

Welcome to Worship with First Reformed Church
March 26, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Rev. Luke Baehr, Senior Pastor

*Where we tend to see hopelessness in the world, O God,
give us vision to see what you are doing – and to join your
life giving work.*

Sunday Morning Worship – 9:00 a.m.

GOD GATHERS US

Prelude

Call to Worship

***Opening Praise**

*O Praise God's Name Together
Jesus Heard with Deep Compassion*

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Welcome & Peace

Refrain of Thanks

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

GOD SPEAKS TO US

Prayer of Illumination

Children's Message (Kids Church – ages 3-4th grade meet downstairs)

Scripture John 9:1-12

Sermon "What to do with Evil"

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

Announcements

Prayers of the Church

GOD SENDS US OUT

***Sending Song**

Lift High the Cross

***Charge & Benediction**

***Doxology**

***Postlude**

**Congregation please stand*

Next Week's Scripture: John 11:1-53

Those Serving Today

Pianist: Lois Wendlandt

Nursery: Tessa Reed

Today

Leader: Jamie Weaver

Helper: Violet Saeman

Next Sunday – April 2

Leader: Rylea Alvin

Helper: Lauren Grieger

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

"Hope is the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love" (Psalm 130:7, ESV). Welcome to worship one and all.

Our Mission-of-the-Month special offering will be received today for Portage Crisis Pregnancy Center. Use the blue envelopes for the special offering.

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

This Week's Activities

Tuesday, March 28

5:30 p.m.– Lenten Soup Supper

Beef Barley

Stone Soup

Wednesday, March 29

7:00 p.m. – CS/RCYF Group Snack: Abby Stiemsma

Sunday, April 2 Palm Sunday

9:00 a.m. – Morning Worship

Pianist: Mary Paul

Nursery: Jessica & Josie Spors

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 3rd 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.

April Messenger Deadline – Have all items to Jana no later than NOON on March 29.

Resurrection Garden Order Forms – Reminder that the Resurrection Garden order forms are due TODAY. 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.

Palm Sunday Song Service – You are invited to a time of worship on Palm Sunday Evening, April 2nd, at 6 p.m. here in our sanctuary. "The Gospel Song" will be a time to reflect on the events of Holy Week thru old and new songs of the season by congregational singing, the praise team, and special numbers, along with narrative reflections.

2024 Mission Opportunity: Ecuador – Today 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.

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.

Randolph Christian School Auction - Join us for the Randolph Christian School Auction - "Preparing His Field" for a night of food, fellowship, and fun on Saturday, April 15. Dinner and Silent Auction beginning at 4:30 with Live Auction at 7:00. For a complete list of items or for more information visit www.randolphchristian.org/auction. Thank you for supporting Christian education!

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. 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. Please have them turned in by Friday, April 7th (Auction is April 15th).