

Harvest Community this week

This Lord's Day, November 29

9a – Exodus Bible Class for all ages

10a – **Worship.** Heb 9:1-12; Mark 15:21-39; Gen 26:25-33

6p – **Worship.** Ps 149:5-9; Jer 27; Rom 11:11-16; Gary Vander Hart leading

7p – **Afterparty** (in the gathering room)

Wednesday, Wednesday, December 2

6:30p – **Midweek Prayer Meeting** and **Monthly Stated Elders' Meeting**

Next Lord's Day, December 6

9a – Exodus Bible Class for all ages

10a – **Worship.** Heb 9:13-14; Mark 15:40-16:8; Gen 26:34-28:9

11:30a – **Fellowship Meal.**

6p – **Worship.** Ps 150; Jer 28; Rom 11:17-24; **Lord's Supper;** Mark Fedders leading

7p – **Afterparty** (please contact if you wish to host)

December Servants' Rotation

Greeting—Hermans; Coffee—Lavermans;
Cry Room—Vander Harts; Cleaning—Hakims

If you would like information, prayer, counsel, or some other assistance please contact one of our elders:

Craig De Haan (712-395-8822, craig@harvestoc.net)

Mark Fedders (712-441-5096, mark@harvestoc.net)

James Hakim (712-395-0983, james@harvestoc.net)

Russ Herman (712-737-7450, russ@harvestoc.net)

Bob Hilbelink (712-441-3925, bob@harvestoc.net)

Matt Van Essendelft (712-727-3188, mattve@harvestoc.net)

Gary Vander Hart (712-722-2597, garyvh@harvestoc.net)

Gary Vander Plaats (712-278-1038, garyvp@harvestoc.net)

<http://harvestoc.net>

209 1st St. NE · OC, IA 51041

The Lord's Day, November 29, 2009

So he built an altar there and called upon the name of the LORD and pitched his tent there. And there Isaac's servants dug a well.

Genesis 26:25

So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous.

Romans 11:11

Call to Worship – Hebrews 9:1-12

The worship of God is a real thing, led by a real Priest, in a real place. And when Jesus came, it didn't get worse, but better! Our worship is now even more real, with the added advantage that the sacrifice through which we enter and the place into which we enter announce to us that we are forgiven once and for all!

^{STANDING} *Song – #253, There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood*

^{STANDING} *Prayer for God's Help to Worship Him*

Serial Reading – Mark 15:21-39

This text holds before us Jesus' successful intent to endure our suffering completely, and the testimony of heaven and earth that this is exactly what He did—most so in being forsaken by God. Precisely in order to save others, He refused to save Himself. And the one charge that stuck during the trial (destroying the temple) was actually accomplished in His death, as He opened the new and living way for all believers!

^{STANDING} *Song – #254, Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed*

Weekly Prayer of the Congregation

Preaching – Genesis 26:25-33

What Isaac Did There

^{STANDING} *Song – #672, Trust and Obey*

^{STANDING} *Pronouncement of God's Blessing upon His People*

^{STANDING} *Parting Song, #672, Refrain Only, "Trust and Obey, for there's no other way..."*

Please stay for fellowship after the service. Let us who have been welcomed by Christ welcome others!

After the announcements, the elders of the church gather to ask God, on behalf of the congregation, for His help for the service and His blessing upon it. During this time, it would be appropriate for you to do the same for yourself and your children, teaching them to do the same. The hope of this guide is that (among other things) it will help you think and pray through the service as we prepare together.

Call to Worship—The entire book of Hebrews was originally a sermon about the gathered worship services of Christian congregations; and, the Holy Spirit included it in Scripture as a letter. So every phrase of this book has a direct application to what we do in our gathered Lord's Day services. Last year, we began by taking a series of selections through the book as the Scriptures that called us together to mark the start of the service. Then, we returned to the beginning of the book to take it phrase by phrase. In the current section, God is telling us about the superiority of Jesus-led worship that rests upon His finished work and eternal intercession.

Song, *There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood*—What joy is ours in Christian worship—to enter the very holy of holies in glory, not in abject terror but in peaceful confidence, and all because of the blood of Christ!

Prayer for God's Help to Worship Him—we ask God to accept our worship through Jesus, even as He has promised. And with hearts inflamed with grateful love, we ask that God—also for Jesus' sake—will help us offer worship that is according to God's instructions and therefore fitting and excellent and beautiful in the sight of God.

Bible Reading, Mark 15:21-39—although the entire Bible teaches the good news that GOD SAVES SINNERS, we are always reading in those books that specifically focus on what Jesus did and taught (including Acts and Revelation, which describe Christ's completion of His work in the history of the church) for our salvation.

