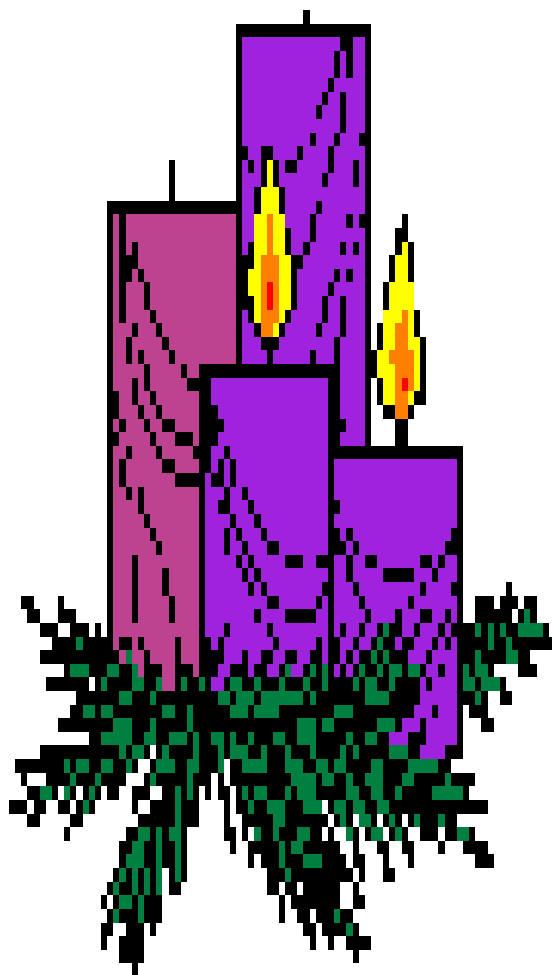


**ELIM COVENANT CHURCH  
DECEMBER 7, 2014**



**WORSHIP CELEBRATION**  
**ELIM COVENANT CHURCH December 7, 2014**

"We look forward to the time when the Power of Love will replace the Love of Power. Then will our world know the blessings of peace." ~ William Gladstone ~

**GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

**We are invited into the presence of God!**  
**Please turn your cell phones off\***

**PRELUDE**

**HYMNS OF PRAISE**

**Worship Facilitator**

Zach Coil

**HYMN #162**

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

**HYMN #164**

*"Away in a Manger"*

**HYMN #360**

*"Create in Me a Clean Heart"*

*CCLI #2005052*

**HEARING FROM GOD**

We give our attention to God by opening our lives to His Word!  
We invite God's Spirit to take this Word into our lives that we  
might be formed into the image and likeness of Jesus!

**MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH**

*"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear."  
(1 John 4:18)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE**

*The DeArmond Girls*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*(Children dismissed for Children's Church,  
please for ages 3 thru 5th grade only).*

**WORDS FROM GOD**

Mark 1:1-8

*Scripture Reader, Don Peterson*

## **RESPONDING TO GOD**

Now that God has spoken to us, it is time for us to speak to Him!

### **MESSAGE “Preparing the Way for the Lord” Pastor Steve Peterson**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

Call to Communion #878 The Apostles’ Creed  
Invitation to the Lord’s Table Sharing of the Bread & Cup

### **OFFERTORY**

### **OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

### **BEING SENT BY GOD**

God sends us out into the world that he desperately loves.  
His presence goes with us. We leave as God’s agents of grace and mercy.

### **HYMN #178**

*“Mary Had a Baby”*

### **BENEDICTION**

#### ***Scripture Reading for the Week***

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Lamentations 3:31-33</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Proverbs 3:24</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Leviticus 10:3</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Deuteronomy 4:31</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Luke 8:21</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>John 15:10</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Luke 11:13</i>

---

### **TODAY’S GREETERS**

Rolland & Joann Potts

### **HEAD USHER**

Don Peterson

### **USHERS**

Martin Bear, Tom Dang & Gary Wells

### **SOUND SYSTEM**

Josh Parrott

# “Preparing the Way for the Lord”

## Mark 1:1-8

**Key verse:** “Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps” (Ps. 85:13)

**Key thought:** Repentance (turning toward righteousness) opens the way for God’s coming

- 1) Intro & Context
- 2) Preparing the way (vv. 2-3) (cf. Ps. 85:13; Isa. 40:3-4; 57:14; Mal. 3:1; Mt. 11:10; 22:1-14; Lk. 1:76; Jn. 14:1-4) “Remove the obstacles out of the way of my people” (Isa. 57:14b)
- 3) Repentance (vv. 4-5) (cf. 2 Cor. 7:10; Lk. 24:47; 2 Pt. 3:9) “...In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength... ” (Isa. 30:15)
- 4) Putting it into practice  
Q: One thing I need to repent of would be

---

---

---

---

Q: One or two things I could fast from during Advent would be...

---

---

---

- 5) The forgiveness of sins (v. 4) (Ps. 32:1; Jer. 31:34; Mt. 26:28; Eph. 1:7) “Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered” (Ps. 32:1)
- 6) Conclusion

# PRAISES and PRAYER CONCERNS

**Praises: Answered prayers; Our God is an awesome God!**

**Prayer Concerns: Racial conflicts and protests across the U.S.;  
Dysfunctional & hurting families; Our shut-ins.**

## **Those in Need of God's Strength and Healing:**

Unspoken needs of our brothers & sisters: Dorothy & Adolph Laurick, June Riley, Anna Swanson, Vivian Smith, Gene & Ellie Wildermuth, Betty Lindberg, Marj Nelson, Jay Stanley, John Hutchison, Travis Ferry, Tabatha Estes, Lyle & Maurine Beresford, families who have lost loved ones, military families, and unspoken concerns.

