



**PARABLES**  
*of* **JESUS**

**FIRST REFORMED CHURCH  
901 Pleasant St. Boyden, IA  
Pastor Heath De Jong  
January 7, 2024**

*“First Reformed Church in Boyden will follow God in  
being a thriving community church!”*

Prelude **Leila Moret**

**\*Praise Song – “Joyful Joyful”** (video)

\*Welcome / Announcements

\*Opening Prayer

\*Call to Worship

**\*Praise Song – “Goodness of God”** (video)

\*Greet one another

**Children’s Message**

Children in Worship are dismissed

**The Word of the Lord**

Prayers of the People / Joys and Concerns

**Hymn #58 “This Is My Father’s World” vs 1 & 3**  
(the general and missions offerings will be received)

\*Benediction

**\*Closing Song – “Jesus the Cornerstone” vs 1**  
(found in the back of the hymnals)

Postlude

(\*those who are able please stand)

## **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

**Please remember in your prayers** all those who are facing health issues and difficulties – Bev Kooiker, Rick Polacek, the family members of Mark & Cindy Warntjes and Les Starkenburg’s brother Larry – and anyone else who is in need of prayers.

“**Eternal God**, You gave us the greatest gift: the gift of life. In the coming year, help us use it wisely. May we grow in generosity, kindness and forgiveness, hope, faith and love. Amen.” Rabbi Evan Moffic

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Welcome to Boyden First Reformed Church!** We are so happy you could join us this morning! Nursery services are available during worship in the church basement. After worship please join us in the basement or the south entrance for a time of coffee, goodies and fellowship! Sunday School for elementary children is at the UP Church with sing-along beginning at 10:50 am and classes from 11 to 11:30 am. Junior High and High School meet here at FRC from 11 to 11:30.

**The Christmas Eve Sunday School program** will (hopefully) be on the local cable channel tonight at 6:30 pm.

**Audio / Video / Powerpoint Volunteers** – If anyone is interested in helping out in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings, please visit with Jeff N, Kevin R or Teresa H. No prior knowledge of electronics is necessary! If those of us who are currently serving can do it, anyone can!!

**Star ornaments from “The Longest Night” service** – The ornaments that were put on the Christmas tree are in the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to keep yours, please feel free to take it. Thank you so much for being a part of that special service.

**Save the Date!** Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> the Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held at the Boyden-Hull Elementary school. Boyden FRC will be inviting families to come to the church for a free meal and daycare those two evenings so that parents can attend the conferences without the distraction of their children. Volunteers to help serve the meal, clean up, and to engage the children are appreciated. Watch for more info as we get closer to the dates. What a wonderful opportunity to serve the Boyden-Hull community!!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**January has been a great month at LifeWise Academy-Boyden and Hull!** We have 8 more students in grades 2-6 and 4 more JH students joining us putting our total in 2nd-8th to 161 students! Wow! God continues to work! We are so excited to share the gospel with these new students! If you would like your child to join us in February or you would like to learn more about the program, please go to [lifewise.org/boydenhullia](http://lifewise.org/boydenhullia)

**Love INC Sioux County** - We have several open volunteer positions for our upcoming Love & Learn class session that begins Jan 23. We need mentors in our Faith & Finances class. Love INC provides mentor training. We provide no cost childcare for our class participants, and we are looking for people (18 and older) to supervise children while their parents attend classes from 6:45–8:15 pm on Tuesday evenings. Volunteers can sign up for as many nights over the 12-week period as they want to – you pick your dates. Or you can be put on a substitute list. Our Boundaries class is based on the best-selling book by Cloud and Townsend – we are looking for someone to facilitate this class for our January session. Love INC staff will train you to use the leader guide and videos.

**Hope Haven’s “Dueling Pianos” event is coming soon!** You are invited to come and enjoy “Dueling Pianos” featuring Andy and Ryno! This is the perfect event to enjoy some great music requested by the audience, spend a night with your friends, and support Hope Haven! This event will be held at The District in Sioux Falls, SD with the show starting at 8 pm. To purchase tickets, you can go to [hopehaven.org/events](http://hopehaven.org/events).

**Inspiration Hills Winter Retreat!** February 16-18, kids aged 4<sup>th</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade will gather for a weekend full of fun games, new friends and worshipping our Heavenly Father! For more info or to register, go to [www.inspirationhills.org](http://www.inspirationhills.org).

**Bible verse for the month of January** – “Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:23-25

# The Parables of Jesus

**Scripture Texts:** Matthew 5:13-15; Mark 4:21-22; Luke 8:16-17

## I. Introduction

**Parable** = A short story that teaches a \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ lesson.

A teaching method using the \_\_\_\_\_ to illustrate \_\_\_\_\_ concepts.

