 10am services*



FOUR GIFTS

Grace.Redemption.Justification.Adoption

Nov. 29-Dec. 20 - Based on Discipleship Essentials: (Chapters 10-14)

Sermon Notes: Justification (Understanding the Message of Christ)

Key Scriptures: Romans 3:21-31, & Luke 2:8-14

Grace, [5485](#) (*xáris*) properly is...used of the Lord's *favor* – freely *extended to give Himself away* to people (because He is "always leaning toward them").

CONNECTING THE PIECES

- By God's **Grace** - He Came and Gave Himself Away
- To pay the price for our sins on the cross - We are **Redeemed**.
- And Because the Price has been paid (Because we've been redeemed). We are **Justified** - Declared Righteous
- Because we are declared righteous we have **Joy** because we were once in bondage to sin, condemned to an eternity in Hell worse than we could ever imagine, but now we are guaranteed an eternal life greater than we can imagine with our creator...if we have faith in Jesus.

JUSTIFICATION:

1. It's not just that we're NOT GUILTY, it's that we're literally declared righteous in the same way that God is righteous!
2. We're Justified by faith alone (Sola Fide), not by works! (Romans 5:1)

JOY

Luke 2:10 - But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news Romans 5:18-19 - 18

Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. 19 For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

Application:

Answer 3 Questions:

1. Do I really I am justified by faith alone?
2. Do I think that my works justify me, or are my good works in response to being justified?
3. Have I accepted Jesus' payment for my sins?

ACTIONS: Read Romans Chapters 1-6 this week!

Upcoming Events

- Dec 13** 8:00am – Pastor Doug
 9:00am – Sunday School
 10:00am – Pastor Doug
 6:30pm – Middle School Youth Group
 7:00pm – Caroling
- Dec 15** 8:00am – Prayer Meeting
- Dec 16** 6:30pm – Women’s Bible Study
 7:30pm – High School Youth Group
- Dec 20** 8:00am – Pastor Kevin
 9:00am – Sunday School
 10:00am – Pastor Kevin, Mixed Choir
 7:00pm – Sunday School Christmas Program Premiere

Youth News

Middle School – Tonight everyone is invited to go caroling around Alto with us at 7pm (after the Packer game). We should be done around 8pm. If you have Christmas cookies or candy to share, please bring them to church at 6:30 so they can be plated for our neighbors.

High School – Wednesday is our Christmas party! We’ll celebrate Jesus’ birth with a birthday cake, reading the Christmas story, and other food and games! See you at 7:30!

Christmas Card Distribution – The youth group students will have a table set up for Christmas gifts and cards through Dec 27th. We will pass your addressed Christmas cards (first and last names if possible) out to the correct church mailboxes - all we ask is that you donate the money you would have spent on stamps to the youth group in the box on the table. If you are giving cards to any of the shut-ins, we ask that you mail those to them this year since we don’t have people delivering media to the nursing homes at this time. Thank you so much for your support!

Opportunities to Get Involved

Sunday School Christmas Program – Join us December 20th for our premiere showings of our SS Christmas program. This year things look a little different, but we are doing our best to highlight our kiddos and spread the joy and meaning of this wonderful time of year as best we can! This year’s program will be a virtual option. Here are your opportunities for watching:

1. Join us at the church for a livestream event. We’ll be opening up the church at 6:30pm for a time of fellowship and refreshments. We will then meet in the sanctuary as a group and watch the virtual program together starting at 7pm.
2. Watch the program from the comfort of your own couch. The program will be premiered on Facebook at 7pm on the 20th.
3. Can't make either of these options work? The program will still be available on our Facebook page after the premiere takes place.

If for any reason you have trouble with any of these options, please feel free to reach out to me and I will help make viewing this program possible. Thank you for your support for our kids!!

**If anyone is willing to donate bars or cookies for the event on the night of the 20th please respond to Adrea for planning purposes. Thank you in advance for anyone willing to contribute!!

Support Our Police & Fire Departments – The Outreach Team would like to show our support to the Waupun Police and Fire Departments, and to the Alto Fire Department by giving them some cards of personal encouragement and some Christmas treats! We are asking that members of the congregation bring any baked Christmas treats or written cards of encouragement to the church by Sunday, December 20th and we will distribute them the following week. Please leave the baked goods and cards in the hospitality kitchen across from the office. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Doug.

