Morning Worship

The Lord's Day · 10:30 a.m. · December 12, 2021

Welcome! We're glad you're here!

Please join us in praise and prayer.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

* "Prepare Our Hearts"* "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"* "That's Why We Praise Him"

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Our Adoration of God

Ministry of Music - Jennifer Bowen

Prayer of Oversight

Tithes and Offerings

* Hymn #178, verses 1 & 3 - "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

God's Word Today
Bill Moore

Scripture - Matthew 1:18-25

Message - "Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph: A Surprise"

* **Hymn #171** - "Joy to the World!"

* Benediction

* Response - "Now Unto the King Eternal"

Now unto the king eternal, immortal, invisible,

The only wise God,

Be glory and honor forever and ever, amen, amen.

Be glory and honor forever and ever, amen.

Welcome, visitors!

We extend a sincere welcome to our visitors. It's a privilege to have you with us. As our guest, please do not feel obligated to participate in the morning offering.

We welcome Bill Moore to our pulpit this morning. Bill was raised in Rockford, Illinois and is a graduate of Rockford University. He continued his education receiving a law degree from Creighton University and then practiced law in Rockford for 14 years. Sensing a call from God to enter into ministry, he received a Master of Divinity degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and went on to pastor three different churches. He recently resigned from the senior pastor position at Long Grove Community Church in Long Grove, Illinois after 11 years. He is ordained by the Evangelical Free Church of America and is married to JoAnn. They have four daughters and are now the proud grandparents of eight grandchildren.

White Gift offering begins next Sunday

If you would like to contribute to Forreston Grove's annual White Gift offering, you may do so next Sunday morning, December 19th; during the Christmas eve service; or during the morning worship on Sunday, December 26th. The White Gift offering began in 1953 and continues as a tradition of Forreston Grove. In the past, gifts of food and toys were wrapped in white and brought to the Christmas program and designated to be given to those in need within our community. Today, financial gifts are given as "white gifts," and designated to local citizens in need, or to various missionaries and ministries throughout the world. Checks should be made payable to Forreston Grove Church, and designated to "White Gift" or the missionary or ministry of your choice.

Christmas eve service planned

Forreston Grove's Christmas eve service will take place at 6 p.m. on Friday, December 24th.

Ladies' Bible study to break until 2022

The Thursday morning ladies' Bible study will break for the month of December and resume again in January. Beginning next month, the focus will be chapters 9 through 16 of 1 Corinthians.

(announcements continued on back...)

^{*} Indicates congregation will stand, for those who are able. All music used by permission CCLI #536906.

Offering envelopes available in narthex

Offering envelopes are now available in the narthex for those who requested them. Please pick them up at your convenience!

	Speakers	Flowers	Nursery
December 12	Bill Moore	congregation	Jason & Kim
December 19	Bill Moore	congregation	Linda & grandkid
December 26 January 2	Bill Moore Lee Eclov	congregation ~ volunteer sought ~	Tim & Lynnetta Rob & Kelli

Please contact Kelli Gunderson with announcements or other items to be included in next Sunday's bulletin. Kelli can be reached at forrestongrove@gmail.com or at 815-821-5905.



"To know Christ and to make Him known."

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Prayer Concerns

· Church matters:

- · Pray that God would be preparing a pastor for Forreston Grove.
- · Pray that Forreston Grove Church would overflow with love for God, one another, and our community.
- · Pray that we would live beautiful, worthy lives.
- · Pray that we would strive to glorify the Lord in all we do, think, and say.
- · Pray that the Session would faithfully lead, shepherd, and defend the flock.
- · Pray that the deacons and trustees would diligently look after the physical needs of the church.
- · Pray that we would be devoted to prayer and reading God's Word.
- · Pray that we would—both individually and as one body—joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ with all who will hear.

· Ongoing requests:

- · Nolan Heimerdinger-Baake (pray for continued weight gain)
- · The Shores family Erin, Kevin, and Josh (pray for healing and improvement)
- · David Iben (pray for restoration of sight following a detached retina)
- · Our shut-in: Darold Wubbena (Alden Park Strathmoor, Rockford)
- Our missionaries: Bob Allums (A Praying Life ministries); Haddon Anderson (Youth for Christ-Rockford); Jonathan & Amy DeVries (InterAct-Alaska); Anna Gabriel (UIM-New Mexico); Rob & Jenny Ilderton (MTW-England); Charles & Mary Kay (Pioneers-France); Alvin Low (ACTS-Colorado/Asia); Jim & Shelley Savage (Wycliffe-Australia); Cathy Schmidt (CrossWorld-Germany); Chris & Heather (Reformed Theological Seminary); Joel & Stephanie Swanson (MTW-France); Joel & Emily (Middle East); Tom & Karen Virtue (Cru-California); Bruce & Barbara Wannemacher (MTW-South Africa); Tom & Dana Yeakley (Navigators-Colorado)
- · Our missions: Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, Eastland YoungLife, Forreston Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Freeport Pregnancy Center, Gideons International, Kids Around the World, Pioneer Club, Presbyterian Church in America, Presbytery of Northern Illinois, Radio Bible Class, Rockford Rescue Mission, Vacation Bible School

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