## **Prayer Notes:**



### **Sunday Prayer Following Worship**

**Please feel free to take your burden or praise to one of the Elim Prayer Team members available to pray with you. Team members include: Julie, Linda, Carolyn, Juanita, Dee & Tasha and can be easily found at the back of the sanctuary in the northeast classroom.**



### **Monday Evening Prayer Gathering**

**Each Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. there is a prayer gathering held at Elim. You are encouraged to come and pray with the team members and share your requests/praises.**

### **Prayer Chain**

**The prayer network is used when special needs arise during the week. Call Judy at the church 764-6920 Monday thru Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. otherwise call or text Tasha Munger @ (309) 281-8784 with your request. If no answer, you may leave your concern on the answer machine and it will be relayed ASAP.**

---



# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We are having our next congregational meeting following worship TODAY, December 7<sup>th</sup>. On the agenda will be the 2015 budget and the ballot for the 2015 MLT members.

---



## VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEETS

*The volunteer sign-up sheets for 2015 is on the table in the gathering area. Please consider volunteering for this coming year. We really need people to help out in every area. You need to sign up even if you already volunteer in that particular area.*

*Thank you.*

---

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADER MEETING

There will be a short children's church leaders meeting following worship on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Please see Rachel Cunningham with any questions.

---



## WEDNESDAY DOLLAR DINNER NEEDS BAKERS

There is a sign-up sheet in the gathering area for bakers to pick a Wednesday to furnish the Wednesday night Dollar Dinner group with desserts. Please sign-up if you can help out. See Tom Bivens or Greg Burney.

---



## COOKIE DECORATING PARTY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>

There are sign-up sheets in the gathering area for our cookie decorating day. No time yet. We no longer have a cookie walk, but gather together to make cookies for our elderly, shut-ins, or anyone in need. Please sign up if you plan to attend and indicate how many & what kind of cookies you will bring. Cheryl Bear needs a count so she will know how many sugar cookies to bring to decorate. We are trying to arrange for child care. If you are interested in music, carols, or pizza on that day, please let Cheryl know. We also have a sheet to sign up anyone that you would like to receive a delivery of cookies. Then too, please sign up if you can deliver the packages of cookies. Thank you.

---

## Phillip Estes



**Please join us for cake and refreshments as we celebrate Phillip beginning a new chapter in his life.....  
December 14<sup>th</sup> after Sunday worship.**

---

### *Poinsettia Time*



*If you would like to order a poinsettia plant in honor of a loved one please sign up on the sheet in the gathering area. They are \$7.50 and may be paid to Mary Bivens or Judy in the church office.*

## *LOOKING AHEAD*

Sun	Dec. 7	9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service/Communion 11:45 a.m. Congregational Meeting
Mon	Dec. 8	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tue	Dec. 9	5:30 p.m. MLT Meeting 6:45 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed	Dec. 10	5:30 p.m. Dollar Dinner 6:00-7:30pm SPARK/AXIS 7:30-9:00pm Fusion (10 <sup>th</sup> grade thru college)
Thur	Dec. 11	10am & 3pm CIU – YMCA Christmas Party
Sat	Dec. 13	No time yet Christmas Cookie Decorating Party
Sun	Dec. 14	9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service 11:45 a.m. Children’s Church Leader Meeting Noon Refreshments for Phillip Estes, Air Force Recruit
Mon	Dec. 15	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tue	Dec. 16	6:45 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed	Dec. 17	5:30 p.m. Dollar Dinner 6:00-7:30p.m. SPARK 6:30 -9:00pm AXIS/Fusion Christmas Party @ the Burney’s
Fri	Dec. 19	9:30a-1:00pm CIU – QCSAHP 7:00p-7:00am AXIS Lock-In
Sat	Dec. 20	9:00-11:30am Choir Cantata Rehearsal
Sun	Dec. 21	9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service/Cantata Sunday 11:45 a.m. Collection for Christian Friendliness
Mon	Dec. 22	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tue	Dec. 23	6:45 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed	Dec. 24	5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship Service

### December Birthdays

11 – Danielle Ogden  
13 – Adam Hermann  
19 – Elizabeth Smith  
19 – Julie Wells  
20 – John Wulff  
22 – John Thompson  
30 – Belva Van Norman  
31 – Kristen Burns

### December Anniversaries

10 – John & Linda Hutchison  
11 – Gene & Ellie Wildermuth  
31 – Adolph & Dorothy Laurick

CIU – means Church In Use  
(309) 764-6920

Church office      office@elimqc.org

Attendance Last Week – Sunday School = 37      Worship = 90

#### CHILD CARE      THIS WEEK

Nursery      M. Burney & Victoria Fowler  
Children’s Church 3-6 yrs      Meagan & Cheryl Bear  
Children’s Church 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades      K. Burns & R. Peterson

Pastor’s e-mail      [pastor@elimqc.org](mailto:pastor@elimqc.org)  
Church office e-mail      [office@elimqc.org](mailto:office@elimqc.org)

#### NEXT WEEK

Cheryl Bear & Juanita Arrelanos  
Mary Bivens & Michelle DeArmond  
Mallory Burney & Meagan DeA.  
Greg’s e-mail      [youth@elimqc.org](mailto:youth@elimqc.org)  
Website      elimqc.org