



**March 17, 2024**

# **“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.” - John 15:9**

## **Fifth Sunday of Lent**

Liturgists: Pastoral Intern Evie Dykhouse and Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys

Preaching Pastor: Rev. Brad Zwiers

Organist: Kenneth Bos

Ministry of Music: Calvin University Capella

Director: Pearl Shangkuan

Violinist: Grace Cheong

Scripture Reader: Hannah Triezenberg

Audio/Video: Graham Rayburn, Steve Triezenberg

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**Ten o'clock**

**March 17, 2024**

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## **GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP**

Prelude: Preludes on “All Creatures of Our God and King” [#551]

Gerhard Krapf; Austin Lovelace; Lyke K. Neff; Wilbur Held

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: “Exsultate Deo”

Text: Psalm 81:1-3

Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

Exsultate Deo, adjutori nostro, jubilate Deo Jacob.

*Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.*

Sumite psalmum et date tympanum, psalterium jucundum cum cithara.

*Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.*

Buccinate in Neomenia tuba, insigni die solemnitatis vestrae.

*Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day.*

\* Opening Hymns: “All Creatures of Our God and King”

**#551:1,4,5**

“O God, We Kneel Before Your Throne”

**#680:1-4**

(stanzas 1-2 All; stanza 3 Choir alone; after an interlude, All sing stanza 4)

\* God’s Greeting

## WE CONFESS OUR SIN

### Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

Leader: We thank you, gracious God, for Jesus Christ the true vine, with his roots eternally grounded in you. We rejoice that by grace we have been grafted into him, to be branches on a vine which bears the loveliest of all the fruits of earth. Yet we confess that all is not well with the way we live.

**All: Please forgive us for the occasions when  
we have been the ones to introduce disease into the vine,  
preferring its contamination to the vigour of health.  
Forgive us for neglecting to draw deeply on the sap of Life,  
for our tendency to wander  
instead of growing on the framework you provide,  
for being content, and sometimes even proud of,  
a few sparse fruits,  
for the apathy which lets us go through some seasons  
without bearing any fruit.**

Leader: Have mercy on us. Please do not lose patience or sever us completely from the true vine. Rather heal our diseases, discipline and train our wandering tendrils, prune our unfruitful branches and cut away our diseased ones. May we remain in Christ and he in us, through all the changing seasons of life. Let us delight in bearing the fruits of love which are our true purpose and joy. For your Name's sake.

**All: Amen!**

### Assurance of Pardon

Anthem of Assurance: "No Night There"

Text: various Scripture passages

Music: Dan Forrest

God is with us; God is for us; do not be afraid.  
There shall be no night there, no crying there,  
God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.  
Even in the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.  
Lo, I am with you always, even to the end.

\* 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: "How Firm a Foundation"

Text: John Rippon [#427]

Music: J. Funk, arr. Paul Louis Anderson

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: "I Am the Holy Vine"

**#851:1-3**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: John 15:1-17

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Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Hymn of Response: "Jesus the Lord Said, 'I Am the Vine'"

**#125:7**

Sermon: **I AM THE TRUE VINE**

Prayer of Application

## WE RESPOND IN GRATITUDE

\* Hymn of Response: "Take My Life and Let It Be"

**#863:1,3,5,6**

\* Invitation to Offering: Cindy Lanning Burch

\* 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.**

\* Doxology: “All Creatures of Our God and King”

**#551:6**

**Let all things their Creator bless  
and worship him in humbleness,  
alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:**

**O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Amen.**

\* Benediction

\* Choral Closing: “The Lord Bless You and Keep You” Text: Numbers 6:24-26

Music: Peter C. Lutkin

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

Amen.

\* Postlude: “Andante con moto”

Alexandre Guilmant

## **Calvin CRC Announcements for March 17, 2024**

### **WORSHIP Today, 10 AM Fifth Sunday of Lent**

*Morning worship:* Rev. Brad Zwiers preaches from John 15:1-17, “I am the True Vine.” We welcome the Calvin University Capella to lead us in ministry of music.