Song, *Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed*—Jesus didn't just bleed and die for us; indeed, He groaned upon the tree, forsaken by God for us. May God dissolve our hearts in thankfulness and melt our eyes in tears!

Weekly Prayer of the Congregation—just as God especially sets apart His Word and sacraments to be used for His work in us, so also He sets apart congregational prayer. In this prayer, especially, we bring to our heavenly Father our congregation's weekly concerns.

Preaching, Genesis 26:25-33—We spent six weeks thinking about God's amazing appearance and message to Isaac in v24. Now these verses answer the question, "So, what did Isaac *do* there?"

Song, *Trust and Obey*—How do you walk with the Lord in the light of His Word? By trusting and obeying, throughout all the hardships of this life, doing whatever work He has given us until we arrive at the fulfillment of all joy in the next.

Pronouncement of God's Blessing—God sends us out of His called worship gatherings with a final, condensed announcement of His favor upon His people

Call to Worship – Psalm 149:5-9

Our worship of God in the assemblies should fill us with such joy that it explodes into the rest of our lives—whether on our beds or fulfilling God's eternal decrees in bloody battle, let us do all with the high praises of God in our throats!

^{STANDING} *Song – #80, Lord, with Glowing Heart I'd Praise Thee*

^{STANDING} *Prayer for God's Help to Worship Him*

Serial Reading – Jeremiah 27

In this passage, we see God's great sovereignty, God's great clarity, and God's great mercy. He is sovereign: He sets over men whomever He will and can use even the wicked to accomplish His righteous purposes. He is clear: He has given repeated announcements of His truth to combat the tempting and sweet-sounding lies of those who make counter-truth-claims. He is merciful: He tells us that the reason for His clarity is to keep us from perishing by listening to the lie instead of to His saving truth.

^{STANDING} *Song – #94, How Firm a Foundation*

Lord's Day Evening Prayer

Preaching – Romans 11:11-16

Magnifying Gospel Grace

^{STANDING} *Song – #469, How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place*

^{STANDING} *Pronouncement of God's Blessing upon His People*

^{STANDING} *Parting Song, #731, Doxology*

Please stay to fellowship and celebrate the Lord's Day with us at the afterparty!

What a blessing that as we who have the Spirit groan towards glory, our merciful Father has sprinkled throughout our straining forward: not Lord's hours, nor Lord's mornings, but entire and rich and joyful Lord's Days. So let us conclude the day together in worship!

Call to Worship—how are Christians to think and feel in various situations? God has given us an entire book of the Bible to show what it looks like for us sinners—by grace—to think and feel with the mind and heart of Christ. It is a book of songs, largely sung prayers, that provides the molds of grace within which our emotions can be shaped by the heart and mind of Jesus. What a wonderful gift! And so currently, we have our evening calls to worship from this songbook, especially using those texts in which there are commands for God's people to gather for worship.

Song, Lord, with Glowing Heart I'd Praise Thee—How do those who have been saved by grace worship? With such glowing heart that even their very lives show forth that same praise of God!

Prayer for God's Help to Worship Him—confidently because of Christ, we ask God to accept our worship. And with hearts inflamed with grateful love, we ask that God—also for Jesus' sake—will help us offer worship that is according to the Bible and therefore fitting, excellent, and beautiful as defined by God.

Bible Reading, Jeremiah 27—with the exception of a few comfortable passages, the major prophets may be the least read and understood part of the Bible. But they are rich in the greatness of God's grace. They hold before us the greatness of our sin and danger, so that we will know the greatness of God's grace and mercy! Jeremiah in particular tells us about how we bring our own destruction upon our heads by listening to words that we like, instead of God's true words; by worship of other gods; and, by idolatrous worship of the true God. But he also tells us about a God of grace who insists on saving a people for Himself, which means that He intends to save a people that He actually *makes* righteous *from the inside out*.

Song, How Firm a Foundation—We sing, as we have just heard from Scripture, of God's great clarity, God's great sovereignty, and God's great mercy.

Lord's Day Evening Prayer—as we come to close the Lord's Day, we thank God together for the blessings of the day, and take one last opportunity to adore Him with united hearts in prayer, before asking Him for this blessing and adoration to penetrate and saturate our weeks, until we come together again—either for another Lord's Day and its gatherings, or for the Great Day of the Lord, and the gathering of the entire number of all the elect for our eternal Sabbath rest.

Preaching, Romans 11:11-16—Is this plan, then, just cruelty to Israel? This text opens up how the purpose of the plan is the unexpected expansion of salvation not just once, but twice, so that our view of grace keeps growing and growing, and our desire to be like our Savior makes us ourselves more and more gracious with everyone!