Bulletin Board News

Offering may be placed in one of the three white offering boxes located in the lobby. December benevolent schedule: 12/13 Camp Manitoqua Mission Trip, 12/20 Words of Hope, 12/27 eCenter for Hope & Vision.

The eCenter for Hope & Vision is an organization that offers low vision rehabilitation counseling, pastoral care, training for vision accessibility that is directed by Gregg Pusateri. On December 20th, Pastor Gregg will be joining us for both morning services to explain this organization. He will also be available in the youth room to share more during the Sunday School hour. The December 27th benevolent offering will support eCenter for Hope & Vision. Visit the website echv.org for additional information.

Love Offering – This year's recipient is Mark Vossekuil. A second offering will be collected each week in Sunday school class (parents, please explain to your children that one offering goes in the regular offering and the other should be given to a Sunday school teacher). You may also donate by placing your offering in a labeled envelope in one of the white, locked offering boxes through December 24th.

Offering Envelopes are ready to be picked up from the table in the lobby.

Congrats to Margaret Hoekstra as she celebrates her 87th birthday on December 16th.

Christmas Carol Sing – In the best interests of the performers and guests, the difficult decision was made that this year's Christmas Carol Sing at First Reformed Church, Waupun, will be a virtual program. A DVD and CD of the program, along with video postings on First Reformed's Facebook page and website at firstreformedwaupun.com will be available on Sunday, December 13th. In past years, a freewill offering was collected for various local community programs. This year, please consider making a donation to the Waupun Area Food Pantry, which supports local community members in need, particularly during these uncertain times. Checks can be sent to: Waupun Area Food Pantry; 12 S. Mill Street; Waupun, WI 53963.

P - praise R - repent A - ask Y – yield

Praise: We praise you, Lord, for the healing you've brought thus far to those listed below. We rejoice in your power to heal and your compassion to see us through.

Repent: Lord, we confess that we take healing for granted and lack faith to pray boldly for miracles. Forgive us for doubting your power and love.

Ask: Father, give us a greater hunger for Your Word, a clearer vision for the future, and a stronger will to go wherever You lead. •May our community, nation and world find hope in Jesus as we obey Your call. •Grant us wisdom and discernment as the church evaluates affiliating with a new denomination. •Pour down Your peace, healing, and protection on teachers, parents, healthcare workers, and those listed below.

Yield: We surrender to Your plans and commit ourselves to obey Your Word each day. Amen.

THIS WEEK... Pray for Don DeMotts as he has hip replacement surgery on Tuesday. Pray for Bette Walstra as she recovers from double knee replacement surgery.

Healing: Friends and family with cancer, undergoing treatment, hospitalized, recovering from surgery or illness: Harlan Bossenbroek, Josie Buiter, Paul Elenius, Vance Elzinga, Alvin Harmsen, Sharon Harmsen, Dan Hopp, Dave Rumley, Rollie Schroeder, Dale Schultz, Azyrah Ter Beest, Bryan Ter Beest, Brysen Ter Beest, Carl VanderKooi, Jake Vande Zande, Ron Vande Zande, Mark Vossekuil, and Silas Willey.

Military Personnel:

Aaron Zeatlow, stationed in New Mexico; Sebastian Hoenisch, stationed in the Middle East, grandson of Larry & Gloria Mulder; Mitch Miller, (former youth group student) Marine deployed to the Middle East; Jim Hopp, a Marine stationed in Hawaii; and for the leaders of our country and the troops stationed overseas.

Shut-ins: Members in assisted living, nursing homes or those confined to their home: **Anchor Communities (Brandon):** Dale Kastein **Barrett House:** Lowell Glewen **Christian Home:** Gladys Kastein, Helen Straks, Junice Vande Zande, Warren & Kay Vande Zande **Evergreen:** Glen Loomans **Home:** Margaret Hoekstra, Dayton Ter Beest **Maple Meadows:** Arlene Henning **Marvin's Manor:** Eleanor Loomans **The Meadows:** Donna Kastein

Missionaries: Bob Abel – Remember Nhu, Steve & Amanda Bialy – Converge, Chris Briggs – CCCD, Mandy Kimes – His House Christian Fellowship, Andy Lickel – InterVarsity, Jersey & Preston Sheldon – Overland Missions, Randy & Wanda Potratz – SIM, Scott Ritzema – Youth for Christ