



Living

Differently

LENT 2022

Lent III  
March 20, 2022

**WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP**

The Prelude

*Lead Me to Calvary*

Dan Forrest, arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Tune: DUNCANNON by William J. Kirkpatrick

**WE APPROACH OUR GOD**

The Prayer of Invocation

*Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me*

Thomas T. Lynch, *Adoro te devote*, K. Lee Scott

The Welcome

\*The Hymn of Praise

***Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing***

Robert Robinson, NETTLETON  
Traditional American melody, John Wyeth  
from Isaiah 55:1-9

The Call to Worship

Leader 1: Look to the stars—filling the sky with light!

**People: God's word is a light, shining bright in the darkness.**

Leader 2: Look to the stars—spread across the universe, farther than any eye has seen.

**People: God is everywhere present, whether we go to the ends of the earth or the depths of the sea.**

Leader 1: Look to the stars—more than we have numbers to count.

**People: God's grace is beyond imagining, beyond language, beyond counting.**

Leader 2: Look to the stars—signs of God's promise, shining through all generations.

**People: We come to worship God, in whom we trust.**

\*The Song of Praise

***Crown Him***

Jacob Sooter, Stephen McWhirter  
arr. Jeff Moore, Dan Galbraith

The Prayer of Confession

Leader 1: You make a lot of promises, God, and we confess that sometimes we don't believe them.

**People: It feels like we are alone out here, like we'd better take matters into our own hands.**

Leader 2: Your promise of abundant life, Your promise of Your presence, Your promise of a future with hope—sometimes we just can't see how they can be true.

**People: And yet You call us to run the race, to hope in things we cannot see, to follow even when we do not know where You are going.**

Leader 1: Forgive us, O God, for our insistence on certainty.

**People:** Your faithfulness reaches to the skies, beyond what we can imagine. Forgive our fearful hearts, our unwillingness to go into places we don't know, our idolatry of self-reliance.

Leader 2: Reveal to us again Your loving presence,

**People:** that we may grow to reflect Your faithfulness. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Words of Assurance

Psalm 27

\*The Song of Assurance

***Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor***

Matt Boswell, Matt Papa

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 13:31-35

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

The Message

**"Living Differently: Letting Go of Our Fears"**

The Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS**

The Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Hymn

***Be Thou My Vision***

Traditional Irish hymn & melody, SLANE

tr. Mary E. Byrne, vers. Eleanor H. Hull, arr. Donald P. Hustad

The News of the Church Alive

*(Please sign and pass the friendship registers.)*

\*The Sending Song

***You Keep Hope Alive***

Jon Reddick, Jess Cates, Anthony Skinner

\*The Benediction

\*The Postlude

*Trumpet Tune*

Jerry McCrory

\*All who are able, please stand

**Bulletin & Screen Image:** Galatians 2:20 ©Timothy R. Botts / Eyekons

**Worship Leaders:** Preaching – Jeff Watson; Liturgists – Kevin Meyer, Emily Nisper; Organist – Beth Sweers; Chancel Choir; Praise Team

**Please follow our church social media pages:**

Instagram: [frcgrandville](#)

Facebook: [First Reformed Church](#)

**Stewardship Update:**

March 6 Collection Plate \$ 14,049.00

Online Giving: \$ 6,226.00

Total Offering: \$ 20,275.00

Average weekly offering needed

to make 2022 budget \$ 18,258.00

2022 Annual budget \$949,429.00

**Text to Give** - 616-208-4301

### **A Reminder from the Deacons:**

Members who have picked up their 2022 offering envelopes may have noticed that there is an envelope included for Reformed Church in America assessments. Each year, our church pays approximately \$100 per confessing member to the denomination in assessments. If you would like to help our congregation offset these costs, your gifts are welcome at any time using that envelope. Thank you for your continued support.

### **TODAY'S HAPPENINGS**

#### **Sunday Children's Programming Schedule:**

**3rd, 4th and 5th Sunday of the month:**

Nursery ages - can be dropped off in the nursery when you arrive & picked up after the worship service.

Ages 3 years – Kindergarten can be dropped off in room #113 South when you arrive and picked up after the worship service.

1st Grade-5th Grade can be dropped off in the downstairs Assembly Room AFTER the worship service & picked up at 11:30 am

**Middle School** (6th - 8th grades) & **High School** (9th - 12th grades) **Bible study** meets in the Youth Lounge following worship. Donuts provided.