## II. Meat-n-potatoes

1) “You are the salt of the earth.” Matthew 5:13-14; Mark 9:50

A) Salt

- Denotes our \_\_\_\_\_ side
- Must go through a \_\_\_\_\_ process
- Adds \_\_\_\_\_
- Helps \_\_\_\_\_
- Has health benefits
  - ❖ Electrolyte \_\_\_\_\_
  - ❖ Improved \_\_\_\_\_
  - ❖ Pain \_\_\_\_\_
  - ❖ Air \_\_\_\_\_
  - ❖ Energy \_\_\_\_\_
- Provides essential nutrients
  - ❖ Table salt =
  - ❖ Himalayan =
  - ❖ Celtic =

2) “You are the light of the world.” Matthew 5:14-15; Mark 4:21-22; Luke 8:16-17

A) Light

- Denotes our \_\_\_\_\_ side
- Created in \_\_\_\_\_ image
  - ❖ Genesis 1:3-4

- Because sin entered (Genesis 3) now it's \_\_\_\_\_ vs \_\_\_\_\_
  - ❖ Ephesians 6:12
  - ❖ 2 Corinthians 4:4-6
- B) "A town built on a hill cannot be hidden."
  - Light is \_\_\_\_\_
    - ❖ "FRC Boyden will follow God"
  - Light exposes \_\_\_\_\_
    - ❖ Mark 4:21-22
    - ❖ Luke 8:16-17
    - ❖ "In being a thriving community church"

### **III. Conclusion**

Matthew 5:16 "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

# Welcome to Worship!

**TODAY – JANUARY 7, 2024**

9:30 AM – WORSHIP

10:35 AM - FELLOWSHIP

11 – 11:30 AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL

1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>TH</sup> AT UP / 6<sup>TH</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup> AT FRC

**THANKS TO THOSE SERVING TODAY!**

**GREETERS/USHERS:** Josh Mouw & Chris Starkenburg

**AUDIO:** Andrew Neuman

**VIDEO:** Jeff Neuman

**POWERPOINT:** Teresa Harms

**KITCHEN:** Wanda Slykhuis

**COOKIES:** Wanda Slykhuis & Jeri Hoogendoorn

**NURSERY:** Kayla Rosenboom

**CHILDREN IN WORSHIP:** Leader Marissa Mouw  
Helper Karri Schafer

**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

Tues Jan 9 – Men's Group 5:30 am

Elders' Mtg 6:30 pm / Deacons' Mtg 7 pm

Consistory 8 pm

Evening Ladies' Bible Study at parsonage at 7 pm

Wed Jan 10 – Daytime Ladies' Bible Study 1 pm

Leader Teresa Harms & Hostess LuEtta Heemskerk

Awana – Meal 6pm – Program 6:30-8 pm

**NEXT SUNDAY – JANUARY 14, 2023**

Worship – 9:30 am

Fellowship – 10:35 am

Sunday School – 11 am

Kitchen: Sheryl Warntjes

Cookies: Sheryl Warntjes & Holly Starkenburg

Nursery – Marissa Mouw

**You are invited** to the Full Send Conference 2024 to be held January 26-28, 2024, at the Maurice Reformed Church (410 Main Street, Maurice IA). Topics of the conference include sexuality, identity, prayer, reconciliation, vulnerability, evangelism and more! Friday evening begins with registration at 6 pm and a main session where you will learn how to grow in your faith and help others grow as well. Saturday is from 9am-9pm with 3 main sessions, 3 breakout groups and 2 meals. The focus will be about growing in what we know about the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Sunday is from 9:30 – 10:45 where you will Go with what you know into a world that desperately needs to experience it. For more information or to register, go to [www.fullsendministry.com](http://www.fullsendministry.com) – please register by January 14<sup>th</sup>.

**To begin a prayer chain** – You can either call Max Moret at 348-2929 or Teresa Harms/church office at 725-2366.

### **2024 Consistory Executive Committee**

Vice President – Kathy Ver Meer

Clerk – Rod Bolkema

Assistant Clerk – Kevin Rosenboom

Chair of Deacons – Chris Diekevers

Treasurer – Paul Moret

Assistant Treasurer – Nic Rosenboom

Building & Grounds – Ken Hoogendoorn & David Mouw

Music & Worship – Kathy Ver Meer

Outreach & Assimilation – Roger Nelson

Mission Task Force – Brent Fedders

Discipleship – Brent Fedders

### **2024 Elders**

Rod Bolkema ('26)

Brent Fedders ('24)

Roger Nelson ('26)

Kevin Rosenboom ('25)

Kathy Ver Meer ('24)

### **2024 Deacons**

Chris Diekevers ('24)

Ken Hoogendoorn ('24)

Paul Moret ('25)

David Mouw ('26)

Nic Rosenboom ('25)

**Pastor Heath's Cell: 712-330-8562**

**Pastor Heath's Email: [hdejong@frcboyden.com](mailto:hdejong@frcboyden.com)**

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**Facebook – [Boyden First Reformed Church](#)**

**YouTube Channel - [@frcboyden](#)**