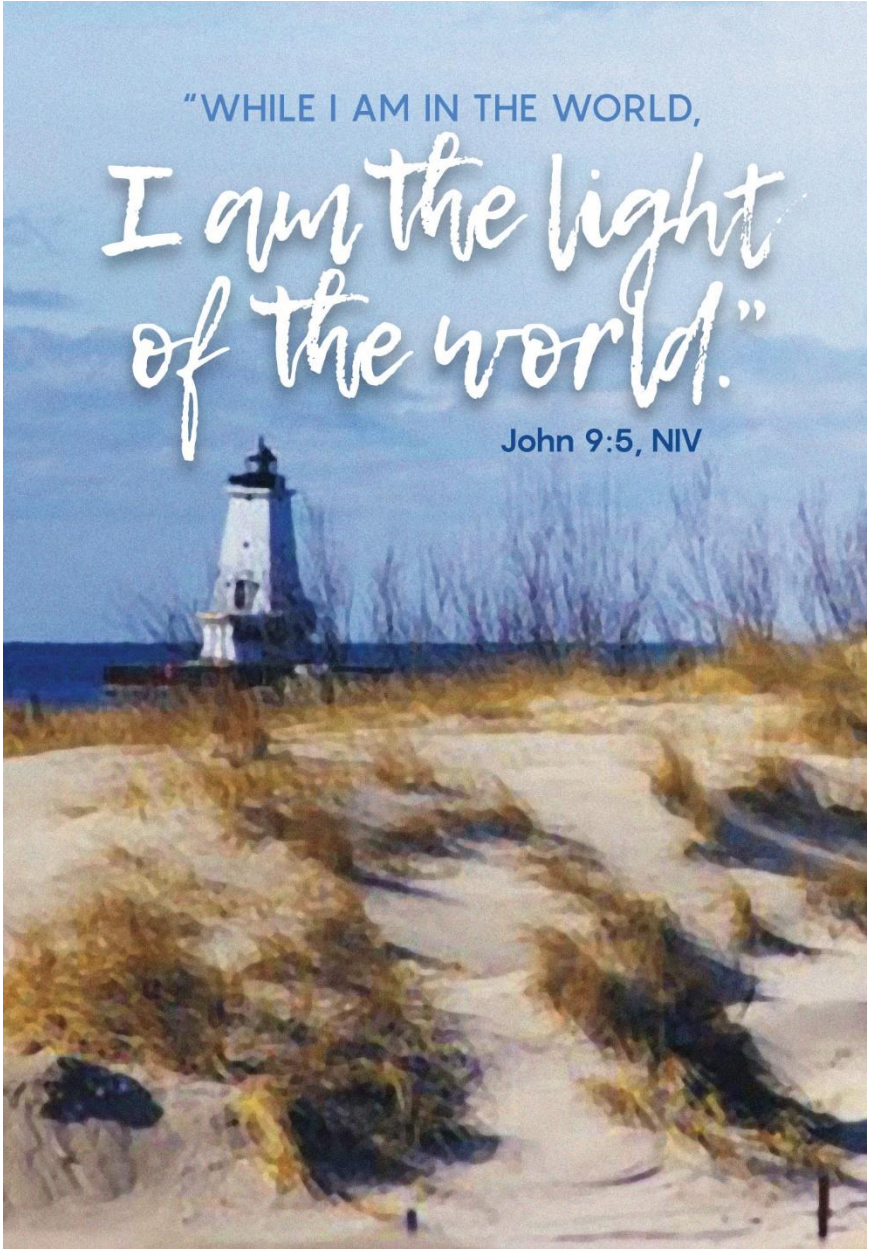


"WHILE I AM IN THE WORLD,

*I am the light
of the world."*

John 9:5, NIV



February 18, 2024

“Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.’“
John 8:12

First Sunday in Lent

Ten o'clock

February 18, 2024

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Prelude:

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: “In Heavenly Love” Text and Music: Felix Mendelssohn
In heavenly love abiding no change my fear shall fear.
And safe is such confiding, for nothing changes here.
The storms may roar without me; my heart may low be laid.
But God is round about us, and can I be dismayed?