**Middle School youth group** meets on Sundays from 4:00pm - 5:30pm in the Youth gym.

**High School youth group** meets on Sundays from 6:30pm - 8:00pm in the Youth gym

### **YOUTH HAPPENINGS**

**Young Life** (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) – meets Monday, March 21, at 7:27pm at church. Questions? Contact Jon Hull at [jon@firstgrandville.org](mailto:jon@firstgrandville.org) or 517-803-5686.

**WyldLife** (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade) – Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month in the Family Life Center. Contact Paige Corfixsen – 616-710-0865 or Emma Kukla – 616-666-4811 with questions.

### **Youth Mission Trip fundraisers:**

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

**Maple Tree Preschool Registration** - Preschool registration for 2022-2023 has begun! If you know of a family looking for a preschool, please have them check out [www.mapletreepreschool.org](http://www.mapletreepreschool.org) and [Maple Tree Preschool's Facebook page](#).

**College Scholarships:** Scholarship forms are available in the office (on the shelf under the mailboxes) or online. These are for anyone who is a member of church and going to college in Fall 2022. They are due in the office no later than **Friday, April 8, at noon**.

### **OTHER HAPPENINGS**

**Anna Circle** – meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month from 9:30am – 11:00am in the upstairs small adult ed room. We are studying the book *No Offense* by Craig Groeschel.

**Esther Circle** – meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 9:30am in the upstairs adult ed room. We are studying the Twenty Third Psalm.

**Men's Bible Study** meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2:30 PM. We meet at Marge's Donut Den, 1751 28th St., Wyoming, MI. Our leaders are David Bast and Mark Davis. All are welcome!

**Bells of Joy** – Tuesdays, 6:30pm

**Chancel Choir** – Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:00pm

**FOCUS** – Wednesday, March 23 – Shepherd pie dinner begins at 5:30 PM. This will be the last FOCUS night until Fall. Covid protocols are in place. Classes for kids and adults begin at 6:30pm. Chancel choir meets from 7:00-8:00pm. The adult ed class (taught by Pastor Bud) titled "GO EAT POP CORN" (a study of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians) starts at 6:30 PM.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

**Memorial Easter Plants** – We will purchase potted spring flowers to decorate the church for our Easter worship celebration. You are welcome to donate a \$15 spring plant in memory of a relative or friend or in thanksgiving for a friend or relative. Their name will be listed in the Easter worship bulletin. There are forms available at the Sign Up Center, Welcome Desk and the Office to fill out and submit to the office along with \$15 per plant by March 27. After the Easter service, please take your plant home.

**Inquirer's class** - An Inquirer's Class is planned for April 24 through May 15 (four weeks) taught by Pastor Bud for those interested in considering First Reformed Church as their potential church home. (Class held on Sundays at 11:00 in Pastor Bud's office). Please email [mail@firstgrandville.org](mailto:mail@firstgrandville.org) if you would like to attend.

**Director of Children's Ministries** – There is a job opening currently as we seek to fill the position of Children's Ministry Director. The job description has been posted on various sites, and there are copies on the table in the narthex as well.

### **OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE**

**Food pantry needs** – Pancake mix and syrup, canned meats, cake mix and frosting, muffin mix, and spaghetti sauce. You may drop these items off in the grocery cart located in the Activity Center.

### **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:**

- **Randy Kehr**, recovering from surgery and being treated for an infection in his foot.
- **Don Ferris**, at home beginning new medication to treat blood clots.
- **Janet Pofahl**, at home being treated for pneumonia.
- **Bob Verburg**, is home recovering from a fall.
- **Chuck Duimstra and his family**, as he faces ongoing and declining health issues.
- Pray for anyone affected in any way by **the Corona virus**.
- Pray for God's leading as we continue our search for a new children's director and begin the process of nominations for our next consistory members.
- **Continued prayers for:** Misty Holwerda, Marcia Brinks, Lois Morehouse, Kay Mekkes, Roy DeJonge, Don Alderink, Karin Dykstra, Curt Stoel, Erica Obi.

#### **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, Dorothy Cook, Helen Dertien, Karin Dykstra, Arlene Jacobitz, Ev Lindhout, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Bob & Lois Morehouse, Janet Pofahl, Mary Zomerlei  
**FAH Birthdays** – March 17 – Eloise Anderson, 2089 Tansy Trail, Grandville, 49418  
March 28 – Trudie Wierda, 5281 Wilson Ave., Wyoming, 49418

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.