

The background features a close-up of a pine tree branch with vibrant green needles and a small, light-colored pine cone. The scene is set against a dark teal backdrop with a subtle, falling snow effect. A large, semi-transparent, dark teal letter 'X' is overlaid on the image, serving as a design element.

# *Peace*

December 18, 2022

## We Approach God

Welcome & Announcements

Advent Reading – Peace

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” Hymn #133 – Mixed Choir

Praise Singing

“The Birthday of a King” Hymn #156

“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks” Hymn #160

“There’s a Song in the Air” Hymn #122

3 Minutes for Missions – Preston & Jersey Sheldon, Overland Missions

Congregational Prayer

*Mixed Choir Cantata – “Messiah: Heaven’s Glory”*

*Directed by Mary Bruins*

*Pianist – Jenny Glewen*

*Narrated by Willy Jansma*

*Sound Tech – Jason Mulder*

“Angels from the Realms of Glory (Emmanuel)”

“Sing Noel Medley *with* Sing We Now of Christmas”

“Messiah with O Come, Let Us Adore Him”

“Silent Night”

“He Shall Reign Forevermore”

“God with Us Medley *with* Silent Night *and* The First Noel”

“What a Beautiful Name”

“Joy to the World! (Emmanuel)”

Prayer

Blessing

## *Upcoming Events*

- Dec 18** 8:30am – Prayer Meeting  
9:30am – Mixed Choir Cantata, 3 Minutes for Missions – Preston & Jersey Sheldon  
10:45am – Sunday School  
6:30pm – Sunday School Christmas Program
- Dec 19** 7:00pm – Women’s Worship Night
- Dec 20** 8:00am – Prayer Meeting
- Dec 23** Office Closed
- Dec 24** 4:00pm – Christmas Eve Service
- Dec 25** 8:30am – Prayer Meeting  
9:30am – Pastor Kevin, Sonshine Singers

To view the church calendar, go to [www.altoreformedchurch.org](http://www.altoreformedchurch.org)

## *Youth News*

**Middle School** – You’re needed at 6pm tonight to greet and open doors for the Kids’ Sunday School Christmas Program! Afterward you can sit with your family or up in the balcony with the youth group.

**High School** – Check with your small group leaders to see if you’ll be meeting with your A-team on Wednesday night. We’ll see you back in the youth room on January 4<sup>th</sup>!

## *Opportunities to Get Involved*

**Sunday School** – Sunday school is available for everyone 3 years old – adult. Preschoolers should meet in the Sunbeamers room. K-5<sup>th</sup> grade should go to the basement for their snack (do not take a snack from upstairs) and singing and then break off into their classrooms. 6<sup>th</sup>-High School should meet in their classrooms. Adults meet in the Consistory room for Sunday School Guide.

**Women’s Worship Night** – Please join us on Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm for a night of worship and prayer as we “make room” for the savior of the world. Not just for celebrating Christmas, but making room in our lives for his presence, salvation, redemption, and peace. We can’t wait to worship with you!

**Sanctuary Prep** – On Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> at 10am-12pm we will be clearing out any moveable items from the sanctuary to prepare for the ceiling renovation project which will begin the following day. If you are able to help, please be here at 10am.

**Women’s Bible Study** – Join us for a bible study on 1 & 2 Peter held on Tuesdays at 9:30am for 11 weeks beginning January 17<sup>th</sup>. Come when you’re available. Signup for the book (cost \$10) at the Information Center by January 8<sup>th</sup>.

## *Bulletin Board News*

**Offering** may be placed in one of the three white offering boxes located in the lobby. Upcoming benevolent schedule: 12/18 WNBC/KLUV Christian Radio, 12/25 Food Pantries, 1/1 Regular Benevolence, 1/8 Missionary Salary. If you feel led to give specifically towards the upcoming ceiling project, please put your check in a separate marked envelope in one of the offering boxes. The deacons are beginning to keep track separately of what has been contributed towards the project, which will be shown on the monthly financial reports. Thank you.