* Opening Hymns: “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High” **#111:1,2,5**
“Give Glory to God, All You Heavenly Creatures” **#114:1-3**

* God’s Greeting

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**All: Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine,
that we may be saved.**

Hymn of Confession: “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” **#132:1,2,4**

* Assurance of Pardon

* Our World Belongs to God, st.6

Our Faith #157

* 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

Commissioning of Heather Conklin, Community Coordinator

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: "Hymn of Promise"

Text and Music: Natalie Sleeth
arr. John Ferguson

In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons a bidden promise; butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning: in our time, infinity.
In our doubt there is believing, in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

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

All: 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: "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"

#25:1,3,5

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: John 8:12-20

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Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Song of Response: “Jesus the Lord Said, “I Am the Bread”“

#125:2

Sermon: **THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

Prayer of Application

WE RESPOND IN GRATITUDE

* Hymn of Response: “Christ, Be Our Light”

#908:1,2,5

* Invitation to Offering: Tom Hendrikse

* Offertory Prayer for the Ministry Fund

Deacon: God, your generosity to us is abundant and gracious.
Everything we have comes from you.

**All: Receive our gifts of our time, our selves, and our possessions.
Help us to grow in gratitude and joy as we follow Jesus. Amen.**

* Benediction

* Doxology: “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”

#111:6

**All Glory to our Lord and God
for love so deep, so high, so broad—
the Trinity, whom we adore,
forever and forever more. Amen**

* Postlude:

Liturgists: Pastoral Intern Evie Dykhouse and Rev. Brad Zwiers

Preaching Pastor: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys

Ministry of Music: Sanctuary Choir

Director: Kenneth Bos

Pianist Gwen Hendrikse

Organist: John Tiemstra

Scripture Reader: Molly Netz

Audio/Video: Graham Rayburn, Sarah Frisch

Calvin CRC Announcements for February 18, 2024

WORSHIP Today, 10 AM, First Sunday of Lent

Morning worship: On this first Sunday in Lent, we begin a series of sermons from the gospel of John, looking at the “I am” statements of Jesus. Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys preaches from John 8:12-20, “I am the Light of the World.”

WORSHIP Next Sunday, February 25, Second Sunday of Lent

Morning worship Rev. Brad Zwiers will continue our Lent series on the “I am” statements of Jesus in the gospel of John by preaching from John 10, “I am the Good Shepherd.” The Joyringers and Sanctuary Choir will lead us in ministry of music, and we will celebrate the Profession of Faith of Arie TerBeek. The offering will be for GEMS and Cadets.

Lent sermon series:

March 3 – “I am the Bread of Life” John 6 – Pastor Rebecca

March 10 – “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life” John 14 – Pastor Rebecca

March 17 – “I am the True Vine” John 15 – Pastor Brad

(We will take a break for Palm Sunday and Easter, and conclude the series the Sunday after Easter.)

April 7 – “I am the Resurrection and the Life” John 11 – Pastor Brad

COUNCIL NEWS

As the next steps in our continued congregational discernment around the Loving and Learning Together document, Council has scheduled a town hall meeting for Tuesday, February 27 at 7:00 PM. Those who would like to speak briefly at this meeting need to sign up by contacting council president Donna Houskamp ahead of time. Council has also decided to ask for a congregational vote on Loving and Learning Together, which is scheduled for Sunday, March 10 after the morning worship service. Absentee ballots may be requested through the church office. See the recent emails for more information about this process, or contact a council member, the church office, or one of the pastors. Your council is grateful for your continued partnership in the mission of the church.

CHURCH FAMILY

Bob Schoone-Jongen (district 4) had a transcatheter aortic valve replacement procedure on Monday afternoon and is recovering at home. Thank God for the successful procedure and continue to pray for Bob’s healing and recovery.

Ellen Meyer (district 2) passed away on Sunday, February 11. We grieve with her husband David, along with Corrin, Lisa, Josh, Nate, and Lydia Meyer, even as we put our hope in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, March 2 at 11:00 AM at Calvin Church.

Jan Postma’s (district 4) mother died on Monday, February 12. May the God of all comfort be near to Jan and her family.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

CLASSES: High school catechism does not meet this Sunday due to the school winter break. Worship and Wonder, Worship Center, and TLC still meet today.

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS

BLOOD DRIVE: GOT BLOOD? Please share with those who desperately need it. Join us at the first of our three 2024 blood drives on February 21, from 2:30 to 7:00. It's easy, relatively quick and life-saving to someone in need. You may call (616-451-4887) or email (cindylburch@comcast.net) Cindy Burch to reserve your time slot or sign up online.

https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/132602

FAMILY SUPPER: A light supper will be provided at church on February 21 for adults and their children, especially those involved in Wednesday evening programming. Gord and Jane VandenBerg and Gord and Karen Bordewyk will serve food from 5:00-6:30 PM.

