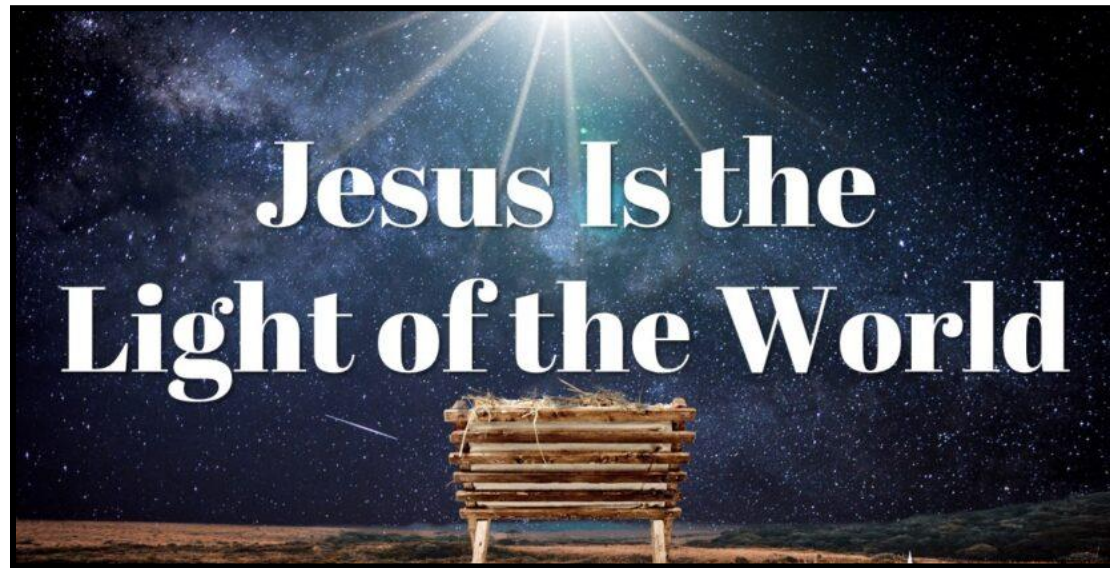


# Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023



## Bethel Christian Reformed Church

521 S. Halleck St., DeMotte, IN 46310

[www.bethelcrcdemotte.org](http://www.bethelcrcdemotte.org)

[bethelcrc@netnitco.net](mailto:bethelcrc@netnitco.net)

**WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP** whether in person or online. We welcome any visitors who have chosen to join us! Please take a welcome mug from the table in the back of church.

Today marks the Fourth Sunday in the Advent season. We are focusing our Advent this year on **Jesus – the light of the world** as we anticipate Christmas and the promise of the coming Christ Child. We long for the light to grow –we long for God to restore and forgive us.

Pastor Laryn Zoerhof will lead our morning worship from Galatians 4:1-7  
“God sent his son – the Light of the World.” Come find peace through the light!

Next week we welcome Pastor Tim Toeset – “Enlightened Heart Eyes” from Ephesians 1:15-23. We rejoice to see God working through us. Come nurture your light and be forgiven!

The children are dismissed for **CHILDREN’S CHURCH** after our time of praise. Please go to the foyer where your teachers will meet you. Children turning 4 years old by Jan. 1st are welcome along with any children parents feel would benefit from this opportunity. Visitors welcome!  
(There will be no Children’s Worship December 24 -- January 7. It will resume on January 14<sup>th</sup>.)

Bethel has made the decision to extend a call to **Pastor Jeremy Oosterhouse**. We invite you to send them an encouraging note as they seek God’s guidance and leading. His email is [joosterhouse@gmail.com](mailto:joosterhouse@gmail.com) and Rachel’s is [rachel.ooms@gmail.com](mailto:rachel.ooms@gmail.com) There address to send snail mail: 12606 S. Menard Ave, Alsip IL 60803. Lift them up in prayer along with Bethel as we seek God’s will.

We will be having a 9:30 am service here at Bethel each week – **Jesus is the Light of the World!** Here is a schedule of opportunities to join with First CRC for their 5pm worship time.

