

Morning Worship

The Lord's Day • 10:30 a.m. • November 20, 2022

Welcome! We're glad you're here!

Please join us in praise and prayer.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

- * "Prepare Our Hearts"
- * "All Creatures of Our God & King"
- * "Amazing Grace"

Our Thanksgiving to God

Music Video - "Thank You, Lord" by Chris Tomlin, Thomas Rhett, & Florida Georgia Line

Ministry Report - Jonathan & Amy DeVries, InterAct, Alaska

Prayer of Oversight

Tithes and Offerings - "Give Thanks"

*Give thanks with a grateful heart; Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son; Give thanks.*

- * **Hymn #338, vs. 1 & 2** - "We Sing the Greatness of Our God"

God's Word Today - Stan Armes

Colossians 1:9-20

"Christ Our Redeemer and Reconciler"

Celebration of Holy Communion (see back of bulletin)

- * **Hymn #260, vs. 1-3** - "And Can It Be That I Should Gain?"

* Benediction

- * **Response** - "There is a Redeemer"

*There is a Redeemer, Jesus God's own Son
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One
Thank you, Oh my Father for giving us your son
And leaving your Spirit 'til the work on earth is done.*

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

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 Stan Armes to the pulpit this morning. Stan grew up in Kenya as a missionary kid. After graduating from Rift Valley Academy in Kenya, he studied at both Covenant College in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Covenant Seminary in Saint Louis, Missouri. In 1977, Stan and his wife, Donna, applied to World Presbyterian Missions, and, the next year, were in Kenya as missionaries for the next 10 years. After a pastorate in Virginia, Stan & Donna were called to South Africa to teach in a Bible college. In 2012, they retired from Mission to the World and came back to America. Since retirement, Stan has earned his doctorate of ministry and has been involved in prison ministry and teaching in Africa. The couple now resides in Sterling.

We welcome Jonathan & Amy DeVries and family to our services this morning. Jonathan & Amy are missionaries with InterAct in Anchorage, Alaska, and we're excited to hear what's new with their family and ministry!

Church decorating this afternoon

All those willing and able to help decorate the church for the Christmas season should gather here today at 3 p.m. Cookies and cocoa will be provided!

Thank you to those who contributed to our Operation Christmas Child collection. Forreston Grove collected 91 shoeboxes and \$715 in cash donations. The boxes, along with the good news of the Gospel, were delivered to the regional collection site this week, and will eventually end up in the hands of underprivileged children overseas. Thank you to all who took part!

Volunteers sought at Operation Christmas Child processing center

Operation Christmas Child is in urgent need of more volunteers at its processing center in Aurora, Illinois November 23rd - December 17th. As a volunteer, you'll be inspecting gifts, adding filler items where needed, scanning labels, organizing boxes by age and gender into designated cartons, and more. To sign up, visit www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child, and click on "Volunteer at a processing center." If you'd like to join a group already volunteering from Forreston Grove, sign up for the Wednesday, November 23rd shift from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and contact Kelli Gunderson!

(announcements continued on back...)

Pioneer Club to resume January 18th

Forreston Grove hosted 52 students at Pioneer Club this Fall semester. Thank you to everyone who helped or donated in any way! Mark your calendars for the winter semester, which will begin January 18th.

Celebration of Holy Communion

Distribution of the Elements

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

O! precious is the flow, that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Partaking of the Elements

This is all my hope and peace—Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness—Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

O! precious is the flow, that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Flowers</i>	<i>Nursery</i>
<i>November 20</i>	<i>Stan Armes</i>	<i>Linda DeVries</i>	<i>Sam & Hailey</i>
<i>November 27</i>	<i>Lyle Greenfield</i>	<i>Tammy & Makayla</i>	<i>Jason & Kim</i>
<i>December 4</i>	<i>Lyle Greenfield</i>	<i>Tammy & Makayla</i>	<i>Linda & grandkid</i>
<i>December 11</i>	<i>Lyle Greenfield</i>	<i>Tammy & Makayla</i>	<i>Tim & Lynnetta</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 & 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.

· **New concerns:**

- Rich Johnson is scheduled for skin graft surgery on his leg the week after Thanksgiving. Pray for a successful surgery, and for healing and pain relief for him.
- Megan Runyon is scheduled to see the endocrinologist this coming week. Pray for continued healing, as well as guidance for her care team as they make decisions on continued treatment.
- 14-year-old Malachi is in liver failure. Pray for improvement in his liver function.

· **Ongoing concerns:**

- Deverick Sander (pray for healing, strength, and peace)
- Masyn Coleman (pray for pain relief & healing of a rare stomach condition)
- David Iben (praise God that his throat & eye are improving)
- Matt Davis (pray for continued healing & health)
- Nolan Heimerdinger-Baake (pray that the G-tube would no longer be necessary)

· **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); Cathy Schmidt (CrossWorld-Germany); Chris & Heather Shepherd (Reformed Theological Seminary); Joel & Stephanie Swanson (MTW-France); Sheridan (MTW-Middle East); Joel & Emily (MTW-Middle East); Tom & Karen Virtue (Cru-California); Tom & Dana Yeakley (Navigators-Colorado)

· **Our missions:** Believe in the Children, Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, Eastland YoungLife, Forreston Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Freeport Pregnancy Center, Gideons International, Kids Around the World, New Life Community Center, Pioneer Club, Presbyterian Church in America, Presbytery of Northern Illinois, Radio Bible Class, Rockford Rescue Mission, Forreston community Vacation Bible School

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 & 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.

· **New concerns:**

- Rich Johnson is scheduled for skin graft surgery on his leg the week after Thanksgiving. Pray for a successful surgery, and for healing and pain relief for him.
- Megan Runyon is scheduled to see the endocrinologist this coming week. Pray for continued healing, as well as guidance for her care team as they make decisions on continued treatment.
- 14-year-old Malachi is in liver failure. Pray for improvement in his liver function.

· **Ongoing concerns:**

- Deverick Sander (pray for healing, strength, and peace)
- Masyn Coleman (pray for pain relief & healing of a rare stomach condition)
- David Iben (praise God that his throat & eye are improving)
- Matt Davis (pray for continued healing & health)
- Nolan Heimerdinger-Baake (pray that the G-tube would no longer be necessary)

· **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); Cathy Schmidt (CrossWorld-Germany); Chris & Heather Shepherd (Reformed Theological Seminary); Joel & Stephanie Swanson (MTW-France); Sheridan (MTW-Middle East); Joel & Emily (MTW-Middle East); Tom & Karen Virtue (Cru-California); Tom & Dana Yeakley (Navigators-Colorado)

· **Our missions:** Believe in the Children, Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, Eastland YoungLife, Forreston Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Freeport Pregnancy Center, Gideons International, Kids Around the World, New Life Community Center, Pioneer Club, Presbyterian Church in America, Presbytery of Northern Illinois, Radio Bible Class, Rockford Rescue Mission, Forreston community Vacation Bible School

Sermon notes

“Christ Our Redeemer and Reconciler”
Colossians 1:9-20

Sermon notes

“Christ Our Redeemer and Reconciler”
Colossians 1:9-20