Songs, How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place—God keeps magnifying His grace by saving unlikely candidates. Let us therefore sing praise of this grace of His, and sing prayer that we might see more and more of His grace, and see it in greater and greater glory!

Pronouncement of God's Blessing—God sends us out of His called worship gatherings with a final, condensed announcement of His favor upon His people

Congregational Announcements

LARGE PRINT PEW BIBLES are on the bookshelf nearest the door. Please return them there after worship, so that they are readily available for the next people who need them.

THERE IS AN OFFERING BOX ON THE RESOURCE TABLE by which you may bring tithes and offerings to we offer as we come to worship God through Jesus, our great High Priest (Heb 7).

ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE NOW 5 MINUTES BEFORE THE SERVICE, which will begin promptly on the hour.

“SECOND HELPINGS” after worship the 2nd-5th Lord’s Days of each month. Come to the pastor’s house to eat, but especially to have seconds (and 3^{rds}, and 4^{ths}, etc.) of fellowship in and around the Word. Those traveling some distance, or away from family, or desiring to follow up on something they heard in worship are especially encouraged to come.

BABY SHOWER FOR JONATHAN ISAAC AND BEATRICE CHRISTI—All ladies young and old are invited. Date: Sat, Dec 5th. Time: 10a.m. Place: Harvest’s building. Please RSVP to Gretchen (707·9353) or Rebecca (727·3188).

SERVANT ROTATION SIGN-UP BOARD. At the November meeting, the elders decided that a voluntary rotation will allow service assignments to be more tailored to the skills of the servants. Please see the sign-up board in the kitchen and sign up your family.

PLEASE MAKE USE OF THE RESOURCE WALL IN THE HALLWAY. It’s not just a ministry to the community. You may find the doctrinal and family resources particularly useful. These resources are carefully chosen to help people apply the gospel to various areas and issues of life.

THERE IS A CONGREGATIONAL RESOURCE TABLE IN THE BACK-RIGHT CORNER OF THE WORSHIP ROOM. Please feel free to take one of any of the books placed here. Everyone should have and read a copy of Foxe’s *Martyrs* and Bunyan’s *Pilgrim’s Progress* at some point in their lives. And I would strongly encourage all parents (not just of teens) to read *Age of Opportunity*. Father’s of boys, please get a copy each of *Standing Fast* and *Holding Fast*. **Note that the OCCS Spotlight has been placed on this table this week.**

AFTER-LORD’S-DAY PARTY this evening in the gathering room after worship. All are welcome to stay for food and fellowship as we celebrate God’s great gift to us of another Lord’s Day.

CONGREGATIONAL STUDY OF EXODUS, LORD’S DAYS THIS FALL, at 9a.m. The book of Exodus is foundational to the rest of Scripture. It displays who God is to the world, who God is to His people, how God saves by a Mediator, how God is a great law-giver, and how God provides His people with a means of approaching Him and growing in relationship with Him. Please meet directly at your class (P-2nd Grade @ our building; 3rd-Adult in the bank basement).

Community Announcements

OCCS Monica Christmas Cookie Walk, Saturday, December 5 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Iowa State Bank basement in Orange City. You may also bring donated cookies to the basement of Iowa State Bank on Friday, Dec. 4, from 2-7:00 PM or Saturday, Dec. 5, from 7:30-7:45 AM

Congregational Prayer Requests

- Harvest’s worship, evangelism, discipleship, elders, teachers, parents
- Our Presbytery the PCA, the church around the world, particularly mission works and the persecuted church
- Our country, particularly those in high position
- Celestin—family, ministry to Muslims, efforts to help Congolese Presbyterians with farming
- MTW, SAT-7, MERF, ITEM, Gideons, Gospel for Asia, and other world mission works
- The Dahn family, Yu Jueng’s semester in Cincinnati
- Phyllis Vanden Brink – getting medical care at Happy Siesta in Remsen
- Sandi’s uncle Frank – head-on collision; receiving medical care in Minneapolis
- Matthew Laverman – direction, looking for employment
- Maggie’s sisters Mollie and Melanie – direction in life
- Maggie’s friend Kasie and baby Caleb
- The Rowenhorst Family—Randy’s headaches
- Vin De Groot – difficult work until spring in Dover with mortuary affairs for all of the armed services; for Twila and children in his absence
- Jonathan Vander Plaats – stationed in Norfolk
- Lisa Vander Plaats – semester in Nicaragua
- Melissa Vander Plaats – in the Netherlands
- Ron De Groot – looking for work, physical and spiritual progress, Christian friends