



# **FIRST REFORMED CHURCH**

Grandville, Michigan

**Welcome to Worship at First Reformed Church**  
**March 3, 2024**  
**Third Sunday of Lent**

Prelude *More Love to Thee/My Jesus I Love Thee*

Welcome

\*Song of Worship *I Stand Amazed*

\*Greeting

\*Songs of Worship *Reckless Love*  
*Jesus Paid It All*

Prayer of Hope

Leader: What is our only comfort in life and in death?

**Congregation: That I am not my own. We belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to our faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.**

Leader: He has fully paid for all our sins with his precious blood.

**Congregation: In Christ, God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son.**

Leader: He also watches over us in such a way that not a hair can fall from anyone's head without the will of our Father in heaven. All things must work together for our salvation.

**Congregation: Because we belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures us of eternal life And makes us wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

Choir Anthem *Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross*

Sermon "The Trial"

Scripture – Matthew 27:11-23

Offering of Our Tithes, Gifts & Prayer

Offertory Song *Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love*

Announcements

\*Sending Song *Crown Him*

\*Blessing

Postlude *Amazing Grace*

*\*All who are able, please stand.*

**Worship Leaders:** Pastors – Jeff Watson, Melanie Kilgore, Matt Cook; Liturgist – Naomi Diekman; Choir Director – Rick Gossett; Choir Accompanist/Organist – Rhonda Talsma; Offertory – Barbara Gossett, Barb VanderHeide & 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 & cookies 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 third Sunday of Lent**

Pastor Jeff Watson will continue the series “The Final Night.” He will be preaching from Matthew 27:11-23 titled “The Trial.” It’s also 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.

**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 – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade meet in the downstairs assembly room
- 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades meet in room #113 north (downstairs)

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

**Churches in Mission Cohort Connection Meeting** in the upstairs Adult Ed Classroom at 10:45.

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

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

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

**NEXT WEEK** is the fourth Sunday of Lent. Pastor Jeff Watson will continue the series “The Final Night.” He will be preaching from Matthew 27:27-31. This will also be a combined Spanish/English service with La Casa. Pastor Jeff will be preaching and Ricky Velazquez will be translating. La Casa will be preparing and serving a meal following the service which will be a fundraiser for La Casa.

**Stewardship Update:**

Offerings received February 25, 2024

Offering Plate: \$ 9,772.00

Online: \$ 3,323.00

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.
- **Shirley Ghysels** continues to be treated following surgery.
- **Don Scovel** continues with chemo.
- **Mart Slagter** (relative to Bruce & Pam Slagter) had back surgery and is at Blodgett.
- **Dori Slagter** (relative to Bruce & Pam Slagter) is having surgery March 7.
- **Bob Nordin** (Pastor Melanie's grandpa) is under the care of hospice.
- **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.

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.

## BIRTHDAYS

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

## THIS WEEK

TUESDAY

9:30am

Esther Circle

5:15pm                    Bells of Joy

## WEDNESDAY

6:00am                    MegaMen Bible Study

5:30pm                    Praise Team

5:30pm                    MidWeek Connect meal – Chili (beef & chicken) & chicken nuggets for kids

6:30pm                    Chancel Choir

6:30pm                    Guitar Group

## THURSDAY

9:00am                    Zumba

## ONGOING MINISTRIES

**Esther Circle** – meets the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30am in the Adult Education Room. We would like to invite all women to come and join us. You are welcome to meet for coffee, fellowship, mission interests, and informal Bible study. We are starting a new study called Woman of God. 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

**Churches in Mission Cohort Connection Meeting- TODAY** (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 are available at the Sign-up Center, Welcome Desk and the Office to fill out and submit to the office along with \$15 per plant.

**Masterpiece Night** - Celebrate the end of our Midweek Connect program year with a night of creating and fun! Meet in the gym on Wednesday, March 20 at 6:30 to choose your creation station. All are welcome!  
March 20, 6:30-7:30

**Prime Timers and friends of Prime Timers** – Learn about Patrick Henry, an American Patriot portrayed by El Zwart. Enjoy a time of red, white and blue. Refreshments will be served. 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](mailto: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](mailto:jon@firstgrandville.org)/517-803-5686

**No Young Life** (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) on Monday, March 4, due to college Spring Break. Come hangout with us at the Grandville Girls Varsity Basketball game!.

**WyldLife** (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades) – meets March 12, at 7:27pm, at church in they gym.

**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 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](mailto:melanie@firstgrandville.org)).

**Cookie Donations** – We need 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.