



FOURTH SUNDAY
In Lent

March 11, 2018

Worship Services: 10 AM and 5 PM

“Your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

Matthew 6:18

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Ten o'clock

March 11, 2018

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Prelude: “What Wondrous Love Is This” [#164] E. T. Childs, D. Wood, D. Dahl

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: “Come Away from Rush and Hurry” Natalie Sleeth

Come away from rush and hurry to the stillness of God’s peace;
From our vain ambition’s worry, come to Christ to find release.
Come away from noise and clamor, life’s demands and frenzied pace;
Come to join the people gathered here to seek and find God’s grace.

In the pastures of God’s goodness we lie down to rest our soul.
From the waters of God’s mercy we drink deeply, are made whole.
At the table of God’s presence all the saints are richly fed.
With the oil of God’s anointing into service we are led.

Come, then, children, with your burdens—life’s confusions, fears, and pain.
Leave them at the cross of Jesus, take instead his kingdom’s reign.
Bring your thirsts, for he will quench them—he alone will satisfy.
All our longings find attainment when to self we gladly die.

* Opening Hymns: “Amid the Thronging Worshipers”
“Beneath the Cross”

#511:1-3
#825:1-3

* God’s Greeting

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Lenten Hymn of Assurance: “Behold the Lamb of God”

#110:1,14

Verse 1: Choir, Verses 8 and 9: Readers, Verse 14: Congregation

The Law: God's Guide to Grateful Living

As we are to walk humbly with our God in lives of gratitude,
let us hear again his Word:

God commands us to serve him alone as God,
to serve him according to his Word,
to speak of him only with deep respect and love,
to attend faithfully the assembly of God's people on the day of rest,
and every day to let the Lord work in us through his Spirit;
to respect and cooperate with all God-given authority,
to nurture human life as God's precious gift,
to live purely and joyfully with the gift of sex,
to use the resources of this earth as stewards of God's creation,
to use the gift of speech for promoting the truth in love,
and to exercise purity of heart in all of life.

**May the Spirit of God guide us
to be obedient to this Word. Amen!**

pg. 137 Worship Sourcebook

* Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed front cover of hymnal

* Song of Response: "What Wondrous Love" **#164:1,3**
(Children may come forward during the singing of this song.)

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Message for Children

Blessing for Children

Leader: People of God, what is your prayer for these children?

Congregation: The Lord be with you.

Children: And also with you.

Congregation: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Anthem: "The Lord Is the Strength of His People"

Sean Ivory

The Lord is the strength of his people,
A fortress of salvation for his anointed one.
Save your people and bless your inheritance;
Be their shepherd and carry them forever.
To you I call, O Lord, my rock; do not turn a deaf ear to me.
For if you remain silent
I will be like those who have gone down to the pit.
Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help.
Praise be to the Lord, for he has heard my cry for mercy.
My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

* Hymn of Preparation: “Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights” #134:1,3,4,5

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Proclamation: Matthew 6:16-18

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Sermon: **LESS IS MORE**

Prayer of Application

WE RESPOND IN GRATITUDE

* Hymn of Response: “Will You Come and Follow Me”

#742:1,2,5

Presentation of Offerings and Passing of Friendship Pads

Moment for Missions

Offering for Mission Outreach

Offertory: “Litania Solenne”

Garth Edmundson

* Benediction

* Doxology: “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

#965

* Postlude: “Canzon Quarti Toni”

Girolamo Frescobaldi

Liturgist: Bailey Sarver

Preacher: The Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys

Organist and Choir Director: Kenneth Bos

Ministry of Music: Sanctuary Choir

Accompanist: Lisa Meyer

Scripture Reader: Bob Houskamp, Jr.

Lenten Readers: Morgan Burghraef and Nick Overbeek

Calvin CRC Announcements for March 11, 2018

WORSHIP Today, 10 AM and 5 PM

Morning worship: The Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys continues our series on the spiritual disciplines with a sermon from Matthew 6:16-18 on fasting.

The Worship Committee has been soliciting song suggestions from our young people to use in our worship services. This morning we sing #825, which was requested by Maria Poortenga.

Evening worship: We celebrate and pray for our KidsHope USA ministry. Lisa Meyer preaches, and the Junior Bells lead us in music. We’ll have a time of refreshments and fellowship after worship, and we’ll be joined by our friends from Fuller Ave CRC who share our KidsHope ministry at Campus Elementary.

