

DECEMBER 21, 2025
9:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Prelude

Joy Medley
Joy to the World
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
The First Noel

Advent Candle Lighting

Isaiah, the Prophet, wrote:
Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz,
"Ask the LORD your God for a sign,
whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."
But Ahaz said, "I will not ask;
I will not put the LORD to the test."
Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David!
Is it not enough to try the patience of men?
Will you try the patience of my God also?
Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign...
Isaiah 7:10-14a NIV84

"The virgin will be with child
and will give birth to a son,
and they will call him Immanuel" –
which means, "God with us." Matthew 1:23 (NIV84)
You who bring good tidings to Zion,
go up on a high mountain.
You who bring good tidings to Jerusalem,
lift up your voice with a shout,
lift it up, do not be afraid;
say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!"
Isaiah 40:9 (NIV84)

Congregation (in unison with readers):
**And the glory of the LORD will be revealed,
and all mankind together will see it.**
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."
Isaiah 40:5 (NIV84)

Ministry of Music

Behold, a Virgin Shall Conceive
O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion

Prayer

* God's Greeting

2 Corinthians 13:31

* Advent Hymn

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Gray 329

Call to Confession

Psalms 66:16-20 (p. 563)

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Psalms 34:4-8 (p. 544)

* Song of Response

As with Gladness Men of Old

Gray 358

God's Will for Our Lives

Responsive Reading (Gray p. 1018)

Congregational Prayer

Offering Offertory	Pella Area Teams To Honduras (Byron VM & Jan W) <i>Oh, Holy Night</i>	
* Song of Preparation	<i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</i>	Gray 355
* Scripture	Matthew 1:18-24 (p. 933)	
Sermon	God with Us	
* Song of Dedication	<i>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i>	Gray 351
* Benediction	Hebrews 13:20-21	
* Doxology	<i>How Bright Appears the Morning Star</i>	Gray 357:3
* Postlude	For Unto Us a Child Is Born	



4:55 P.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Song Service	<i>Away in a Manger</i> <i>Good Christian Men, Rejoice</i> <i>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i> <i>What Child Is This?</i>	Blue 261 Blue 273 Blue 277 Blue 281
--------------	--	--

Opening Prayer

* Call to Worship	Psalms 32:8-11 (p. 543)	
* God's Greeting		
* Song of Praise	<i>Hark, the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes</i>	Gray 335
* Confession of Faith	Belgic Confession Article 21 (p. 836)	

Evening Prayer

Offering Offertory	Pella Christian Schools <i>Rose of Bethlehem</i>	
* Song of Preparation	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	Gray 340:1-3
* Scripture	Exodus 24:1-11 (p. 78)	
Sermon	The Gospel: In Sacrifice and Ceremony	
* Song of Response	<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i>	Gray 354:1-3
* Benediction	2 Thessalonians 2:16-17, 3:18	
* Doxology	<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i>	Gray 354:4-5
* Postlude	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	

* Please stand, if able

December 21, 2025

Welcome to the Peoria Christian Reformed Church. We are glad you have joined us for worship. "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people." Luke 1:68 (NIV)

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY
Greeters	Bret Fynaardt family Doug & Barb Vande Voort	Dale & Davona Fynaardt Henry & Sarah Vande Voort
Missionary Correspondents	Gifford - Susan Veenstra; Ippel - Joel Veenstra; Mark & JinHee - Nicki Veenstra; Vander Wal - Betty Veenstra	
Morning Prayer Team	Norman De Jong Glen Fynaardt	Sandy Fynaardt Carm Reitsma
Nursery Attendants	a.m. Stacie Fynaardt, Beau Van Wyngarden p.m. Erin Fynaardt, Eleanor Fynaardt	a.m. Michele De Boer, Quinten Veenstra p.m. Deb Bruxvoort, Gerrit Vos
Nursery Attendants Christmas Day		Paige Roos, Caitlin Veenstra
Offering	a.m. PATTH (Byron VM & Jan W) p.m. Pella Christian Schools	a.m. Resonate Global Mission p.m. Crossroads Prison Ministries
Offering Christmas Day		Wycliffe Bible Translators

TODAY

Please join us as we **fellowship** over a cup of coffee or lemonade after the morning worship service.

Church School classes will not meet today.

COME AND SING! All are welcome to join us for some **church family singing** around the piano following the evening service.

Following the evening worship service, at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, the **choir** will practice selections for Christmas Day. Please bring your copy of *The Messiah*.

Home Builders will meet in the church basement at 7:00 p.m. (Lesson 4)

CALENDAR

Monday 6:30 p.m. Elders' Meeting
Thursday 9:30 a.m. Christmas Day Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For the past 15 years, **Pella Area Teams To Honduras (PATTH)** has been sending volunteers to provide health aid to the people of Honduras. Byron Vander Molen and Jan Warden will participate with the February 18-28, 2026, team to give medical aid and help with the construction of dwellings for the elderly. Cost is approximately \$1,600-\$1,800 per person. Our offering this morning will help with expenses for this ministry of mercy.

Our **Christmas Worship Service** will be held on Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m. Pastor David will continue our Advent series with Isaiah 40:1-11, "Behold, Your God." Join us as we gather to celebrate the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

The **Fellowship Committee** will be serving a **light meal** after our Old Year's evening worship service on December 28. Please plan to join us for fellowship on the last Sunday of 2025!

The **deacons** will **close the books** on December 29. Any budget envelopes received after that date will be recorded as 2026 receipts. The deacons thank you for prayerfully remembering the needs of our church in your giving.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

You are invited to the **Taintor Community Church Drive-Thru Live Nativity** on Sunday, December 21, 5:00-8:00 p.m. A freewill offering will be received for a 2026 mission trip to Honduras.

YOUR GIFT OF GRAIN HELPS US GROW! The Board of Directors at **818 Forward With Faith** ask that you prayerfully consider donating grain to raise funds as we start the fundraising project to build our 3rd FWF home! Your contribution, big or small, will help us provide a beautiful home where our residents will feel valued and are able to thrive. We have accounts at the following coops: DFS, Key Coop, Heartland Coop, Pella Feed, and Two Rivers Coop. In-kind gifts are always a blessing, and during harvest 2025 they will help us take the next step in building our third home. To learn more about our mission at 818 Forward With Faith, visit www.forwardwithfaith.org. Please contact Curt Hooyer (641-780-2249) with any questions.

HELP FAMILIES AFFECTED BY THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST FLOODING: Beginning December 8, heavy nonstop rains have led to record flooding in western and central parts of Washington state, killing at least one person and forcing tens of thousands of people to evacuate due to profound damage to homes and communities. **World Renew Disaster Response Services** (DRS) is preparing a response to help flood survivors, including in communities already recovering from severe flooding in 2021. Please join us in prayer and donate to help flood survivors at www.worldrenew.net/northwest, by calling 1-800-552-7972, or by mailing a check made out to World Renew, with "Pacific Northwest Floods 2025" in the memo line, to: World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Dr. SW, Byron Center, MI 49315.