

## EASTER SUNDAY

April 17, 2022

### WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

The Prelude

Alan Lohr

### WE APPROACH OUR GOD

It's Friday. . . But Sunday's Comin'

The Video

The Invocation

Leader 1: Dear God, this past week has been one of mixed emotions; of faith struggling to understand.

Leader 2: We have greeted You with palm branches; we sat at table with You to share a farewell meal.

Leader 1: We have witnessed the betrayal and agony of Your death on a simple wooden cross.

Leader 2: Yet on this day, the third day, You come to us in victory over death as we witness the power of Your resurrection.

Leader 1: The tomb is empty. By this we know that death is not the final word.

Leader 2: We celebrate this Easter morning the glory of Your resurrection, for You are our hope, our life, and our joy.

\*The Easter Hymn #234

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* C.Wesley, *Lyra Davidica* EASTER HYMN

\*The Call to Worship

Leader 1: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen indeed!**

Leader 2: Run from fear and darkness. Hope is on the move!

**People: Run to tell the world, Christ is risen.**

Leader 1: Do not be afraid. Jesus has conquered death!

**People: We can proclaim that God's love rules!**

Leader 2: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen indeed!**

\*The Welcome and Greeting

The Children's Anthem

*He Is Risen Indeed*

Bill Ingram

The Children's Moment

The Anthem

*On The Third Day*

Allen Pote

The Call to Reconciliation and Prayer for Forgiveness

Leader 1: We don't have to tell you, but we need to remind ourselves, of how our actions, words, and inattention cause harm to others. Yet, this is the day, as on every day, when God calls us by name, filling us with grace, and making us whole. Let us bring all we have done to God, for mercy and hope.

Let us pray together saying,

**People: In our foolishness, we think this old story has nothing to do with us and so we miss the incredible news that love has triumphed over hate, goodness has defeated evil, that life has broken the power of death and the grave. Yet, this is a day of joy, of wonder, of grace which never ends, God of life, God of every life. Now we push aside the stone of indifference we have rolled across our hearts so we may be reminded that this old story is new every moment; that those ancient promises still hold true; that we are the ones called by the Gardener of grace, Jesus our Savior, who calls us by name and anoints us with resurrection love. Amen.**

The Assurance of Pardon

Leader 2: In the empty tomb, God declares that nothing can separate us from His love; nothing we have done, or left undone; no one whom we have been or failed to be. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

\*The Song of Praise

*The Power of the Cross*

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 24:1-12

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

The Message

**"The Empty Tomb"**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS

The Offering

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Song

*Living Hope*

Phil Wickham, Brian Johnson

The News of the Church Alive

\*The Affirmation of Our Faith

*In Christ Alone*

Stuart Townend, Keith Getty

*(During the singing, all who would like to join in singing the Hallelujah Chorus are invited to join the choir.)*

The Easter Declaration

from *Our Song of Hope*, stanzas 4, 21

Leader: Jesus Christ is the hope of God's world.

**People: In His death, the justice of God is established; forgiveness of sin is proclaimed.**

Leader: On the day of His resurrection, the tomb was empty;

**People: His disciples saw Him; death was defeated; new life had come.**

Leader: God's purpose for the world was sealed.

**People: Christ will wipe away every tear; death shall be no more.**

Leader: There will be a new heaven and a new earth,

**People: and all creation will be filled with God's glory. Alleluia!**

\*The Acclamation of Praise

*Hallelujah Chorus*

George Frederic Handel

\*The Benediction

\*The Postlude

*Toccata from Symphony #5*

Charles Marie Widor

\* All who are able, please stand

**Worship Leaders:**

Preaching – Jeff Watson; Liturgists – Emily Nisper, Pastor Bud Pratt; Organ - Beth Sweers; Violin - Marilyn Brannen, Barb Vander Heide; Viola - Mal Brannen; Cello - Carrie Brannen; Bass - Rick Dragicevich; Flute - Rebecca Hollen; Bells of Joy; Chancel Choir; Kids Praise Singers; Praise Team.

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

Instagram: frcgrandville

Facebook: First Reformed Church

**Stewardship Update:**

|                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| April 10 Collection Plate | \$ 8,284.00        |
| Online Giving:            | <u>\$ 2,942.00</u> |
| Total Offering:           | \$ 11,226.00       |

Average weekly offering needed  
to make 2022 budget \$ 18,258.00  
2022 Annual budget \$949,429.00  
**Text to Give** - 616-208-4301

**TODAY'S HAPPENINGS**

**Sunday Children's Programming Schedule:**

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

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

There will not be Sunday School for kids 1st through 5<sup>th</sup> grade today. Normal programming will resume April 24.

**Middle School** (6th - 8th grades) & **High School** (9th - 12th grades) **Bible study** will not meet today. It will resume next week.

**Middle School & High School Youth Group** will not meet today. They will resume next week.

**YOUTH HAPPENINGS**

**Young Life** (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) – meets Monday, April 18, 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. Questions? Contact: Paige Corfixsen- 616-710-0865, Emma Kukla- 616-666-4811.

**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.

**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:**

- **Jan Hodges**, recovering from shoulder replacement surgery.
- **Doug Hunderman**, at Meijer Heart Center recovering from a heart cath and awaiting further surgery.
- **Bob Schuitman**, shoulder surgery was postponed.
- **Don Ferris**, having heart surgery in the near future.
- **Jackson Pratt**, Bud & Patty's nephew, recovering from additional brain surgery.
- **Chuck Duimstra and his family**, as he faces ongoing and declining health issues.
- Pray for the people of **Ukraine**.
- 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 continue the process of electing our next consistory members.
- **Continued prayers for: Randy Kehr, Betty Isenga, Bob Verburg, 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, Mary Lou Besteman, Norma Boss, Dorothy Cook, Helen Dertien, Marilyn DeVree, Karin Dykstra, Arlene Jacobitz, Ev Lindhout, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Bob & Lois Morehouse, Janet Pofahl, Trudie Wierda, Mary Zomerlei
- **FAH Birthday** – April 30 - Norma Boss – Waterford Place Assisted Living, #D-211, 1725 Port Sheldon Rd., Jenison, 49428

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.

**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.

## OTHER HAPPENINGS

**Congregational meeting** - Sunday, May 15 following worship to select new elders and deacons.

**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 education 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 education room. On Tuesday, May 3, at 9:30am, Jen Timmer from the Women's Crisis Center will speak. We have made arrangements to go to Rush Creek Bistro at Sunny Brook Country Club for lunch. All are welcome to join us for either of these. Please sign up at the Sign-up Center for reservations.

**Men's Bible Study** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays 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

**Praise Team** – Wednesdays, 5:30pm

**Chancel Choir** – Wednesdays, 6:30pm

## LOOKING AHEAD

**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.

**Disability Advocate** - Casey Dutmer has agreed to continue being our representative to the Reformed Church in America DISABILITY ADVOCACY TEAM. If you have questions, comments, or concerns about our inclusivity or access to anyone with a disability, please contact our Disability Advocate Casey Dutmer at 616-450-6429.

**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](#).