



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

Grandville, Michigan

Welcome to Worship at First Reformed Church
February 25, 2024
Second Sunday of Lent

Prelude

The Quest/Abide with Me

Welcome

*Song of Worship

House of the Lord

*Greeting

Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

Kevin: The day after Jesus washed his disciples' feet and shared a communion meal with them, one disciple betrayed him with a kiss, the other disciples deserted him and fled.

All: In the same way, we often turn our backs on Jesus, choosing something more comfortable and less risky. God forgive us.

Kevin: Even here we find God's grace given to us. For Jesus says:

All: "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

Kevin: God forgives us, walks beside us, and carries us forward by his grace.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Songs of Worship

O Come to the Altar
Psalm 23 (I am Not Alone)

Sermon

"The Betrayal"

Scripture – Matthew 26:47-56

Offering of Our Tithes, Gifts & Prayer

Choir Anthem

Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You

Announcements

*Sending Song

Great is Thy Faithfulness

*Blessing

Mission Moment

Postlude

Hallelujah Praise the Lamb

**All who are able, please stand.*

Worship Leaders: Pastors – Jeff Watson, Melanie Kilgore, Matt Cook; Worship Leader – Ricard Alfaro; Prelude – Flute Ensemble; Liturgist – Kevin Meyer; Choir Director – Rick Gosset; Choir Accompanist – Rhonda Talsma

WELCOME to First Reformed Church

We're so glad you're here! May you experience the presence of the Living God. If you are visiting, welcome! There are guest cards in the pews you can complete and put in the offering plate. Feel free to stop by our Welcome Desk near the main entrance – we'd love to connect with you! Please join us for coffee in the Activity Center following the service.

FOR KIDS – Kid's Worship bags and Sweet Reward papers are available as you enter the Sanctuary. Completed Sweet Reward papers can be turned in at the Welcome Desk for a sweet treat.

Mother's Room: The "Mother's Room" is now accessible off the Fellowship Room. It is a comfortable space to tend to the needs of babies.

TODAY at First is the second Sunday of Lent

Pastor Melanie Kilgore will continue the series "The Final Night." She will be preaching from Matthew 26:47-56.

Sunday Kids Connect Schedule:

Nursery (birth – 3 year olds) can be dropped off in the nursery when you arrive and picked up after the worship service.

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

Sunday Connect (3 years-5th Grade) 10:45-11:30am

- 3 years – PreK meet in room #113 South (downstairs)
- Kindergarten – 3rd grade meet in the downstairs assembly room
- 4th & 5th grades meet in room #113 north (downstairs)

Middle & High School Sunday Connect in the Youth Lounge from 10:45-11:30am.

Adult Sunday School with Mark & Jennifer in the upstairs Adult Ed Room.

Middle School Youth Group (6th-8th grades) from 4:00-5:30pm in the Youth Gym.

High School Youth Group (9th-12th grades) from 6:30-8:00pm in the Youth Gym.

NEXT WEEK is the third Sunday of Lent. Pastor Jeff will continue with the series "The Final Night." He will be preaching from Matthew 27:11-23 titled "The Trial". It will also be Community Sunday (first Sunday of every month). This is a way to connect with people in our community, especially someone you might not know. Name tags will be available on the tables in the Narthex and cookies served following the service.

Stewardship Update:

Offerings received February 18, 2024

Offering Plate: \$ 6,863.00

Online: \$ 4,908.00

Communion: \$ 1,450.00

Text to Give - 616-208-4301

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:

- **Todd Hollen** is recovering from surgery.