THE DEACONS ARE COOKING!: The deacons would like to invite you to a luncheon in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 25 at noon. A flier is in your box with details and an opportunity to RSVP. The main course will be provided by the deacons and the accompanying sides are assigned by last name. Please do respond by February 21 so the deacons can plan accordingly. Reach out to any deacon with questions. We are looking forward to the fellowship!

FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Join us for coffee, cookies, puzzles, games, and conversation Monday, February 26 in the Atrium from 1-3 PM.

SAVE THE DATE: The next Bon Appetit breakfast will be held March 1. Contact Marcia Huizinga for more information.

FAMILY ASSISTANCE is getting very low on bath towels and blankets of all sizes. We would appreciate any extras laying around at your home that are still in good condition. Donations can be brought to the blue cart just inside the church office.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Using funds granted by Classis Grand Rapids East and matching funds approved at our congregational meeting in December, we invited applicants for a part time Community Connector position. We were delighted to have four exceptional candidates, any one of whom would have been an excellent fit. Now we can confirm that the position was offered to and accepted by Heather Conklin, a neighbor from the Ottawa Hills neighborhood, who brings remarkable experiences and qualifications. She will help us engage more deeply and more extensively with our neighbors around Calvin Church. Heather is beginning her orientation and will be commissioned at our morning service today.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you desire a Christian education for your child that is joyful, academically challenging, and screen free? Trinitas Classical School is a community of Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox Christians committed to cultivating lives of faith, reason, and virtue. We are now enrolling full-time students in grades K-8 and home school partners in grades 5-8. **Join us for Discover Trinitas Night Tuesday, February 27, 6:30-8:00 PM or a Drop-In Tour on Tuesdays 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM.** You can find more information on our website www.trinitasclassical.org.

CALENDAR

	<i>Today, Sunday, February 18</i>
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Wanda Sytsma
	Nursery Volunteers: Erin Hubka and Kate Triezenberg
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Judy Faber
	Coffee Servers: Joanie and Dale Rosema
11:20a	Worship and Wonder in Room 9
11:30a	Elders meet in the Lounge
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Bruce Van Oss
	<i>Tuesday, February 20</i>
9:00a	Family Assistance
	<i>Wednesday, February 21</i>
2:00p	Blood Drive in the Narthex
5:00p	Family Supper in the Fellowship Hall
5:45p	Allegro Ringers rehearsal in the Prayer Room
6:00p	Joyringers rehearsal in the Bell Room
6:15p	Cherub Choir and Covenant Choir rehearsal in Room 9
7:00p	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal in the Balcony
	78ers, Cadets, and GEMS
	<i>Thursday, February 22</i>
9:00a	Family Assistance
10:00a	Quilting Bee in Room 1
	<i>Friday, February 23</i>
6:00p	CYG/78ers Game Night
	<i>Next Sunday, February 25</i>
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Julie DeKoster
	Nursery Volunteers: Tim Molenbeek, Annelise Hendrikse
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Suzi Steketee
	Coffee Servers: Bob and Beth Schoone-Jongen
11:20a	Worship and Wonder in Room 9
	Catechism
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Kurt Frisch
	Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall
6:30p	CYG Bible Study in the Catacomb



**Growing in Discipleship ...
...Transformed for Ministry
Welcome to Calvin Church**

In Worship:

- Our worship proceeds unannounced and follows the printed liturgy.
- Reprint and streaming licenses are One License A-730126, CCLI#2532147, and CSPL#175060.
- The Prayer of Confession is taken from the Worship Sourcebook.
- The black dominating our Lenten banner symbolizes the death of our Lord, the red expresses Christ's suffering, and 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 "Sun of Righteousness" gives new life to his own.
- Large-print resources are available at the Information Desk.
- 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 in the nursery 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.

Fellowship and Information:

- Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments following the morning service.
- "Like" us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/CalvinChristianReformedChurch
- Subscribe to our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/@CalvinCRC/streams

Church office hours: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday—Thursday
Bulletin deadline: Wednesday Noon
616-451-8467 Office@CalvinCRC.org www.CalvinCRC.org