

The Growing Season
August 8, 2021
The Sacrament of Infant Baptism

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

William Runyan, arr. Chris Rice

WE APPROACH OUR GOD

The Welcome

*The Songs of Praise

The Stand with The Solid Rock

Joel Houston
Edward Mote, SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury

*The Call to Worship

Leader 1: Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life.

Leader 2: Whoever comes to Me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty."

Leader 3: People of God, we worship the Bread of Life today!

Leader 1: Remember that, out of nothing, God created the heavens and earth.

Leader 2: Remember that God raised Jesus from the powerlessness of death to the power of His right hand.

Leader 3: Remember that God sent us the Word made flesh...the Bread of Life to nourish us unto eternal life.

All: Not even the gates of hell can stand against God's purposes. We take and eat.

Let's devour the Bread from heaven. Lord, we worship You now!

*The Affirmation of Faith

This I Believe

Matt Crocker, Ben Fielding

The Baptism Litany

Leader 1: We realize that as members of Christ's church, we, as well as the parents, are stewards of this life presented before us for baptism.

Leader 2: When we teach him to love God, he will also learn to love others.

People: We pray for Dominic. Lord, by Your grace and love, strengthen him to be a true disciple of Jesus Christ.

Leader 1: We pray for Jeff and Jeanna. May they love with Your love and teach Your truth,

Leader 2: Direct them to teach the Gospel to Dominic

Leader 1: that Your Word may be heard

People: and Your Will be done through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Leader 2: On this day Lord, smile upon Dominic

Leader 1: right now so small and innocent,

Leader 2: and guide him throughout the years ahead.

People: We pray that Your blessings will light the path he follows. Amen

The Sacrament of Infant Baptism

The Scriptural Mandate

The Meaning of the Sacrament

The Vows of the Parents

The Vows of the Congregation

*The Apostles' Creed

The Baptism

The Blessing

The Congregational Welcome: **The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.**

The Baptism Song

You Knit Me Together

Frank Hernandez

The Call to Reconciliation

Leader: It's this simple - God loves us. But our inactions grieve God, our sins break God's heart. In Christ, God forgives us through and through. Let us confess our failures and our faithlessness, trusting in God's promise to make us new.

The Prayer for Forgiveness (spoken together)

We break Your heart, God of all the world, by the respectable lives we lead. Blessed by You with every gift, we are reluctant to share. Seeking to be good and proper Christians, we overlook You in the company of the poor, the oppressed, those without a voice. We choose to spread gossip about our friends and neighbors, when we could speak gently to them. Forgive us for the pain we cause You and other people, Grieving God. Help us to make a clean break with those habits which keep us from wholeness. Open us to the movement of Your Spirit within us. Feed us with the Bread of Life, so we might have the love and passion to feed the world. This we pray in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Assurance of Pardon

Leader: It is really that simple - God loves us. Through the Holy Spirit, God works in us, transfiguring our old ways, breathing life and love into us.

ALL: We receive God's grace so we can offer it to others. We are embraced by God's gentleness so we can hold the broken. We will be quick to forgive, even as God has forgiven us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*The Song of Assurance

I Am

David Crowder, Ed Cash

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lesson

John 6:35, 41-51

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

The Message

"Getting Personal with Jesus"

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS

The News of the Church Alive

*The Song of Blessing

Hymn of St. Patrick

Dwight Beal, John O'Keeffe

*The Benediction

*The Postlude

Heavenly Sunlight

George Harrison Cook, arr. Mark Hayes

*All who are able, please stand

Worship Leaders: Preaching – Pastor Bud Pratt; Liturgist – Kathy Geurink; Organist – Beth Sweers; Praise Team; Youth Singers

Please follow our church social media pages:

Instagram: frcgrandville

Facebook: First Reformed Church

Stewardship Update:

August 1 Collection Plate	\$ 13,145.00
Online Giving:	<u>\$ 3,252.00</u>
Total Offering:	\$ 16,397.00

Average weekly offering needed to make 2021 budget	\$ 16,975.00
2021 Annual budget	\$882,740.00
Outstanding Mortgage Balance	\$ 51,000.00
Text to Give - 616-208-4301	

Sunday School – 3 years old – 5th grade - will resume on August 15. Nursery is available.