Dec. 17: Candlelight Service and Christmas Dinner

Dec. 24: No PM Service

Christmas Day: Combined Service at First CRC @ 9:30 AM

Dec. 31: No PM Service

### **CHURCH FAMILY: PLEASE CONTINUE TO KEEP IN PRAYER:**

- Carollyn B had her final outpatient procedure this past Tuesday, We pray for a quick healing for her.
- Henry D., Andy & Cheryl, Barb E, Rich K, Ted & Donna, Ruth DV, Carolyn VV Hank VW

### **SERVING TODAY**

Nursery: AM

Children’s Leaders

Piano:

Usher

Greeters

Media Shout

Offering

### **December 17**

Amy and Lyndsy

Mary Brown and Lyndsy

Marla

Steve

Rich & Mary(E), Ron & Sue(S).

Scott

Ministries of Bethel and Rehoboth Christian School

You can continue to give online at [www.bethelcrcdemotte.org](http://www.bethelcrcdemotte.org). Thank you!

### **THIS WEEKS ACTIVITIES**

Tuesday 11:00am Ladies Afternoon Bible Study Brunch

Wednesday 6:15pm GEMS Christmas Party

### **SERVING NEXT WEEK December 24**

Nursery: AM

Children’s Leaders

Piano:

Usher

Greeters

Media Shout

Offering

Rachel and Ashley

Christmas Break

Amy

Jon D

Rich & Mary(E), Ron & Sue(S).

Todd

Ministries of Bethel and Illiana Right to Life

## MORNING WORSHIP

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

In the dawn of God's love, we rejoice in the work God gives us to do.

**People: We have been working to nurture this light, and rejoice to find God working with us.**

Leader: As we celebrate the growing brightness, we are energized for the tasks before us, and we remember the words of the psalmist: (from Psalm 126)

Leader: The candle we light today glows with the joy of our partnership with God. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

We Light the Third Advent Candle!

**People: We have been working to nurture this light, and rejoice to find God working with us. And because of this, we have peace amidst our worries.**

Please Stand as We Sing: "Emmanuel"

\*God's Greeting

\*Mutual Greeting

\*We Continue in Praise:

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

"What Child is This"

Please Be Seated

*Children are dismissed for Children's Worship*

Offering will be received for Ministries of Bethel and Rehoboth Christian School

During the offering we will sing: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" vs. 1,4,5

Morning Prayers

Scripture: Galatians 4:1-7 (pg. 1813)

Sermon: "**God Sent His Son – The Light of the World!**"

Parting Blessing

Closing Song: "Glorious Day"

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LADIES AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY** will meet Tuesday, December 19 at 11:00am for a Christmas Brunch. Don't forget your White Elephant Bingo prizes.

You're invited to a special **CHRISTMAS CAROL NIGHT at American Reformed Church TONIGHT**, December 17 at 5:00 P.M. This will be a festive night of singing along to your favorite Christmas songs while enjoying hot cocoa and cookies! You won't want to miss it! The Christmas Carol Night will be at American Reformed Church: 1021 S. Halleck St., DeMotte, IN (Across from DeMotte Elementary School). We can't wait to see you there!

Coming to our area: **December 17 at 6pm** at Calvary Assembly's sanctuary

Is a "**HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS**" **Virtual Christmas concert featuring Chris Tomlin.**

This is a "Watch" party, where we will enjoy a "sugar bar" (treats) and sounds of the joyous season.

Grab your friends and family and come sing along to your favorite Christmas Classics. It is a free event sponsored by Thrivent Financial. Questions see Donna Martin 219-743-4366

There is a **NEW SNACK SIGN-UP SHEET** on the round table. If you had already signed up for December, please re-sign the sheet. The previous sign-up sheet inadvertently was misplaced. Thank you to all who supplied us with snacks each Sunday morning to go with our coffee/tea in 2023. You are all very much appreciated.

### LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SERVE?

- 1.) The Education Team is looking for a few more people who would be willing to be a **CHILDREN'S WORSHIP TEACHER OR HELPER**. We try to schedule everyone once every 4 to 6 weeks. If interested or want more information, please talk to Dianne DeVries or Mary Buiter.
- 2.) We are greatly in need of a volunteer to serve one Sunday service a month in **SOUND & LIVE-STREAM** and also a volunteer to serve one Sunday service a month on **MEDIA-SHOUT** starting in January. It's not hard to do, we will show you how. Great opportunity to serve the Lord in Worship. Contact Gary. Thanks