

Welcome to Worship with First Reformed Church
March 5, 2023
Second Sunday of Lent
Rev. Luke Baehr, Senior Pastor

It's still winter...but spring is near. It's Lent...but we're pointed toward Easter. Keep us hopeful, Lord.

Sunday Morning Worship – 9:00 a.m.

GOD GATHERS US

Prelude

Call to Worship

***Opening Praise**

*Holy, Holy, Holy
Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer*

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 Colossians 4:2-18

Sermon "The Center: *Thinking of You*"

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

Announcements

Prayers of the Church

GOD SENDS US OUT

***Sending Song**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

***Charge & Benediction**

***Doxology**

***Postlude**

**Congregation please stand*

Next Week's Scripture: Proverbs 22:6

Those Serving Today

Pianist: Clarice Koopmans

Nursery: Katelyn Saeman

Today

Leader: Holly Pfeffer

Helper: Tessa Reed

Next Sunday – March 12

No Kids Church

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

No matter our circumstances, "[our] help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth" (Psalm 121:2, NRSV). Welcome as we gather to worship our loving creator.

This Week's Activities

Monday, March 6

6:30 p.m. – Women's Bible Study Lesson 32

Tuesday, March 7

5:30 p.m.– Lenten Soup Supper

Chicken Noodle

Mac & Cheese Chili

Wednesday, March 8

3:30 p.m. – Catechism

7:00 p.m. – CS/RCYF Youth Service Rehearsal

@ Second Christian Reformed Church

Thursday, March 9

8:30 a.m.– Exodus Bible Study

Sunday, March 12

9:30 a.m. – Morning Worship Youth Service at
Second Christian Reformed Church

Announcements

Lenten Tuesday Soup Supper - Looking ahead, the days will still be cool enough to make a steamy soup the perfect way to end a Tuesday this Lenten season! Each Tuesday evening, 5:30-6:15pm, FRC will be hosting a simple soup supper in the fellowship hall - a chance to share food, pray together and be nourished in our faith. All our welcome for this free meal sponsored by the Kitchen Fund. (Donations are accepted.)

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.

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.

Drug Trends in our Local Communities Presentation - Lt. Taylor Nehls from the Dodge County Sheriff Dept will be doing a presentation on Drug Trends in our Local Communities. This presentation is for PARENTS/ADULTS only, no students. Topics include current drug trends, identifying signs of drug use in teens, talking to your child about drugs, and more. This is open to the public. Please feel free to join us for this event on Monday, March 6th at 6:30p.m. in the Randolph School District Cafeteria.

March Messenger – The newest Messenger is available on the bulletin shelf in the narthex.

2022 Annual Report – The 2022 Annual Report is available on the bulletin shelf in the narthex.

2024 Mission Opportunity: Ecuador - On Sunday, March 26, representatives from *Mision Evangelico del Ecuador* (MEDE) will be presenting after worship about a possible mission trip in early 2024. Pastor Luke's former church, Silver Creek Community Church (Maple Lake, MN) sent three mission teams to help in the construction of MEDE's *La Luz de Evangelica* (Light of the Gospel) school in La Concordia, Ecuador from 2015 to 2017. Over these past years, the ministry of the school has grown, and MEDE is seeking to expand its elementary building. Silver Creek has begun preparations for another mission trip, but needs some more members (5-8) for its team. During our time on Sunday, March 26, we will be exploring the possibilities of members from Randolph partnering with Silver Creek and MEDE in 2024.

RCYF/Cornerstone Youth Service - Next Sunday, March 12 we will be worshipping together with Second Christian Reformed (SCRC) for our annual Youth Service, including contributions from students in our RCYF & Cornerstone youth groups. We are also excited to have Justin Oliver, youth leader at First Reformed Oostburg, as our special guest speaker! SCRC will host the service at 9:30am - there will be NO worship service at First Reformed on March 12

Youth Summer Mission Trip - This summer, middle- and high-school students are invited for the experience of serving Christ on mission in Kansas City, MO, June 25-July 1. Our summer mission trips are a great opportunity for students to serve others, make new friends, and contemplate being followers of Jesus in a new setting. The mission trip is open to students from First Reformed and Second Christian Reformed, or who participate in RCYF or Cornerstone. Total registration is \$200, with a \$50 deposit due with registration. Registration deadline is March 12. We are also looking for adult chaperones for this trip. If you are interested, contact Pastor Luke.

Global Prayer Partners: Mar.19 - In two weeks, 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*.

Resurrection Garden Order Forms - If you would like to place a floral plant in our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please fill out this form and return to the mailbox marked Flowers along with your check made payable to First Reformed Church no later than Sunday, March 26. Extra forms are available on the bulletin shelf in the narthex.

Cornerstone Love Meal Postponed - To avoid interfering with other events, the annual Cornerstone Love Meal fundraiser has been postponed to Wednesday, April 12. Look for more information near that date.

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.