Food pantry needs - Canned fruits, applesauce, cream soups, beef stew, pancake mix and syrup, cake mix and frosting, muffin mix, stuffing, canned pasta, drinks, canned meats, rice, boxed potatoes and gravy, hamburger/tuna Helper, personal care items. You may drop these items off in the grocery cart located in the Activity Center.

Mortgage update as of August 4, 2021 - As you can see we are making great progress on paying off our mortgage balance, as of today we owe \$51,000. Since December 31, 2020 we have paid off \$128,548. Once again we have an opportunity to pay this balance off by the end of this year. A church family has made us an offer to challenge us to a match gift up to \$25,000. Wouldn't it be great if we could pay our mortgage off by the end of this year? Please consider making a gift over and above your regular offering to the Building Fund. With all of us working on this we should be able to start 2022 debt free. (We are more than halfway to the challenge goal). As always we are thankful for your gifts and offering to our church, "God is Good".
Your Finance Deacons: Tim Kooima, Tony Williams, & Mark Donker.

Youth Mission Trip fundraiser:

- **Pop can drive** - There will be a labeled trash can in the Youth Lounge all year for you to drop off your empty cans.

Items needed for August shipment to Haiti – Either bar, liquid, or hotel sample soap, Beanie Babies they can use for kids in the hospital, cloth tote bags (can be used and can have logos on them). Questions? Call Joyce Bolthouse – 643-8223

Save the Date

Our Fall Kick Off celebration will take place on September 12 with an all-church luncheon. Plan to join us!

August Sunday Sign-Ups

As we begin to plan for Sunday worship this fall, the Hospitality Council is looking for some help to make each Sunday run smoothly. Below is a list of opportunities for volunteers. If you are willing to serve in any of these ways, you will have the opportunity to sign up during the month of August. Please prayerfully consider serving in some way. The commitment will be minimal. Someone will contact you with details and ask when you can serve. "The Sign-Ups" will be located in the lobby for the month of August.

We need help with:

Coffee clean up (no dishwasher), Ushers, Funeral food servers, Wednesday night FOCUS dinner: Servers and Drivers
Thank you for considering these opportunities! -The Hospitality Council

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH PRAYERS & CONCERNS

For prayer updates during the week, please call the **Prayer Line** – 534-0113

We extend prayers of healing & comfort for:

- **Ron Cook**, has been diagnosed with colon cancer.
- Janet Pofahl's granddaughter, **Erica**, at home recovering from the burns received in a car accident.
- The funeral for Roger Tuinstra will be Wednesday, August 11, at 2:00pm with visitation one hour prior at First Reformed Church.
- **Ken Ploeg**, recovering from back surgery.
- **Donna VanHorn**, fell and has a broken ankle.
- Pray for anyone affected in any way by **the Corona virus**.
- **Continued prayers for: Roy DeJonge, Jim Danek, BJ Veneklasen, Trudie Wierda, Don Alderink, Karin Dykstra, Chuck Duimstra, Kim Duimstra, Curt Stoel, Andrew Lau, Kim (VanPortfliet) Start, Jakob Kempema, Rikki Leanne DePuy.**

Please keep all our military troops in your prayers, especially:

- **Dustin Lambries, Jeremy Stegehuis, Jeff Shuck & Tony Shuck** (Betty Isenga's grandsons), **Edward Peter Tolhurst** (Pat Bird's nephew), **Ben Westrick**

Please keep in your hearts and minds:

- Our **Family at Home members** – Eloise Anderson, Judy Baartman, Crystal Baum, Norma Boss, Ron & Dorothy Cook, Helen Dertien, Karin Dykstra, Arlene Jacobitz, Ev Lindhout, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Bob & Lois Morehouse, Janet Pofahl, Evelyn Watson, Mary Zomerlei

In case of an emergency and no one is at church you may call Pastors Bud Pratt - 708-302-5645,
Matt Cook - 616-893-4189 or consistory vice president Bob Stelma - 616-822-3859, or any of the other elders.