

**ELIM COVENANT CHURCH**  
**December 3, 2023**



**Elim Covenant Church**

5201 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue Moline, IL. 61265  
(309) 764-6920

Website: [www.elimqc.org](http://www.elimqc.org)

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

Church office: [office@elimqc.org](mailto:office@elimqc.org)

Family Outreach Director: [outreach@elimqc.org](mailto:outreach@elimqc.org)

# **WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

**December 3, 2023**

**10:30 a.m.**

*Elim's mission statement:*

*"To develop leaders who will impact the world for Christ."*

## **GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

*We are invited into the presence of God!*

*Please turn your cell phones off*

*The service is also being live-streamed and recorded for immediate or later viewing, and can be accessed at [elimqc.org](http://elimqc.org)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Elizabeth Peterson**

**OFFERING**

## **MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH**

*"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." (Philippians 4:8)*

## **LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE**

*Juanita Arellanos*

*Abigail, Divine, and Oriane Akpla*

## **ADORATION TO GOD**

We offer to God "a sacrifice of praise," expressing our love and devotion to Him.

**WORSHIP SONGS**

*"What Child Is This?"*

*"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"*

## **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!

# **MESSAGE**

## **“Real Hope”**

**by Pastor Steve Peterson**

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

Call to Communion

Invitation to the Lord’s Table for the Sharing of the Bread and Cup

### **PRAYERS TO GOD**

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

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **BEING SENT BY GOD**

God sends us out into the world that He passionately loves.

### **WORSHIP SONG**

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

### **BENEDICTION**

**GREETERS TODAY:** Karen Bowling and Mary Murphy

#### **December Birthdays**

6 – Kelly Wood

10 – Nolan Cassini

11 – Danielle Ogden

#### **December Birthdays**

12 – Karen Bowling

13 – Adam Hermann

13 – Tyler Spencer

#### **December Anniversaries**

2 – Gary and Julie Wells

### **Daily Bible Reading Guide 2023**

**God’s Saving Word:**

**Unity in Christ Jesus**

December 3	Mark 13:1-23
December 4	Mark 13:24-37
December 5	Zephaniah 1:1-18
December 6	Zephaniah 2:1-15
December 7	Zephaniah 3:1-20
December 8	Jeremiah 33:1-13
December 9	Jeremiah 33:14-26

**Sermon Notes**  
**Sunday, December 3, 2023**  
**“Real Hope”**  
**Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7,17-19;**  
**1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37**

**Key Text:** *“Restore us, Lord God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved”* (Psalm 80:19)

**Key Thought:** Our only real hope, for this world and the next, is in Christ Jesus

- 1) Intro & Context
  
- 2) A real **ASSESSMENT** (Isa. 64:1-9) (cf. Jdg. 2:18-19; Isa. 1:2-4; Jer. 2:13,19; Gal. 1:6; Rev. 2:4; 3:15-20)
  
- 3) Pray for **REVIVAL** (Isa. 64; Ps. 80) (cf. Ps. 119:37; Isa. 57:15; Rev. 22:1-5)
  
- 4) Remain **STRONG** in Christ (1 Cor. 1:3-9) (cf. Jn. 15:4-10; 1 Ths. 5:23; 2 Tim. 2:1; 1 Jn. 2:24-27)
  
- 5) Remain **VIGILANT** (Mk. 13:32-37) (cf. Lam. 3:25-26; 1 Ths. 5:4-11; 1 Pt. 5:8))
  
- 6) Conclusion

**QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:**

- Living in a land where many are falling away from Christ, how are you keeping your hope strong?
- Are you praying for revival (personal and corporate)?
- Are you doing your utmost to remain strongly connected to Christ?

## PRAYER PAGE

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

Katie Clarke	Arlene Miller	Madeline Lumpkin
Don Neer	Wiley Barnes	Margaret Crandall
Tasha Munger	Felipe Cantu	Tabatha Estes
Gary and Julie Wells	Nathan Lyon	Sandy Winthurst
Jeff Parrott		

Families that have lost loved ones, caregivers, military families, and unspoken concerns.

<i>Covenant Prayer Calendar — December 3– December 9</i> <i>Please pray for this week's</i> <i>Covenant missionaries and ministries:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fabio Muniz and Johnna Hayward Muniz (France)</li><li>• Colleen Nahnychuk (Argentina)</li><li>• Karl and Mary Noren (Cameroon)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Paul and Sheryl Noren (DR Congo)</li><li>• Evens and Karina Paul (Haiti)</li><li>• Hydi and Jim Peterson (Japan)</li><li>• Jordan</li></ul>

### Prayer Opportunities

**Prayer Cards:** Feel free to use the prayer cards for your requests and drop them in the offering plate.

**Prayer Following Worship:** The Elim Prayer Team is available to pray with you after the service in the Jeremiah classroom at the back of the sanctuary.