WORSHIP Next Sunday, March 18

Morning worship: The Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys will preach from Luke 14:25-33, “A Love/Hate Relationship.” The Allegro Ringers will lead us in ministry of music, and the offering will be for the Ministry Fund.

Evening worship: Our middle school and high school youth will lead us in a time of worship, and invite you enjoy ice cream and fellowship with them afterwards. Bailey Sarver will bring the message and the Youth Choir and Junior Bells will lead in music. The offering will be for Home Repair Services.

CHURCH FAMILY

We extend our sympathy to **John and Bernie Hedrick** (district 5) and **Cindy Lanning Burch** (district 4) on the death of Barb Imfeld, the daughter of Bernie and the sister of Cindy, from heart failure on Monday. Our hope is in the resurrection of Jesus Christ even as our grief is heavy.

We continue to pray for **Bob Brummel** (district 2) at Mary Free Bed and **Marilyn Brumels** (district 2) at Trillium Woods.

Chris Ekdorn (district 4) is at Blodgett Hospital being monitored for high blood pressure.

After suffering a fall and head injury a couple weeks ago, **Ann Slowins** passed away peacefully on March 8. Our sympathy is with her husband **Grayden** and their family. Funeral arrangements are forthcoming. We place our hope in the resurrection of Jesus.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

TLC and CHILDREN’S WORSHIP:

2 - 4 year-olds	“David and Jonathon”	Kim, Morgan
Kindergarten	“Jesus’ Last Passover”	
1 st & 2 nd grade	“Jesus’ Trial”	

Worship Center children are encouraged to continue their giving for missions and to bring their offerings for Family Assistance each Sunday.

CHILDREN’S ADVENT AND LENT BANNER: During Advent and Lent, the children will be led to their own worship time with our Christ candle banner. The fabrics and colors remind us of “waiting” and “royalty” as we long for our Lord, the King of Kings. The Light is an important theme in Worship Center. We light the Christ candle each week before reading scripture—to remind us that Jesus is the light of the world and his word is a lamp in the darkness. At times, we also light a candle for each child to remind us that we are to let our lights shine for Jesus. Notice the light of the banner is going out in all directions—the Holy Spirit is active in each of us and throughout the entire world. We are grateful once again to Judy Bode for the lovely banner and to Dan Bode for the pole and stand thoughtfully constructed from one of our former church pews.

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS

Today—**ADULT EDUCATION:** Germany's "Problem": Immigration, History, and Christian Responsibility. Presenter: Wally Bratt

Germany's recent elections have shown that a significant number of citizens apparently do not share Chancellor Angela Merkel's uniquely generous attitude toward immigrants, which the country has welcomed in unprecedented numbers. This presentation will attempt to delve into some of the historical roots of both Merkel's welcoming of foreigners and the electorate's apparent present skepticism as to her policy.

Next Sunday—**ADULT EDUCATION:** For Better, For Worse: Stories of the Wives of the Early CRC Pastors. Presenter: Janet Sjaarda Sheeres

The lives of the CRC pastors have been well documented and written about. However, the stories of the wives of these pastors have been sadly ignored in the history writings of the church. In her recently published book *For Better, For Worse*, Janet Sheeres has brought some of these women out of obscurity and describes their challenges and living conditions. Many of these stories played out in Grand Rapids and West Michigan.

BOOK CLUB: Join us at 4:00 PM on Monday, March 12 as we meet in the Lounge to discuss *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: All women are invited to join this time of discussion and learning from God's word on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 AM in Room 1. Pastor Rebecca will lead us in a conversation about scripture texts related to the spiritual disciplines. We'll look at different texts from the Sunday sermon texts on the spiritual disciplines, so this study will enhance what Calvin Church is already learning this year. Our first meeting will be on March 14, and we will discuss Psalm 119 and the discipline of meditation. Contact Sharon Hecker or Pastor Rebecca if you have questions. A study guide is available at the table in the narthex.

SOUP SUPPER: CYG Soup Supper will be Wednesday, March 21 at 5:00 PM. If you're willing and able to bring soup, we would deeply appreciate it. If you're interested in helping, please sign up at the TRIP table or send Bailey an email at calvinyouthline@calvincrc.org

LENTEN BREAKFAST is March 28 at 9:30 AM. Come and enjoy fellowship, music, meditation, and food. An invitation has been extended to St. Luke AME to join us. Invite family, friends, and neighbors. Reservations: sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex, call the church office 616-451-8467, Gert 616-460-6002, or email gbokhout@comcast.net by March 26. A free will donation to cover expenses and support Family Assistance will be received.

