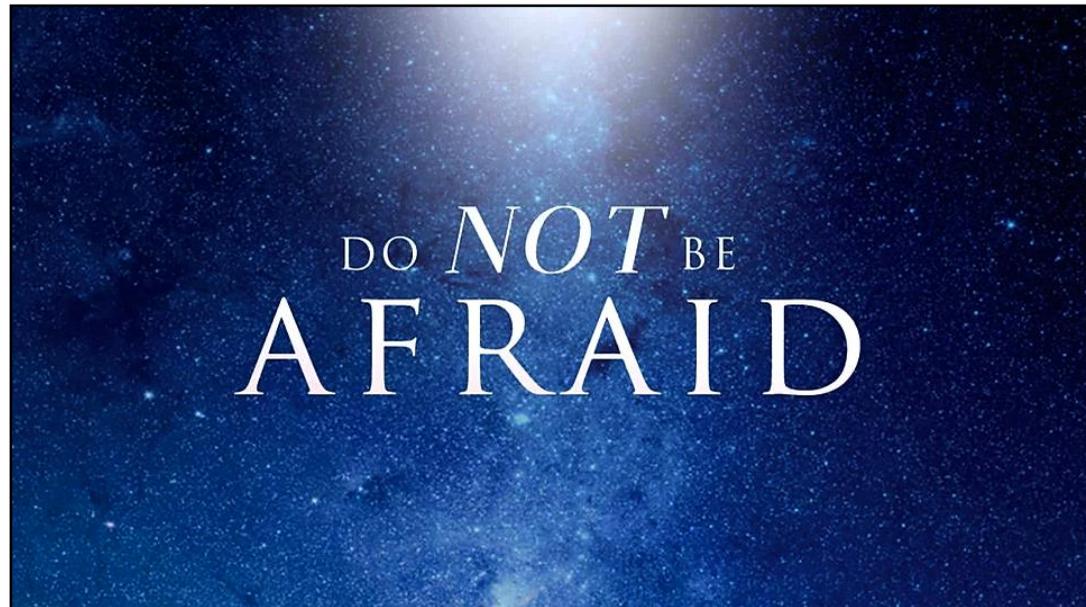


Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 13, 2020



Luke 1:26-45

“The Fear of Change”

Bethel Christian Reformed Church

521 S. Halleck St., DeMotte, IN 46310

www.bethelcrcdemotte.org

We welcome you to worship on this third Sunday in Advent as we prepare our hearts and focus on the coming, the presence, and return of Jesus. Our series this year is: **Do NOT Be Afraid**. This morning Pastor Rick will be preaching from Luke 1:26-45, on the “Fear of Change”.

Our Candlelight/Sunday School Program – “Celebrate the Gift” will be held today during the 5pm Service. The children will sing, but will be spaced apart. We will light candles, but we will remain in our seats during that process, instead of standing shoulder to shoulder around the sanctuary. There will be no snack or refreshment time downstairs following the service this year as there has been in the past. **We look forward to celebrating the gift of Jesus’ birth together!**

MORNING WORSHIP

Come and Worship!

Advent Candle Lighting: We light the Candle of Peace by Daniella & Ava Butchart

Please Stand for: “Go, Tell It On the Mountain”

Responsive Call to Praise

We have heard the story of Jesus Christ with joy and anticipation.

We have come to worship.

We open our hearts to prepare room for his coming.

We have come to worship.

We open our ears to hear the choirs of angels proclaim his holy birth.

We have come to worship.

We open our lives to God’s greater plans for us.

We have come to worship.

Through the grace of God’s Holy Spirit,

We have come to worship Christ, the newborn King.

God’s Greeting

Songs: “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

“Meekness and Majesty”

Prayer of Confession

God’s Good Word of Assurance

Song: “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” – vs.1,2,4,5

Prayers of the People

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26–45

Message: **“The Fear of Change”**

Prayer followed by Parting Blessing

Closing Song: “Benediction Song”

SERVING TODAY

Piano

Usher AM:

Media Shout

Offering

December 13 (pm Candlelight Service)

Amy Dekker

Jr. Dahm

Katie Eenigenburg

Ministries of Bethel and Lift Project



“SHOW ME JESUS” Sunday School and Catechism will meet today and Sunday School will practice for the Candlelight Service. Pick up is at 11:45am. **Catechism** for all 8th – 12th graders will meet with Pastor Rick. All students and teachers are asked to wear a face mask. This is the last week for Sunday School/Catechism before our break. We will resume on January 10th.

SERVING NEXT WEEK December 20

Piano	Marla Vander Molen
Usher AM:	Ryan Schaafsma
Media Shout	Scott VanVlymen
Offering	Ministries of Bethel and Benevolence

No offering will be taken during the service, but offering boxes are available by the sanctuary doors to place your gifts. Also, you can use our online giving at www.bethelcrcdemotte.org. Thank you!

