

SPEAKERS

December 5 - Ken Storm, Holy Communion

December 12 - Mark Sunnarborg

December 19 - Ken Storm
Sunday School Christmas Program with Service and Potluck Meal to Follow

December 24 - Christmas Eve
Caroling at 6:30 p.m.
Service at 7:00 p.m. - Ken Storm

December 26 - Charles Korhonen

CHURCH SCHEDULE

Sunday School/Adult Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Service:
11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study:
7:00 p.m.

CONTACT

Website:
www.tapiolachurch.org

Mailing: P.O. Box 531,
Houghton, MI 49931

Location:
17602 N. Lake Ave.,
Tapiola, MI 49916
(906) 334-2766

Contact: Ken Storm, Pastor
(906) 482-3234

Abide In Grace Lord Jesus

With heartfelt passion the writer has penned the words of this beautiful song of prayer, *"Abide in grace, Lord Jesus, among us constantly, Lest Satan's arts deceive us and gain the victory."* This plea is echoed in the heart of every true believer as he recognizes how small his own little ship of faith really is and how vast and turbulent are the seas upon which the storms of life are raging. Sometimes this recognition causes our hearts to become fearful and to us it might appear that we are destined to suffer spiritual shipwreck. But, dear Christian friend, let us together, be reminded that the helm of our frail little vessel is in the sure hands of our Savior. He who is able to still the tempest and calm our hearts continues to reassure us through the words of another song writer; *"Fear Not, I Will Pilot Thee."*

How comforting it is to be reminded, once again as this year draws to a close, that our loving Heavenly Father sent His only begotten Son into this sin-cursed world to redeem us from our sins and thus open the doors of Heaven to us poor souls who believe by faith in His redemptive work at Calvary and in the power of His resurrection we have a lively hope of eternal life. All He requires of us is that in true contrition we would acknowledge our sinfulness and sins making known our desire for forgiveness. Unto whom can we go with our burden of sin? Is it not unto Jesus only? But where is He to be found? Jesus Christ, Bethlehem's child, dwells within every true believer's heart by and through God's Holy Spirit. We find this recorded in Christ's own words; John 14:15-20. Again, Jesus reaffirms this in John 20:21-23 and gives his disciples (true believers) power to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, not of themselves, but by the power vested unto them by Jesus in His name. *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."* John 3:16-17

Believing hearts rejoice in spirit when beholding God's great love for a fallen mankind. To think that his love for each of us compelled him to send us the perfect Christmas gift, his own dear son, so that believing in his redemptive work we could have a lively hope of eternal life. Although we are but pilgrims and strangers here on earth and journey here by God's grace, yet we look beyond this fleeting life and with the eyes of faith we behold the author and finisher of our faith who will welcome us home. What a day it will be when our Jesus we shall see and we can join our voices in that joyful song; *"Constantly Abiding Jesus Is Mine"*, not only while on our journey homeward, but eternally.

May you have a blessed Christmas.

Ken Storm - Pastor