



# **FIRST REFORMED CHURCH**

Grandville, Michigan

**Welcome to Worship at First Reformed Church**  
**March 17, 2024**  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

Prelude *Worthy is the Lamb*

Welcome

\*Song of Worship *Nothing but the Blood*

\*Greeting

\*Song of Worship *You Keep Hope Alive*

Prayer of Confession

Leader: At his trial and crucifixion, Jesus was abandoned by everyone.

**All: Even when we turn our backs on you, God, help us to return to your love.**

Leader: Jesus was falsely accused and verbally attacked, yet he remained silent.

**All: Help us to remain faithful to you when we face challenges.**

Leader: Jesus was completely capable of saving himself – but then he could not have saved us.

**All: He chose death so that we could have life.**

Leader: In the midst of overwhelming grief and uncertainty, Jesus carries His Father's will.

**All: Lord, help us to live grateful lives for all that Jesus has done for us. Amen.**

\*Songs of Worship *I Surrender/I Surrender All*

Sermon "The King"

Scripture – Mark 15:16-32

Offering of Our Tithes, Gifts & Prayer

Offertory Song *You're the Only One*

Announcements

\*Sending Song *O Praise the Name*

\*Blessing

Postlude Doxology

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

**Worship Leaders:** Pastors – Jeff Watson, Melanie Kilgore, Matt Cook; Prelude Musicians – Rhonda Talsma & Barbara Gossett; Liturgist – Kathy Carpenter; Offertory – Mike Dertien, Stacy Brown, Pastor Melanie Kilgore

**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 fifth Sunday of Lent**

Pastor Jeff Watson will continue the series “The Final Night.” He will be preaching from Mark 15:16-32.

**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)

**New Member Class** – 10:45am in Pastor Jeff’s office.

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

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

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

**NEXT WEEK** is the fifth Sunday of Lent. Pastor Melanie Kilgore will continue the series “The Final Night.” She will be preaching from Matthew 27:45-56 titled “The Final Hour.”

**Stewardship Update:**

Offerings received March 10, 2024

Offering Plate: \$ 5,846.00

Online: \$ 4,383.00

**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:

- **Ruth Cole** had a heart attack and has moved to assisted living for rehab.
- **Pat Stegehuis** is home continuing to recover.
- **Don Scovel** continues with chemo.
- **Dori Slagter** (relative to Bruce & Pam Slagter) is waiting for biopsy results.
- **Millie Smith** (Stacy Browns's 98-year-old grandma) is recovering from back surgery.
- **Ellie Mott** (Todd & Becca Hollen's niece) is home and the family would appreciate prayers for strength and nutrition for her 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.

## THANK YOU...

Dear FRC friends,

When I was growing up here, I always thought of FRC as the body of Christ. Fast forward 30 years and you continue to be an amazing body of believers. I am so thankful for the wonderful ways you have supported me and prayed for me over these past weeks. Your love and kindness have meant so much to me - you will always be my special church family. **Allie (Nienhuis) Oostendorp**

## THIS WEEK

### MONDAY

6:30pm Elders/Deacons meet  
7:27pm Young Life  
7:30pm Consistory

### TUESDAY

5:15pm Bells of Joy

### WEDNESDAY

6:00am MegaMen Bible Study  
5:30pm Praise Team  
5:30pm MidWeek Connect meal – Leftovers  
6:30pm Chancel Choir  
6:30pm Masterpiece Night

### THURSDAY

9:00am Zumba  
1:00pm Prime Timers Red/White and Blue afternoon

## ONGOING MINISTRIES

**Esther Circle** – meets the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30am in the Adult Education Room. All women are welcome to join us 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).

**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).

## UPCOMING SERVICES

March 24 – Palm Sunday  
March 28, 7:00pm – Maundy Thursday Communion Service  
March 31 - Easter

## LOOKING AHEAD

**New Members Class** – A New Members two-week Class will begin **TODAY**, 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.

**Masterpiece Night** – March 20, 6:30-7:30pm. 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!

**Prime Timers and friends of Prime Timers** – Invite a friend for a red/white and blue afternoon. This will be this Thursday, March 21 at 1:00pm in the Activity Center. El Zwart will portray Patrick Henry, an American Patriot. Refreshments will be served.

**Spring Break Stay and Play** – Join us for an open gym on Wednesday, April 3, from 10:00am – noon. Snacks provided. Kids must be accompanied by an adult.

**Youth Adult Axe Throwing Event-** Young Adults (20 somethings) join us for a fun night of axe throwing at FlannelJax's in Grand Rapids on Thursday, April 18 from 5:30-6:30pm followed by dinner at a local restaurant after. Cost is \$26 a person. Please sign up with Pastor Melanie by Monday, April 15.

**Cello Ensemble** – If you play cello and would like to participate in a cello ensemble at the Maundy Thursday service on March 28 at 7pm, please contact Pastor Melanie. Practices will be on Wednesday nights.

**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

**Young Life** (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) – meets Monday, March 18, at 7:27pm at the Holleman's house – 3566 Apache Ct.

**WyldLife** (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades) – meets March 26, at 7:27pm, at the Mann's house – 3166 Coronation Ct.

**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. Forms 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 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** – Do you love to bake? We would love to have you bake cookies 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:

12 oz. canned chicken, chicken flavored rice packets, 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.

**Thank you** so much for the stamps you donated to Wycliffe Associates. They were in February. From the stamps donated by different organizations and people in 2023, the stamp program contributed \$15,000 for Bible translation. Please continue to save your stamps as this is an ongoing program. If you have questions, call Doris at 616 531-8335.