ATTENTION WOMEN SOFTBALL PLAYERS: Please confirm with Kim Spoelma ASAP if you intend to play this upcoming season. She needs to know if we will have enough to field a team. You can email, call, or text kimspoelma@yahoo.com, 616-644-5856.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Grand Rapids Cadet Council invites you to race your own Pinewood Derby car at the 2018 **Cadet-O-Rama**. The car may be new or an oldie-but-goodie from a past year. The race will be held on March 17 at Brookside CRC. Car registration will be from 11 AM to 12 Noon with the race to be held shortly after. Please contact your Head Counselor for a car and details.

Welcome to Calvin Church

In Worship:

- Our worship proceeds unannounced and follows the printed liturgy.
- The black dominating our Lenten banner symbolizes the death of our Lord. The red expresses Christ's suffering; the branch is a symbol of His crown of thorns. These symbols are not meant to be concerned only with death and suffering; the thorny branch is white and flowering to indicate that from suffering triumph will come, and the red orb symbolizes Christ's victory. Just as the sun illumines, quickens and comforts, so Christ as the "Son of Righteousness" gives new life to His own.
- Large print resources are available at the information desk.
- Adult coloring pages are on the TRIP table in the narthex.
- Our facility is equipped with the Loop hearing system.



For Children:

- Ages 0-2: Infant and toddler nurseries are available.
- Preschool: The Little Children (TLC) gathers downstairs in room 19 prior to the morning worship.
- K-2nd: After the Children's Message the Children's Worship ministry meets downstairs in rooms 11 & 13 until the conclusion of worship. Parents meet their children there following the service.
- Busy Bags for young children are on the picket fence in the atrium.
- Bulletins for older children are in the rack in the narthex.
- Coloring pages and colored pencils are available at the table in the narthex.

Fellowship and Information:

- Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments following the morning service.
- "Like" us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/CalvinChristianReformedChurch
- All of our ministries are described in the colorful folders at the Information Desk near the nurseries.

Church office hours: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday—Thursday

Bulletin deadline: Wednesday Noon

616-451-8467 Office@CalvinCRC.org www.CalvinCRC.org

CALENDAR

	<i>Today, Sunday, March 11, Fourth Sunday in Lent</i>
9:30a	Prayer Time (Prayer Room)
9:40a	Atrium Greeters: Elaine Bardolph, Lorraine Warlick
	East Greeters: Warren & Joanne Boer
	Nursery Supervisor: Kim Wierenga
	Nursery Helpers: Dale & Joanie Rosema
	Carolyn Prince, Ella Jansen
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Ruth Kamps
	Coffee Servers: Feenstra, Jansen
11:20a	Church School
11:30a	Adult Education: Germany's "Problem": Immigration, History, and Christian Responsibility. Presenter: Wally Bratt
3:30p	Light of Christ Community meets in the Fellowship Hall
6:30p	CYG in the Catacomb
	<i>Monday, March 12</i>
8:30a	Friendship Breakfast at Russ's
4:00p	Book Club meets in the Lounge
	<i>Tuesday, March 13</i>
9:30a	Family Assistance
	<i>Wednesday, March 14</i>
9:30a	Women's Bible Study meets in Room 1
4:00p	Cancer Support Group meets in the Conference Room
5:30p	Junior Bells
6:15p	Cherub Choir <i>and</i> Covenant Choir (Visker)
	Allegro Ringers
7:30p	Sanctuary Choir
	<i>Thursday, March 15</i>
9:00a	Take Charge meeting
9:30a	Family Assistance
6:30p	Eastown Basketball
	<i>Friday, March 16</i>
8:30a	Senior Men's Bible Study meets in the Atrium
	<i>Next Sunday, March 18, Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>
9:30a	Prayer Time (Prayer Room)
9:40a	Atrium Greeters: Gord & Karen Bordewyk
	East Greeters: Fay Bos, and Cindy Lanning Burch
	Nursery Supervisor: Yvonne Triezenberg
	Nursery Helpers: Cindy Lanning Burch, Merri Ezinga
	Nick Overbeek, Nathan Baker
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Barb Hoekwater
	Coffee Servers: Vanderhill, Netz
11:20a	Church School
11:30a	Adult Education: For Better, For Worse: Stories of the Wives of the Early CRC Pastors Presenter: Janet Sjaarda Sheeres