

**Sunday,  
Dec 15<sup>th</sup>  
2024**

**Volga Christian Reformed Church**  
Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603  
**Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Morning Worship 9:30 AM:** Worship Leader: Pastor Joshua Carpenter  
Organist: Marge Kleinjan  
Pianist: Joan Bjorklund

Prelude

Advent Candle Lighting - **JOY**  
Dystiny Loss

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 16  
Silent Prayer of Preparation  
**Song - PH 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord**

**\*Song - RB 534 O Come, All Ye Faithful**

\*God's Greeting  
\*We Greet Each Other

Summary of God's Law by Jesus (Matthew 22:37-40)

**Song - RB 137 Rock of Ages (Verses 1-2)**

Congregational Prayer  
Offering: Hope Haven & Budget  
Children's Message

**\*Song - PH 329 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Verse 1)**

Scripture Lesson: **Luke 1:39-45**  
Text: **Luke 1:39-45**  
Message: **The Joy of Christmas**

Prayer  
**\*Song - RB 533 Joy to the World**

Lord's Supper (PH Pgs. 978-982)  
**\*Song - RB 114 Jesus Paid It All (Verses 1, 3, & 4)**  
\*God's Blessing

**\*Doxology: PH 473 To God Be the Glory (Verse 1)**  
Postlude

\* Please stand if you are able

**Welcome!** On this third Sunday of Advent, we encourage everyone to think often about God's gift to us in Christ. May God grant you a joyful heart this Christmas season as you reflect on the blessings that surround you. Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the morning service.

**Ushers for January:** Cade Gross, Clyde Ulvestad; Alternate: Gene Volkers  
**Elevator Attendant for January:** Brenda Volkers

**Calendar:**

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship  
10:45 AM Christmas Program Practice  
11:00 AM High School Catechism  
4:00 PM Sunday School Christmas Program  
Wed: 2:00 PM Women's Bible Study  
6:30 PM Cadets  
7:00 PM High School Youth Group

**Prayer Concerns:**

1. Please keep **Claudia Tofte's sister** in prayer as she undergoes a procedure to remove an aneurysm, praying that all will go smoothly, that the Lord will guide and lead the doctors performing this procedure, and that the Lord will grant healing and strength.
2. Please keep **Claudia's boss, Ross Tellinghuisen**, in prayer as he had a biopsy of his lymph node this past week and has also been suffering hearing loss and a broken ear drum. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

**Announcements:**

1. **High school catechism** will meet today after worship over in the parsonage around 11 AM.
2. **Church Christmas Program - Today, Sunday, December 15th at 4:00 PM**, we will have our church Christmas program, followed by a candlelight service and a time of refreshments and fellowship.
  1. There will be a full program practice following the service on today, December 15<sup>th</sup> in preparation for the program this evening.
3. **Women's Bible Study** meets this week **Wednesday** at 2 PM in the church basement. Pastor Josh will lead Lesson 3: The Fulfillment of the Law. Come and enjoy spending time in God's Word and, afterward, we'll have a Christmas luncheon celebration.
4. **Senior High Youth Group** will meet this week Wednesday at **First Reformed Church** at **7 PM**. Bring a friend!

**Looking Ahead:**

1. The deadline for information to be included in the January issue of our church newsletter will be **December 18th, 12 PM**. Please submit information to Marge Kleinjan, Brenda Volkers, or Pastor Josh.

2. **Christmas Day Service** - On **Wednesday, December 25th** at **9:30 AM**, we will gather together to worship our Great God, reflecting on and celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who came in order to forgive, redeem, and reconcile us, the greatest gift we could ever receive!
3. **New Years Day Service** - On **Wednesday, January 1st** at **9:30 AM**, we'll ring in the New Year together by gathering for worship to thank the Lord for His continued faithfulness, bringing us faithfully through another year as well as lifting up the year ahead to Him in prayer, praying that His will would be done through it all.

**Advanced Notice: Dakota Sun Ministry for January 5<sup>th</sup>:**

- In charge: Samantha Algood & Vonda Bjorklund (musician)
- To visit: Gene & Brenda Volkers, Dahl's, Tim & Verdella Gross

**Offerings received in November:**

General Fund.....	\$11,330.52	Navigators.....	\$374.00
Brauning's.....	\$370.00	Building Project.....	\$796.00
Volga Christian School.....	\$513.00		

**Our Offerings:**

- December 15<sup>th</sup>: Hope Haven & Budget
- December 22<sup>nd</sup>: Rehoboth Christian School & Budget
- December 25<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Day (Sleep in Heavenly Peace)
- December 29<sup>th</sup>: Building Project & Budget

**Our Council: Pastor Joshua Carpenter**

- Elders: Ron Gross, Ashton Fey, Doug Post, Dale Algood
- Deacons: Will Davis, Logan Triebwasser, Dan Runia, Keith Tofte
- **e-mail address for council:** volgacrccouncil@gmail.com

**Theme: Being \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.**

**Passage Notes:**

**Application Notes:**

**Weekly Reflection: Have you experienced a lack of joy around Christmas Time before? If so, how did you see the Lord bring you through that? Are you experiencing a lack of joy this year? May the Lord refresh you in the joy of what Christ has done for you.**