- **Alli Oostendorp** (Doug & Barb Nienhuis' daughter) is recovering from surgery for a collapsed lung.
- **Shirley Ghysels** continues to be treated following surgery.
- **Don Scovel** continues with chemo.
- **Josh & Sarah DeYoung** (Jerry & Barb DeYoung's son) Sarah is 25 weeks pregnant and is experiencing complications.
- **Ellie Mott** (Todd & Becca Hollen's niece) has a reoccurrence of brain cancer.
- **Esther Dawdy** (Jon Hull's grandma) is under the care of hospice.
- **Pray for peace in Israel and Ukraine.**
- **Continued prayers for: Casey Dutmer, Bob Waters, Doug Hunderman, Joyce VanderMarkt, Helen Huizenga, Roy DeJonge, Lois Morehouse, and Jeremy Ross.**

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

Jeremy Stegehuis, Jeff Shuck & Tony Shuck (Betty Isenga's grandsons), **Ben Westrick, Ben DeRuyter** (Jack and Jackie's grandson), **AJ Frens** (Duane & Gail's grandson), **Abram Swart** (Jack & Myrt Manders grandson)

Please keep in your hearts, minds, and prayers:

Our **Family at Home members** - Eloise Anderson, Crystal Baum, Mary Lou Besteman, Helen Dertien, Marilyn DeVree, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Bob & Lois Morehouse, Kay TenHaken, Trudie Wierda, and Mary Zomerlei.

Kay Mekkes moved to Laurels of Hudsonville this past week.

In case of an emergency and no one is at church, you may call Pastors Jeff Watson - 616-250-7148, Matt Cook - 616-893-4189, Melanie Kilgore - 269-330-0155, or consistory Vice President Lee Cook – 616-446-7880, or any of the other elders.

THANK YOU...

...to our family at First Reformed Church with a heartfull of gratitude. We want to thank all of you for traveling this journey of Bob's illness and homegoing. You have blessed us with prayers, acts of kindness and words of comfort. What a blessing you have been! **The Verburg family**

BIRTHDAYS

Larry DeVries	83 on the 1 st	Carol Verburg	85 on the 10 th
Elaine Hart	81 on the 1 st	Eloise Anderson	92 on the 17 th
Bruce Averill	81 on the 5 th	Pat Stegehuis	85 on the 18 th
Elaine Hudson	85 on the 9 th	Betty Isenga	89 on the 18 th

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

7:27pm Young Life

TUESDAY

5:15pm Bells of Joy
7:27pm WyldLife

WEDNESDAY

6:00am	MegaMen Bible Study
5:30pm	Praise Team
5:30pm	MidWeek Connect meal – Breakfast
6:30pm	Chancel Choir
6:30pm	Craft night

THURSDAY

9:00am	Zumba
1:30pm	Leap back to the 80's for Widows and Widowers

ONGOING MINISTRIES

Esther Circle – meets the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30am in the Adult Education Room. All women are welcome to meet for a time of coffee, fellowship, mission interests, and informal Bible study. Our study is “Women and Identity.” Contact: Karen Diekema (616-644-0820).

MegaMen Bible Study – Wednesdays at 6:00am in the Youth Lounge. Come for Bible study and fellowship. Contact: Dave Lidgard (dlidgard@hpseagles.net) or Bob Stelma (mstelmau78@yahoo.com).

Women in the Word – Wednesdays 9:30 – 11:00am in the upstairs Adult Ed Room. We will be studying Douglas Connelly's *Angels Standing Guard*. Contact: Marilyn Stelma (616-450-6008).

Men's Bible Study – at Marge's Donut Den on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 2:30pm. Mark Davis and David Bast are the discussion leaders. The topic is The Parables. You are encouraged to bring a friend! Contact: Chuck Porte (616-261-4402).

LOOKING AHEAD

Consistory Nominations – It is time once again to begin the process of nominating and electing new members for our Consistory. If you know someone who you feel has the gifts for leadership as either an Elder or a Deacon, please place the name of that person in the nominations box located on the table in the Narthex. You may also speak to any member of the nominations committee – Bryce Lutke (Chair), Steve DeVette, Mark Donker, Kim Donze, Ron Hasper, Chad Holleman, Sue Plasman, and Anne Potyraj. Or you may place the name(s) in a sealed envelope in the mail slot of any committee member. The committee will accept nominations from the congregation through **TODAY**.

