

**Welcome to Worship with First Reformed Church**  
**March 19, 2023**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**Rev. Luke Baehr, Senior Pastor**

*God, as I encounter others at worship today, help me look on their hearts, as you do. Then lead me to share a caring word.*

**Sunday Morning Worship – 9:00 a.m.**

**GOD GATHERS US**

**Prelude**  
**Call to Worship**  
**\*Opening Praise** *Now With Joyful Expectation*  
*Amazing Grace*

**Prayer of Confession**  
**Assurance of Pardon**  
**Welcome & Peace**  
**Refrain of Thanks** *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*  
**Children’s Message** (Kids Church – ages 3-4<sup>th</sup> grade meet downstairs)  
**Life Together:** Receiving a New Member

**GOD SPEAKS TO US**

**Prayer of Illumination**  
**Scripture** Luke 3:21-22  
**Sermon** “Something in the Water”

**GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND**

**Announcements**  
**Prayers of the Church**

**GOD SENDS US OUT**

**\*Sending Song** *Ahead of Us, a Race to Run*  
**\*Charge & Benediction**  
**\*Doxology**  
**\*Postlude**

*\*Congregation please stand*

*Next Week’s Scripture: John 9:1-12*

**Those Serving Today**

**Organist:** Darlyn DeYoung  
**Nursery:** Violet Saeman

**Today**

**Leader:** Jacqui Hollander  
**Helper:** Bryelle Hollander

**Next Sunday – March 26**

**Leader:** Jamie Weaver  
**Helper:** Violet Saeman

**Sunday School**

Sunday School will be dismissed at 10:45 a.m. ALL children from 3 yrs-12th grade are welcome to attend Sunday School.

**Today**

Welcome to worship. May God’s Word help us each see something or someone in a new way today.

**Global Prayer Partners: Mar.19 - TODAY** our Global Prayer Partners will meet after worship to pray specifically for our missionary partnerships around the world. This group is an important part of fulfilling our commitment to the regular prayer that all of our missionaries as well as persecuted Christians around the world request most. Get up-to-date on the latest from our missionaries in the March issue of *The Messenger*.

*\*Please join us in the fellowship hall after worship for coffee time.*

**This Week’s Activities**

**Monday, March 20**  
6:30 p.m. – Women’s Bible Study Lesson 33

**Tuesday, March 21**  
5:30 p.m.– Lenten Soup Supper  
Lemon Orzo Pesto  
Potatoe & Ham Soup

**Wednesday, March 22**  
No Youth Group – Spring Break

**Sunday, March 26**  
9:00 a.m. – Morning Worship  
Pianist: Lois Wendlandt  
**Nursery:** Tessa Reed

**Announcements**

**Volunteer with Caring Cupboard** - Are you interested in an opportunity to support your local community members in need? Randolph First Reformed is once again joining with Randolph United Methodist Church to stock their Caring Cupboard. Each month, a First Reformed Family will donate food items and hygiene products to those who could use a helping hand. Our schedule time is the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of each month and items need to be there by Thursday of that week. If you are interested, a sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin shelf in the narthex.

**Words of Hope Devotionals** – The newest devotional is available on the bulletin shelf in the narthex.

**Resurrection Garden Order Forms** – Reminder that the Resurrection Garden order forms are due next Sunday, March 26. Return to the mailbox marked Flowers along with your check made payable to First Reformed Church no later than Extra forms are available on the bulletin shelf in the narthex.

**2024 Mission Opportunity: Ecuador** – Next Sunday, March 26, representatives from *Mision Evangelico del Ecuador* (MEDE) will be presenting after worship about a possible mission trip in early 2024. During our time we will be exploring the possibilities of members from Randolph partnering with Silver Creek Community Church and MEDE.

**Upcoming Special Offering: Portage Crisis Pregnancy Center** - Next Sunday, our mission-of-the-month for support is the Portage Crisis Pregnancy Center. The goal of Portage CPC is "to be the most trusted and respected source for information, education, and services that affirm the gift of human life. We help by providing counseling, free pregnancy tests, referrals to other agencies, information on abstinence, adoption, baby needs and more. We are motivated by the compassion of Jesus Christ to offer support and assistance to women and their families throughout their pregnancy and beyond.

**You're Invited** – Join members of the RCA restructuring team for an in-person roundtable event at Christ Community Church 13400 Bell Rd Lemont, IL on Saturday, April 1 at 9-11:00 a.m.

**Sunday School Offering** - This year the Sunday School students up to 8th grade have been collecting money each Sunday in their piggy banks to purchase farm animals for families around the world through Compassion International. The piggy banks are being sent home with the student today for the final few weeks. Please bring the piggy banks back on Palm Sunday, April 2, so the students can break open their piggy banks for collection during the service.

**Holy Week Services** - The Easter season gives us many opportunities to come before God in worship and thanksgiving for the sacrifice and triumph of Jesus. In addition to Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services, join us for a special Maundy Thursday Communion service (Apr.6 @6pm) and our joint-worship service for Good Friday (Apr.7 @ 6:30pm) at Randolph United Methodist Church.

**New Member Interest?** - If you are an adult attending our church and are interested in membership, please contact Pastor Luke. Depending on interest, Pastor Luke is considering a spring membership group.

**Profession of Faith Class** - Pastor Luke will be holding a 4-week class for students of any age who are interested in professing their faith. Profession of Faith is a personal, public commitment to being a follower of Jesus Christ and a full member of our church. Profession of Faith class will begin immediately after Easter (Apr.16-May 7) during Sunday school hour. The class is not required for anyone wanting to make profession, but it is an opportunity to prepare, learn and ask questions as part of a group. If you have questions or are interested in the class, please contact Pastor Luke.

**Camp Calvin** - Registration for Camp Calvin is open. Camp Calvin is a Christian overnight summer camp for boys and girls entering 4th through 9th grades on June 18-June 23. To register, go to their website [www.campcalvin.com](http://www.campcalvin.com). The church has generously agreed to paying half of the cost of the camp. Please pay the \$185.00 +processing fees directly to Camp Calvin. Let Stacy Saeman know you have registered your camper to coordinate the remaining payment by April 15. Last year camp filled up quickly, so register soon. If you have any questions or concerns regarding camp, please contact Stacy Saeman.

**Randolph Christian School Picture Request** - Do you have pictures from your farm that you would be willing to have displayed at the RCS Spring Auction? The auction's theme this year is "Preparing God's Field" in which we recognize teaching how God's hand is in all things, especially in the Randolph and surrounding areas, with His blessings in farm life. The day of the auction, RCS would like to show 8x10 and 5x7 pictures of past and current barns, tractors and other equipment, farm animals, gardens, etc. Photocopies of pictures may be turned in at the office (no originals please), or digital pictures may be sent to [office@randolphchristian.org](mailto:office@randolphchristian.org). Please have them turned in by Friday, April 7th (Auction is April 15th).