

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH 901 Pleasant St. Boyden, IA Reverend David P. Poppen December 25, 2018

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

JESUS SAVES! GROW! GO!

Prelude Bonnie Poppen

Opening and Greeting

*Let's sing Christmas Carols - Your choice!

*Opening Prayer

Lighting of the Advent Wreath - Bill & Peg Noack

Reader 1 - In Narnia where it is always winter and never Christmas, winter has ended. The snow has melted, flowers are blooming. The birds are singing, and the trees are putting out tiny green leaves.

Reader 2 - A dwarf aligned with the White Witch is afraid.

People - Christmas has come for us too. Christmas feels like springtime, whether it's the darkest time of winter or days stretched their longest.

Readers 1 - We are filled with the same joy and anticipation in new life we feel at the return of spring. Jesus has come born in a manger and has ushered in a new age.

People - Jesus will return and re-make the world forever.

Reader 2 - With Aslan's coming, winter's grip has been destroyed. With Jesus' birth, sin's power is on the run. Hallelujah!!

Readers 1 & 2 - Merry Christmas! We will light the Christ Candle to proclaim that Jesus lives and lives in us! May this light from the Christ shine into every heart!

Reflection

"Oh, Aslan," said Lucy. "Will you tell us how to get into your country from our world?"

"I shall be telling you all the time," said Aslan. "But I will not tell you how long or short the way will be; only that it lies across a river. But do not fear that, for I am the great Bridge Builder."

Hymn #125 "Joy to the World!"

(Christmas Day offering will be received)

COME! HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture-Luke 2:1-20 (pg 1590)

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon - "Joy and Wonder"

Prayer of Blessing

RESPONDING TO THE WORD!

*Hymn #138 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

Benediction

*"This Little Light of Mine"

Postlude

(*those who are able please stand)



