

Morning Worship

The Lord's Day • 10:30 a.m. • December 19, 2021

Welcome! We're glad you're here!

Please join us in praise and prayer.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

- * "O Come, All Ye Faithful"
- * "Angels We Have Heard on High"
- * "Cornerstone"

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Our Confession of Sin

Ministry of Music - Forreton Grove Bell Choir

Prayer of Oversight

Tithes and Offerings

- * **Hymn #168** - "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

God's Word Today

Bill Moore

Scripture - John 1:1-14

Message - "Christmas Through the Eyes of John: A New Hope"

- * **Hymn #184** - "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

* **Benediction**

- * **Response** - Chorus of "Go, Tell it on the Mountains"

*Go, tell it on the mountains,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountains
That Jesus Christ is born!*

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.

We thank the Forreton Grove Bell Choir for their ministry of music.

Youth retreat offered for junior high and high schoolers

All junior high and high schoolers are invited to a winter retreat at the PCA's Ridgehaven conference center in Walker, Iowa January 14-17. If you're interested in attending, sign the sheet in the narthex or contact Kelli Gunderson by December 30th. Invite your friends!

White Gift offering begins today

If you would like to contribute to Forreton Grove's annual White Gift offering, you may do so during this morning's worship service, 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 Forreton 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 Forreton Grove Church, and designated to "White Gift" or the missionary or ministry of your choice.

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

(announcements continued on back, ...)

Poinsettia pickup today

Thank you to all those who purchased a poinsettia to decorate our church sanctuary this Christmas season. You may pick up your plant today, or following the service on Christmas eve.

Christmas eve service planned

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

Newsletter submissions due

All items to be included in the church's January newsletter should be submitted to Kelli Gunderson by 9 a.m. 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.

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!

Faith Lutheran to host Christmas brunch

Faith Lutheran Church in Forreston will hold its annual Christmas brunch on December 25th from 10 a.m. to noon. Egg casserole, fruit, applesauce, sweet rolls, sausage, ham, cookies, orange juice, milk and coffee will be served. A free will offering will be taken. All are welcome!

	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Flowers</i>	<i>Nursery</i>
<i>December 19</i>	<i>Bill Moore</i>	<i>congregation</i>	<i>Linda & grandkid</i>
<i>December 26</i>	<i>Bill Moore</i>	<i>congregation</i>	<i>Tim & Lynnetta</i>
<i>January 2</i>	<i>Lee Eclov</i>	<i>Nancy Parkinson</i>	<i>Rob & Kelli</i>

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.

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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Sermon notes

**“Christmas Through the Eyes of John: A New Hope”
John 1:1-14**

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*The poinsettias in the sanctuary were given
in memory of loved ones as follows.*

Roger Artman

Given by his friends

June Ludewig

Given by her family

Chuck Meeks

Given by his family

Russell & Millicent DeVries

Given by their family

Don & Norene Greenfield

Steve Schmidt

Arlene Williams

Given by their family

Bill Plambeck

Given by his family

Kenneth & Wilma Greenfield

Given by their family

Bob & Erma Duitsman

Given by their family

Carol Gravenstein

Rylynn Gravenstein

Given by their family

Sarah Johnson

Oliver Johnson

Given by

Carl & Sarah Sundquist

Bob & Carol Duncan

Given by their family

Norman Henneman

June Hagemann

Given by

Brittan & Makayla DeVries

Gladys DeVries

Given by her friends

Herman, Lucille & Lynn

Greenfield

Given by their family

Lyle & Pat Moore

also purchased a poinsettia in honor of their family.

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