Churches in Mission Cohort Connection Meeting- Sunday, March 3 (10:45am) in the Upstairs Adult Ed Classroom. The Churches in Mission Cohort has finished their year of work researching and discerning missional needs in and outside of the church. They will be holding a meeting to share about this work and discuss how the church can continue this work moving forward. The team especially encourages people gifted with hospitality, connecting with others, and with a passion for creating more connection in the church to attend. Questions? Contact Pastor Melanie.

Memorial Easter Plants – Plant orders will be available until March 11. Plants are \$15 and can be taken home following the Easter service. Order 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.

Widow and Widowers – Let's LEAP back to the 80s! Join us Thursday, February 29 at 1:30 pm in the Youth Lounge for fun, games, dessert and fellowship. Please sign up at the Sign-Up Center. Questions? Contact Lynne Rosema (616-901-5784)

Prime Timers and friends of Prime Timers – Learn about an unknown patriot in American History, Patrick Henry, portrayed by El Zwart. This will be Thursday, March 21 at 1:00pm in the Activity Center.

Inquirer's class - An Inquirer's Class is planned for March 17 and 24 taught by Pastor Jeff for those interested in considering First Reformed Church as their potential church home. (Class held on Sundays at 11:00am in Pastor Jeff's office). Please email jeffw@firstgrandville.org if you would like to attend.

Maple Tree Preschool's 2024/2025 registration is now open! Go to Maple Tree's website for more information and to register online.

YOUTH MINISTRIES Contact person: Jon Hull – jon@firstgrandville.org/517-803-5686

Young Life (9th-12th grades) – meets Monday, February 26, at 7:27pm in the Youth Gym.

WyldLife (7th & 8th grades) – meets February 27, at 7:27pm, at the Kleinheksel's house – 3590 Apache Ct.

Youth Dominican Republic Mission Trip meeting – March 3 at 5:30pm in the Young Life office in the Youth Building. This is for parents and kids interested in the trip.

College Scholarships: Scholarship forms are available in the office or online for anyone who is a member of church and going to college in Fall 2024. They are due to the office no later than **Friday, April 12, at noon.**

Youth Dominican Republic Trip – June 14-21, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Please be praying for youth who are signed up and are considering signing up!

Youth Pop Can Drive – your empty cans can be dropped off in the Youth Lounge. If you would like to return cans to put money in your student's youth account for future trips, contact Jon Hull.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE OR SERVE

Sunday Techs – We are in need of more techs to help run sound, our presentation program, and live stream. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Melanie (melanie@firstgrandville.org).

Cookie donations – We are in need of cookie donations for our Community Sundays. Donations can be placed in the little freezer in the kitchen labeled "Donations."

Youth Sunday Connect -- If you are interested in providing a snack for Sunday Connect and getting to know some of our youth students, please fill out the snack sign up form in the Sign-Up Center by the Activity Center.

Hand2Hand Updated needs – Each week we deliver food for 51 kids to Century Park Learning Center so the kids will have food to eat for the weekend. We are receiving non-expired, non-perishable food donations. Items needed are:

1 lb. box spaghetti noodles, 24 oz. canned pasta sauce, 12 oz. canned chicken, chicken flavored rice packets, canned green beans, popcorn packets, trail mix, pudding snack packs, granola bars, fruit snacks, applesauce/fruit cups, crackers, raisins, any bagged snack, instant oatmeal, cereal, instant mac 'n cheese.

These items need to be in individual packets. Please place your donations in the box in the Narthex.

Food Pantry Needs – Canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly, pancake mix, syrup, canned meat, diced tomatoes, beef stew, muffin mix, Hamburg Helper, shampoo, body soap. Please **NO** canned vegetables. You can leave food in the cart in the Activity Center.

Stamp Ministry - Did you know that Wycliffe Associates has a Stamp Ministry? They have a dedicated team that trims, sorts, and sells stamps for mission projects. So, please save your cancelled and uncanceled stamps, as well as any stamp collections that you no longer want to donate to WA. There is a box under the mailboxes in the Activity Center for your donations. A flier with more details is in your church mailbox. If you have questions or would like something picked up contact Doris Kuipers – 616-531-8335.