**Prayer Gatherings:** Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. Come and pray with the team members and share your requests/praises.

**Prayer Chain:** Have a prayer need? Call Sandy at the church at (309) 764-6920 Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. or call or text Sandy at (309) 592-7703 with your request.



## **Elim Family Night**

Sundays – 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Kicking off December by “**keeping it REAL**”! Want to know more? Join us **TONIGHT** at 5:30 for dinner before we dive into our thought-provoking discussion!

## **S.P.L.A.S.H. Christmas Party**

The S.P.L.A.S.H. Christmas party will be held at the church on **Saturday, December 9** at **9:00 a.m.** Bring your gift to exchange and we’ll celebrate by wearing our ugly Christmas sweaters. Coffee and breakfast will be offered along with singing and fun!

## **Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday, December 10, 2022**, immediately following the church service, there will be a congregational meeting. The proposed budget and officers for 2024 are posted on the bulletin board in the entryway for your review. They will be voted on at the meeting. See you there!

## **Christmas Hymn Sing**

Do you long to sing the great hymns of this season? Come and join us next **Sunday, December 10** at **4:00 p.m.** for a wonderful time of worshipping God, enjoying great fellowship, and singing time-tested, classic Christmas hymns.

## **Covenant World Relief & Development**

We have the opportunity to share and support Covenant World Relief & Development (CWR&D) through their annual “The Can for Change” campaign. Pick up a label and a lid, place them on a clean soup can, and start collecting change. When it’s full, bring it back to church or you can designate a gift for CWRD on your church envelope. Thanks for sharing!

## Sign-up Sheet for Greeters

We have a sign-up sheet on the table in the gathering area for greeters for 2024. You may sign up with someone or we can put you with another greeter. Thanks for serving!



## Poinsettias

A sign-up sheet for poinsettias is on the table in the gathering area. The cost is \$10.00 and may be turned in to the church office or put in an envelope marked "poinsettia" and placed in the offering plate. Each plant is purchased to beautify our church during the Christmas season in memory or honor of a loved one and may be taken after Christmas for you to enjoy.

## Advent Devotionals

*Joy to the World!* That's the title of our Advent devotional book. You can pick up a copy as you leave today. They are on the table just outside the sanctuary doors. There is a devotional for each day of Advent, that starts December 1.



## OUTREACH BOX

THANK YOU to those who have given me contacts to reach out to! Please know that I reach out to ALL contacts and ask that EVERYONE continue to think of those I can extend a card, email or call to. Maybe it's an Elim member you have not seen in church for a while, a family member, a friend, a neighbor...anyone who could benefit from an outreach contact, letting them know we care and what Elim has to offer! Please know the

trifold flyers have been updated and are also available to be used to give information about Elim. These trifolds are next to the outreach box and outreach cards to be filled out on the table near our church mailboxes. Questions? Please ask me! 😊 ~Kim Shuda, Family Outreach Director

## Looking Ahead

Sunday	December 3	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Celebration Service
		5:30 p.m.	Elim Family Night
Tuesday	December 5	9:30 a.m.	<b>SAS</b> Bible Study
		6:00 p.m.	GriefShare
Wednesday	December 6	9:00 a.m.	"AMPED" Prayer Meeting
		3:45 p.m.	Prayer Meeting
Thursday	December 7	9:30 a.m.	Keenagers
Friday	December 8	8:00 a.m.	CIU Martel
Saturday	December 9	9:00 a.m.	S.P.L.A.S.H.
Sunday	December 10	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Celebration Service
		5:30 p.m.	Santa Lucia Celebration at First Covenant

## Attendance Last Week

Sunday Worship = 47    Views on YouTube = 18  
 Sunday School/Children's Church/Confirmation = 21

## CHILDCARE SCHEDULE

### TODAY, December 3:

Children's Church: Meagan Bear and Kristen Burns  
 Nursery: Cheryl Bear and Lauren Schmidt

### NEXT WEEK, December 10:

Children's Church: Natalie Hermann and Mary Parrott  
 Nursery: Meagan Bear and Mariah Richardson

## Christian Care Current Needs

**33- and 39-gallon Garbage Bags**  
**Kitchen Garbage Bags; Laundry Soap**  
**Toilet Bowl Cleaner; All-purpose Cleaners**  
**Clothing: Hats, Gloves, Jackets**

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