

ELIM COVENANT CHURCH
December 24, 2023



Elim Covenant Church

5201 18th Avenue Moline, IL. 61265
(309) 764-6920

Website: www.elimqc.org

Pastor's e-mail: pastor@elimqc.org

Church office: office@elimqc.org

Family Outreach Director: outreach@elimqc.org

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

December 24, 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

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 FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Jean Russell and Mary Turnbaugh

ADORATION TO GOD

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

WORSHIP SONGS

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Blue Hymnal, p. 157

"What Child is This?"

Blue Hymnal, p. 171

"O Holy Night"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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!

WORDS FROM GOD

John 15:9-17

MESSAGE

“Real Love”

by Pastor Steve Peterson

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

“Go Tell It On The Mountain”

Blue Hymnal, p. 188

BENEDICTION

GREETERS TODAY: John and Pam Thompson

December Birthdays

27 – Dave Parrott

31 – Kristen Burns

January Birthdays

1 – Kinsey Knary

5 – Eliana Henderson

6 – Christopher Whipple

6 – Stephen Whipple

January Anniversaries

8 – Jeff and Mary Parrott

Daily Bible Reading Guide 2023

God’s Saving Word:

Unity in Christ Jesus

December 24	Luke 2:1-20
December 25	John 1:1-18
December 26	John 1:19-34
December 27	John 1:35-51
December 28	Luke 2:21-38
December 29	Luke 2:39-52
December 30	Revelation 21:1-27

Sermon Notes
Sunday, December 24, 2023
“Real Love”
John 15:9-17

Key Text: *“And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them”* (1 Jn. 4:16)

Key Thought: God wants us to know His awesome love & experience it fully, then to respond by loving Him & loving others.

- 1) Intro & Context
- 2) God is **LOVE**. His love is:
 - a. Unbounding: (cf. Ps. 36:5; 57:10; 86:5; Ps. 103:8, 11; 108:4; 119:64; Eph. 3:17-18)
 - b. **ETERNAL** (cf. Ps. 89:2; 103:17; Isa. 54:10; Jer. 31:3; Rom. 8:37-39)
 - c. Unfailing (cf. Ps. 13:5; 36:7; Lam. 3:32; Rom. 8:37-39; 1 Cor. 2:9)
 - d. **COVENANTAL** (cf. Deut. 7:9, 12; 1 Kgs. 8:23; Neh. 1:5; 9:32; Hos. 2:19)
 - e. His **ULTIMATE** love (cf. Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:8)
 - f. His very nature (1 Jn. 4:8,16)
 - g. In **US** (cf. Jn. 14:23; 17:26; Rom. 5:5; Gal. 5:22)
- 3) Love **GOD** (cf. Deut. 6:5; 7:9,12; 10:12; 11:1; Jn. 14:21; 15:10; 1 Cor. 8:3; 1 Jn. 2:3,5)
- 4) Love **OTHERS** (cf. Mt. 22:39; Jn. 13:34; 15:13; Rom. 13:8, 10; Gal. 5:13-14; 1 Jn. 3:23; 4:7-9)
- 5) Conclusion

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- Do you truly know God’s love? How deeply? Do you believe in His love for you?
- Do you truly love God? Do you obey Him & trust Him?
- Do you love others? Are you growing toward maturity in loving others with God’s love?

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.

Covenant Prayer Calendar — December 24 – December 30

Please pray for this week's

Covenant missionaries and ministries:

James Tang (South Sudan and Ethiopia)	Janet and Ronald Ziegelbaur (Cameroon)
Alex and Melanie Viana (Mozambique)	Friends of World Missions (FOWM)
Phillip and Stephanie Voland (Germany)	Covenant World Relief & Development
Craig and Cheryl Wickstrom (DR Congo)	FREE (An anti-sex trafficking initiative of Serve Globally)
Christopher and Diane Wiebe (East Asia)	Team the ECC

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



Elim Family Night will be our candlelight Christmas Eve service **tonight at 4:30**. Invite your friends and family to join us as we celebrate the **REAL** meaning of Christmas...the birth of Jesus.

Love Offering

Elim Church will be taking our love offering for Pastor Steve and his family at our Christmas Eve service. If you can't make the service give your gift to **Mike, L.J.** or **Marty** prior to the service. You can also send it directly to them. Praise God for the Peterson family.



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!

Mission Trip to Monterrey, Mexico

The dates for the mission trip to Monterrey Mexico, has been set for March 8-15, 2023. Anyone interested may contact Mary Turnbaugh. More details will follow soon.



The poinsettias that are brightening our sanctuary are to bless those we love and to honor those who are gone this Christmas season. Thank you.



Provided by

Kim Shuda
Larry and Sandy McNeal
The Parrott Family
Dale and Linda Gilmour
Don and Sheila Yoeckel
Tom Lancial
Karen Bowling
Mary Murphy
Pat Hudson
Diane and Terry Snipes
Orlin and Karen Johnson
Jim and Danielle Ogden
Rodney and Judy Ouderkirk
Jon and Tabatha Estes
Claudine Patton
Pennie Knary
Jean Russell
Rollie Potts, Becky and Byron
Katie Clarke
Karen Bagatelas
Bob Telfer
Carolyn Preston

In Honor or Memory of

My Mom
Jenny and Steve
Steve and Jamie
Our Parents
Our Parents
Annette
Daughter Lori
Daughter and Husband
Tom and Parents
Our Parents
Our Parents
Christy and Parents
Parents, Tommy, and Evan
Parents
Carrie, Pat, Charley
Dad, Mom, and Kenneth
Husband Don
Joan Potts
Bob
Parents Gilbert and Maxine Johnson
The Petersons
The Petersons

Looking Ahead

Sunday	December 24	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Celebration Service
		4:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
Monday	December 25	<i>Office Closed for Christmas</i>	
Tuesday	December 26	9:30 a.m.	SAS Bible Study
		1:00 p.m.	CIU Cespedes
Wednesday	December 27	9:00 a.m.	"AMPED" Prayer Meeting
Sunday	December 31	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Celebration Service
Monday	January 1	<i>Office Closed for New Year's</i>	

Attendance Last Week

Sunday Worship = 79 Views on YouTube = 18
Sunday School/Children's Church/Confirmation = 32

CHILDCARE SCHEDULE

TODAY, December 24:

Children's Church: Christ's Birthday Party
Nursery: Sheila Yoeckel and Jamie Cespedes

NEXT WEEK, December 31:

No Children's Church, Children Stay in Service
Nursery: Amy Hennings and Kristen Burns

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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