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*Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church!  
We are delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning.  
Thank you for joining us and may you experience  
God's blessing in our worship.*

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## **The Lord's Day**

December 14, 2008

◆ **Call to Worship:** Philippians 4:4-5  
Rejoice in the Lord always.  
I will say it again: Rejoice!  
Let your gentleness be evident to all.  
The Lord is near.

### **Prayer for God's Blessing**

◆ **Hymn of Adoration:** #194 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

**Call to Confession:** Isaiah 1:18  
"Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

### **Corporate Prayer of Confession:**

God of all grace, we humbly confess to you that we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and deeds. We confess that we have not lived our lives in devotion to you this past week. We have neglected your Word; we have been cold in our prayers; we have not allowed you to search our hearts; and we have been uncaring towards our loved ones. We confess that we have failed to be thankful for all that you have done for us in Jesus Christ.

According to your tender mercies, O God, forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ! He is our salvation and in him alone we trust. Grant us a fresh sense of your presence and a renewed resolve to live to the praise of Christ's glory. In Christ's name we pray. AMEN

**Assurance of Pardon:** Isaiah 40:1-2  
Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for.

◆ **Hymn of Praise:** #207 "Good Christian Men, Rejoice"

◆ **Our Scriptural Profession of Faith** — Jeremiah 23:5-6  
Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called:  
**"The LORD is our righteousness."**

### **Pastoral Prayer**

### **Worship with Tithes and Offerings**

◆ **Hymn of Preparation:** #159 "O Savior, Precious Savior"

**Old Testament:** 2 Samuel 7:1-17  
**New Testament:** Luke 1:26-38

**Sermon:** "Christmas Surprises"

◆ **Hymn of Response:** #196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

### **◆ Benediction**

◆ **Doxology:** #731 "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow"

## Sermon Notes:

**Greeter this week:** *Mark Doran*

**Greeter next week:** *Fred Williams*

**Pianists:** *Katie Frank, Emily Doran, & Marie Stults*

**Nursery:** *Staff* (as needed)

**Flowers for December:** *VandenBerg family*

**Brighton Community Group...** will not be meeting again until after the Christmas holidays. We will meet again on January 7, 2009, 7-9pm at the Doran's home. Pastor Doll is leading the study by Paul Tripp, *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands: People in Need of Change, Helping People in Need of Change.*

**Ann Arbor Community Group...** meets Wednesday evening, from 6:30-8:30pm, at the Wierzgac's home. The study is by Jerry Bridges, *Transforming Grace...Living Confidently in God's Unfailing Love.*

**Next Sunday...** We celebrate the Lord's Supper. After the worship service a Fellowship Luncheon & Christmas Hymn Sing will be held. Please bring two dishes to pass...one should be a main dish, and the other a salad/side dish or dessert. Following the luncheon, there will be a time of singing of our favorite Christmas hymns.



**New Address: Ray & Donna Iavasile**

125 Village Way  
Canton, Michigan 48188  
(734) 983-9014

**New Horizons magazine...** Copies of this month's *New Horizons* magazine are on the Information table. Please feel free to take extra copies to pass out among family, friends, co-workers, etc., or leave a copy at your doctor/dentist's office next time you have an appointment.

### Upcoming Events

Wed, Dec 17 - Ann Arbor Community Group, 6:30pm at Wierzgac's

Sun, Dec 21 - The Lord's Supper

Sun, Dec 21 - Christmas Hymn Sing & Fellowship Luncheon

Wed, Jan 7 - Brighton Community Group, 7pm at Doran's

Wed, Jan 7 - Ann Arbor Community Group, 6:30pm at Wierzgac's

Sat, January 10 - Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:30-10am, TBD