**2023 Offering Envelopes** – Covenant Partners, please take your offering envelopes from the table in the lobby.

**Congrats** to Margaret Hoekstra as she celebrates her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Sunday School Christmas Program** – Join us this evening at 6:30pm as the PreK-5<sup>th</sup> graders present the Christmas program “The Real Story: A Christmas Comedy”. 5<sup>th</sup> graders should arrive by 5:45pm. PreK-4<sup>th</sup> graders should arrive by 6:10pm and meet in the Fellowship Area of the Basement.

**Christmas Card Distribution** goes through Christmas morning. The youth group students will pass your Christmas cards out to the church mailboxes so you don't have to! Just leave them in the white box on the table in the fellowship hall. All we ask is that you'd make a donation to the youth group in the amount you would have spent on stamps. Thanks!

**Cookie/Bar Donations** – We are asking for donations of cookies and bars for the Sunday School Christmas Program. Please check the Information Center for the signup form and more details.

**Love Offering** – This year we will be giving to multiple anonymous recipients. 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 offering boxes through December 24<sup>th</sup>. You can find more info in your church mailbox.

**The Community Table** is in urgent need of church groups, clubs, small groups, or even families to provide a meal on Fridays between 11am – 1pm. Presently, no one is signed up for any Fridays in 2023. Please help us provide this service to our community members. To sign up call Terri Respalje at 324-4000 between 9am – 3pm, Monday - Thursday. For information about numbers to prepare for or any other questions, call Ron Schaalma at 948-8069.

**Christmas Dinner** – You are invited for a free, home-cooked meal at the Wesley Center in Waupun on Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>. A meal will be served at 11:30am and 12:45pm. Please call 928-3310 for reservations and state which time slot you wish to attend.

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

**Praise:** Prince of Peace, we rejoice in your coming to reveal the Father's grace and truth through your life, death and resurrection. We praise you for bringing peace to our hearts.

**Repent:** Forgive us for looking to others to be our source of peace and fulfillment. Use our discontentment, fear, and worry to bring repentance and peace.

**Ask:** We pray that you would intervene in our world and bring your peace... Revive our faith by inspiring us to study your Word and to pray without ceasing. Renew our passion for your mission and help us reach the lost. Heal and strengthen those listed below as they face challenges each day. Guide and lead our national and world leaders to bring justice and peace to all.

**Yield:** Today, in seeking your peace, I will maintain a life of prayer, study your Word, participate in the Lord's supper, gather with believers regularly, use my spiritual gifts and financial resources to further the mission of Jesus through the local church, live a life pleasing to you and accept the spiritual guidance of the church leadership.

**THIS WEEK...** Pray for Joyce Van Buren's daughter, Marcia Hopp. She broke her shoulder about 6 weeks ago. Pray that the blood flow increases to her shoulder so it can heal properly.

**Healing:** Friends and family with cancer, undergoing treatment, hospitalized, recovering from surgery/illness, etc.: Betty Daane, Cal Flegner, Barbara Gordon, Alvin Harmsen, Doris Harmsen, Kevin Harmsen, Sharon Harmsen, Faye Janey, Isabel Kastein, Larry Mulder, Jim Parrish, Dave Rumley, Jean Stelsel, Jodi Vande Berg, Carl VanderKooi, Jake Vande Zande, Ron Vande Zande, and Silas Willey.

### **Military Personnel:**

Aaron Zeatlow, stationed in New Mexico; Sebastian Hoenisch, deployed on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific, grandson of Larry & Gloria Mulder; Mitch Miller, stationed in the South China Sea

**Shut-ins:** Members in assisted living, nursing homes or those confined to their home: **Barrett House:** Lowell Glewen  
**Charleston House:** Brian Hemp  
**Beaver Dam Memory Care:** Cora Hemp  
**Christian Home:** Sharon Harmsen, Dayton TerBeest, Junice Vande Zande, Kay Vande Zande  
**Home:** Margaret Hoekstra, Marion Tolsma, Marilyn Westerveld,  
**Christian Homestead:** Betty Bruins  
**Maple Meadows:** Arlene Henning  
**Marvin's Manor:** Eleanor Loomans  
**Prairie Ridge:** Annice Hopp

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