

"GOD IS
WITH YOU IN
everything
YOU DO."

GENESIS 21:22

April 23, 2023

Church office hours: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Monday—Thursday
Bulletin deadline: Wednesday Noon
616-451-8467 Office@CalvinCRC.org www.CalvinCRC.org

“God is with you in all that you do.”- Genesis 21:22

Eastertide

Ten o'clock

April 23, 2023

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Prelude: “Voluntary in D Minor” and Voluntary in G Major”

John Stanley

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: “Rise Now, My Heart, with Gladness”

Music: J.S. Bach

Text: Paul Gerhardt, tr. John Kelly

Rise now, my heart, with gladness; see what the Lord has done!

Gone is all gloom and sadness, now shines the glorious sun!

Like Christ, we too shall lie lifeless till he draw nigh
and bids us then to rise to dwell above the skies!

He in the grave descended, the foe held jubilee;

death's darkest powers are ended and Christ again is free.

Now victory he cries as glory fills the skies.

Our grateful songs ascend with joy that has no end.

* Opening Hymns: “God, We Sing Your Glorious Praises”

#519:1-2

“How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely”

#46:1-3

* God's Greeting

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Creator God, we celebrate the gift of the Earth
which you created for us as a home.

We are sorry for the ways we have corrupted it.

We are sorry for the ways we have disregarded its well-being.

We are sorry for the ways we have been complicit in systems that
degrade it.

All: Help us, Oh God,

To be good stewards of your gifts to us.

To realize our connectedness to creation.

To bring healing to the planet.

**To make changes that benefit all creatures.
Amen.**

Hymn of Confession: "Your Mercy Flows" (sung once)

#700

* Assurance of Pardon

* Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

front cover of hymnal

* Song of Response: "Glory Be to the Father"

#961

(Children may come forward during this hymn.)

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Message for Children

Blessing for Children

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

All: The Lord be with you.

Children: And also with you.

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

Anthem: "Cry No More"

Text: Johanna Anderson

Music: Dan Forrest

In the shadow where we linger, in this darkness we call home,
where the sighs are deep and doubtful and our aspirations groan,
all is not in vain, Beloved. Our travail is not unknown.

Christ within us, Christ, among us, Christ the first and Christ the last;
Love Incarnate, hold Your children till the storm of life is past.

Though we have not faith to seek Him, Christ Himself will draw us near.
Deep, abiding rays of mercy cast their light on lonely fear.
Cry no more, ye poor and weary, our redeeming Lord is here.

Sure defender, never failing, radiant Savior, holy friend,
gift of glory, hope of heaven, call us now to faith again!
Alleluia! Blest compassion, grace is shining without end!
Cry no more.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession, concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever
Amen.**

* Hymn of Preparation: "The God of Abraham Praise"

#39:1-4

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Genesis 21:22-34

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Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: **OATH SWEARING AND COVENANT-MAKING**

Prayer of Application

WE RESPOND IN GRATITUDE

* Hymn of Response: "God of Mercy, God of Grace"

#934:1-3

* Offertory Prayer for House of Prayer: Laura Ewing Schmus

* Benediction

* Doxology: "The God of Abraham Praise"

#39:5

**Triumphant hosts on high give thanks to God and sing,
and "Holy, holy, holy!" cry, "Almighty King!"
Hail, Abraham's God and ours! One mighty hymn we raise.
All power and majesty be yours and endless praise! Amen.**

* Postlude: "The God of Abraham Praise" [#39]

Michael Burkhardt

PLEASE BE SEATED FOR A BRIEF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Liturgists: Pastoral Intern Kelsey Bruinwood and Rev. Brad Zwiers

Preacher: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys

Ministry of Music: Kathryn Becksvoort

Organist: Kenneth Bos

Scripture Reader: Suzi Steketee

Audio/Video: Brian Netz, Sarah Frisch

Calvin CRC Announcements for April 23, 2023

WORSHIP Today, 10 AM

Morning worship: We welcome soloist Kathryn Becksvoort to lead us in ministry of music. Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys preaches from Genesis 21:22-34.

WORSHIP Next Sunday, April 30

Morning worship: We will celebrate the Professions of Faith of Ali Buist, Charles Molenbeek, Lucy Molenbeek, and Molly Netz. We will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys will preach from Genesis 22. The offering will be for Family Assistance.

Sermon series: Over the next three weeks, we will finish our series on Isaac, exploring how God's promises in Scripture are for us today.

April 30: Pastor Rebecca preaches from Genesis 22

May 7: Pastor Rebecca preaches from Genesis 23

May 14: Pastor Brad preaches from Genesis 24

The congregation would like to thank the musicians representing all ages who participated in the orchestra last Sunday. We are grateful for their musical contribution to our worship at Calvin Church. The instrumentalists who participated were: Allory Netz, Molly Netz, Kristy Ippel, Henry TerBeek, Arie TerBeek, Josh Meyer, and Lisa Meyer. They were directed by Amy Netz.

Staff Notes: Kim Fredricks is on vacation through April 28. Beth Schoone-Jongen is filling in. The office will be open Monday – Thursday, 9:00-3:00.

COUNCIL NEWS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: We will hold a brief congregational meeting after this morning's worship service to approve a slate of new Elders and Deacons. The nominees for Elder: Dan Bode, Philip DeJonge, Rick Feenstra, Trudi Huizenga, and Roger Konyndyk. The nominees for Deacon: Cindy Brink, Marissa Dierlam, and Mike TerBeek.