CHURCH FAMILY: please be in prayer for:

- Please be in prayer for Duane VanderWoude. He has been admitted to the hospital because of a severe infection that is now in his left foot. He is currently on antibiotics and testing is being done to look at procedures to suppress these infections. Pray for their effectiveness.
- Please pray also for Rich Buiters. He has been struggling with an infection that has sapped his strength and caused him some pain. He is making some improvements, so is grateful for that.
- Continue to keep Elmer VanderMolen in prayer.
- Pray for those who are struggling with the pandemic in various ways: whether through the personal loss they’ve experienced of a loved one, or the fear and nervousness that a pandemic can instill. Pray for those whose livelihoods have been affected, or who are isolated and have not seen family for a long time. Pray for kindness and understanding amongst each other, as a society, and especially as Christians, when our views and understandings about the pandemic are not in agreement with each other. Pray for God’s protection and blessing.
- Please be in prayer over the polarization in this nation, a polarization that seems to have gained a foothold in so many pockets of life, from politics, to the pandemic and more. The news has shown that a new covid-19 vaccine is being rolled out. Pray that it will indeed be effective with minimal or no side-effects. But more than ever, pray for the ultimate healing that the world needs that comes through the grace and love of Jesus. And pray that the church (the people of God) can continue to live as the church, a people who follow Jesus as Lord and who strive to live in the joy of following him, loving him and loving their neighbor, while being transformed by the Holy Spirit as the fruit of the Holy Spirit take root in our lives.
- Thank you to all of you for the cards and prayers during my recent hip surgery. It is very much appreciated! Suzy Van Schouwen
- I would like to thank all who lifted up prayers for Ruth while she was in the hospital, and to all who showed ways of kindness to our family on her passing. Thanks for cards, meals, words of concern and kindness, it was all greatly appreciated. Marv Peterson & family

AGENDA & MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday	10:40am	Sunday School/Catechism
	5:00pm	Candlelight/Children’s Program
Wednesday	9:30am	Coffee Break

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE BREAK meets on Wednesday’s at 9:30am. This will be our last lesson followed by a luncheon. We will resume again in January. That would be a great time for anyone that has thought about coming to join us. We meet in the large hall downstairs to better comply with social distancing and please wear a face mask.

JR. CADET LEADER: We are in need of someone to help out with the Cadets and serve as a Jr. Cadet counselor. If you are interested, please contact Dan Walstra, as soon as you can. Thank you.

Our congregation is in charge of the **SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS BELL RINGING** at Tysens, for Friday, December 18. **We have 4 time slots left to fill! A sign-up sheet** is on the round table. Please consider signing up for an hour time slot. The money that’s collected in the Salvation Army red buckets is used in Jasper County and in our community as well!

LIBRARY NEWS: Have you checked out the free books yet? We are in the process of revamping the library and will have extra books as well as other items available for free downstairs on a table by the library. Please maintain social distancing while you peruse through the items.

Also, **check out a book rack in the library with all Christmas books for some holiday reading!**

We welcome anyone who might be visiting with us here at Bethel!

In light of worshipping together with the social distancing restrictions still in place, we want to share some of the guidelines we are continuing to follow:

- There will be no greeters at church during this time.
- Usher will be present to help seat. Every other pew has been “cordoned off” by the placement of hymnals and Bibles on the seats.
- We ask and encourage that people adhere to CDC guidelines in terms of washing their hands, not touching their faces, and maintaining social distancing while we are together.
- We encourage if you are sick, have a temperature, or believe you are an “at risk” person, that you stay home and take advantage of the on-line service opportunity.
- In light of the Mask Mandate by Governor Holcomb, we strongly encourage the use of face coverings as you enter and exit the building, however you will not be turned away should you find it difficult to do so. Our number one concern is the health of our church family as we gather in worship, loving our God as well as our neighbor.
- There will not be an official nursery, with people there to watch children. Nursery will remain open in case a diaper needs to be changed, or to serve as a cry room if needed.
- Bathrooms are available. Again, please follow CDC guidelines about good hygiene.
- No offering plate will be passed during the worship service, but offering boxes will be available by the sanctuary doors in which you may place your gifts. Again, online giving continues to remain an option.
- Following the service, there will be no coffee or snack time. You are encouraged to NOT linger in the narthex, wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines.

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Covenant Christian High School Winter Band Concert will be December 15 at 7pm. Come and celebrate the musical talents of our students! There will be a mixture of Christmas and other music, and everyone is welcome to join us. (Face coverings are required unless medically excluded).

DeMOTTE CHRISTIAN GRADE SCHOOL PRE-SCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN SIGN UPS

Beginning January 4, DeMotte Christian School will accept sign ups for the 2021-2022 Pre-School and Kindergarten classes. Space is limited; all new families to the school will need to complete an application (available online at www.demottechristianschools.org). Call 219-987-3721 to sign up!

For 3-Year-Old Pre-School (T/Th-am), your child must be 3 years old by August 1, 2021.

For 4-Year-Old Pre-School (M/W/F-am or M/W/F-pm), child must be 4 years old by August 1, 2021.

For Kindergarten (1/2 day or Full Day), your child must be 5 years old by August 1, 2021.

DMCS Important Dates:

December 7: Preview Night @ Covenant Christian High School

December 18: End Quarter 2

Dec 21-Jan 3: Christmas Break

January 4: Students Return

January 4: PS(3), PS(4) and Kindergarten Sign Ups Begin

SERMON NOTES

9:30 a.m.

Scripture: Luke 1:26-45

Message: “The Fear of Change”