CHURCH FAMILY

Judy Schierbeek (district 2) had knee replacement surgery Thursday, April 20.

Ruth Lobbes (district 2) passed away into the arms of her loving Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Tuesday, April 18. A funeral service is planned for Wednesday, April 26 at 11 AM at Calvin Church. Visitation will be 4-7 PM at Calvin Church on Tuesday, April 25, and also for an hour prior to the Wednesday service. May the God of all comfort be near to Ken and the rest of Ruth's family as they mourn her death and celebrate her life, in the hope of Christ's resurrection.

Thank you: On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to thank members of Calvin Church for all their expressions of sympathy and concern following the recent death of Joanne Boer. Your support was deeply appreciated. Special thanks are extended to Pastor Rebecca Jordan Heys and Pastor Kelly Buist for all their words of comfort, strength and hope in our risen Savior and Lord.

Warren Boer

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS

CHURCH LIBRARY: Many thanks to Dwight Baker for donating new books published by Baker Publishing Group to our church library. Over the course of the past several years, he has donated up to 90 books each year, greatly expanding the range and quality of our library's collection. Congratulations on your retirement, Dwight, and thank you.

Calvin Church Breakfast Club will meet again on Wednesday, **May 3**, at 9 AM at Russ'. Join us for breakfast and fellowship.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: We will meet this Wednesday, April 26, at 2:30 PM in Room 1. We will be discussing chapter 6 from our study guide. Contact Pastoral Intern Kelsey (kbru207@calvinseminary.edu) with questions or if you would like a copy of the study guide.

KIDSHOPE: It is back! The Coins for Campus bottle is back in the Atrium for your loose change. We are excited to report that after counting and rolling all the change, there was approximately \$700 (and yes, we did this by hand). We were able to purchase a variety of small toys and family board games that Campus School students could win as prizes at Family Fun Night. Earnestine Mays, the KSSN coordinator, reported that a great time was had by all and that all the prizes were a huge hit. Campus School is very grateful for the investment of Calvin CRC in their school community. We are looking forward to growing the spare change once again. Keep on dropping!

BLANKET EXERCISE, Friday, April 28, (4 - 6 PM) at Calvin Church. The Blanket Exercise is a great opportunity for participants to experience the history of relationships between Europeans, including the Christian Reformed Church Mission in the Southwest, and the Indigenous nations who inhabit the southern part of Turtle Island, now called the United States of America. It helps participants understand why it is important to know our history and how to take steps toward reconciliation and new relationships. Registration is free for Calvin Church members.

See more information here: <https://www.crcna.org/BlanketExercise>

Register here: <https://crcna.regfox.com/the-blanket-exercise-calvin>

The House of Prayer offers safe, long-term housing for men and women who have struggled with addiction and incarceration. The Grand Rapids House of Prayer is located in our neighborhood at 1314 Sigsbee SE. During the month of April, we are collecting 18" twin size air mattresses, twin size bed linens, pillows, blankets, comforters, bathroom rugs, shower curtains, towels, soap, shampoo, body wash, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. Items may be put on the table near the Fellowship Hall.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Access Walk for Good Food** will be held May 7-17. The goal is to raise \$90,000 to support 9 community organizations working to create a good food system for all. There will be an in-person kickoff event at Mulick Park on May 7, from 2–4 PM, as well as an option to walk in your own neighborhood through May 17. There are many ways to participate: form a walk team, raise funds, volunteer, and promote the walk to others. You can find more information on the Access Walk for Good Food, along with additional materials, at accessofestmichigan.org/walk.

Help Wanted: Dynamic Youth Ministries is looking for someone to clean our office once a week. Light cleaning with a flexible schedule at our new office located near the airport. Call for more information - 616-241-5616.

CALENDAR

	<i>Today, Sunday, April 23</i>
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Gwen Hendrikse
	Nursery Volunteers: Dale Rosema, Abi Lizewski
	Nursery Alternate Volunteer: Julie DeKoster
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Kristy Ippel
	Fellowship Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall
11:20a	Worship and Wonder in Room 9
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Suzi Steketee
3:30p	CYG activity
	<i>Tuesday, April 25</i>
9:00a	Family Assistance
4-7p	Visitation for Ruth Lobbes
7:30p	Council meeting in Room 17
	<i>Wednesday, April 26</i>
10:00a	Visitation for Ruth Lobbes
11:00a	Funeral Service for Ruth Lobbes
2:30p	Women's Bible Study in Room 1
6:00p	Allegro Ringers rehearsal in the Bell Room
7:00p	78ers
	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal in the Balcony
	<i>Thursday, April 27</i>
9:00a	Family Assistance
10:00a	Quilting Bee in Room 1
4:00p	Community Care/Social Justice meeting in Family Assistance Building
	<i>Friday, April 28</i>
4-6p	Blanket Exercise in the Fellowship Hall
	<i>Next Sunday, April 30</i>
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Sue Keegstra
	Nursery Volunteers: Dan Hubka, Lydia Visker
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Judy Stoner
	Coffee Servers: Rick and Lori Feenstra
11:20a	Worship and Wonder in Room 9
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Kristy Ippel
6:30p	CYG Bible Study