### **WORSHIP Next Sunday, March 24, Palm Sunday**

*Morning worship:* Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys will preach from John 12:12-19, “Glory and Death.” The Covenant Choir and Junior Bells will lead us in ministry of music, and the offering will be for Community Care.

### **Thursday, March 28, Maundy Thursday, 7 PM**

We will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, and the Festival Choir will lead us in a service of songs and readings.

### **Lent sermon series:**

(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**

Responses for the offices of Elder and Deacon are due today. You may drop off your response in the box in the office.

**Loving and Learning Together vote:** A total of 300 votes were cast, more than 2/3rds of which were in favor; so the motion to adopt the Loving and Learning Together document was approved. We thank all who cast a ballot and pray for our loving Lord's direction as we move on from here.

## **CHURCH FAMILY**

We extend our sympathy to **Dave and Lois Huisman** (district 7) in the death of Dave's sister, Judy Dekkinga of Jenison, on Friday March 8. May God grant peace during this time of sorrow.

## **CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**The Covenant Choir** will be ending their season next Sunday, March 24, with the traditional singing of "Look at the World." Parents and former choristers are invited to join the choir for this anthem. Please plan to join the choir during the singing of the final hymn.

## **MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS**

**LENTEN EXHIBIT:** The artworks on display in the Atrium are from Calvin Church's permanent collection.

**FAMILY SUPPER:** A pizza supper will be provided at church on March 20 for adults and their children, especially those involved in Wednesday evening programming. Gord and Jane Vandenberg will serve food from 5:00-6:30 PM.

**FESTIVAL CHOIR:** This year's Maundy Thursday service on March 28 will be a Service of Tenebrae (Shadows) featuring a retelling of the Passion story through the eyes and voice of Matthew. Please consider joining our Festival Choir to participate in this service and also on Easter Sunday. The Festival Choir will rehearse on three Wednesday evenings at 7 PM beginning on March 13.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Save the dates: we plan to meet on Wednesdays starting on April 10 to discuss scripture passages about prayer. You are very welcome to join! Contact Pastor Rebecca for a copy of the study guide or with any questions.

**PASTA PARTY:** Neighborhood Free Pasta Dinner coming Wednesday, April 17, from 5:00-7:30 PM. Activities for kids and an opportunity to assemble kits for Kids' Food Basket (KFB). Good food, good fun, good conversations. Mark your calendar! Donations to defray the cost of food and signs may be marked "Pasta Party" and sent to the office.

**KIDS' FOOD BASKET:** On April 17 Calvin Church and our neighbors will pack supper sacks for Kids' Food Basket. You are invited to contribute items to fill the sacks. To ensure each child is receiving the same meal, KFB asks for no substitutions to the items on the Supper Pack supply list. Please have your donations on the table by the kitchen by April 14.

- Pudding Cup
- Fruit Cup or Pouch (no foil tops)
- Pretzel, Cheez-it, or Goldfish bag (1.5 oz or smaller)
- Quart Size Bag (must be zipper lock style)
- Meat sticks - 0.28 oz sticks

# CALENDAR

	<i>Today, Sunday, March 17</i>
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Corey Visker
	Nursery Volunteers: Gwen Overbeek, Lydia Visker
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Judy Alphenaar
	Coffee Servers: Rick and Lori Feenstra
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: Gwen Overbeek
6:30p	CYG Bible Study
	<i>Monday, March 18</i>
1:00p	Fellowship Hour in the Atrium
	<i>Tuesday, March 19</i>
9:00a	Family Assistance
6:00p	Deacons meet in the Atrium
7:30p	Council meets in the Atrium
	<i>Wednesday, March 20</i>
5:00p	Family Supper
5:30p	Junior Bells rehearsal in the Bell Room
6:00p	Allegro Ringers rehearsal in the Narthex
6:15p	Cherub Choir and Covenant Choir rehearsal in Room 9
7:00p	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal in the Balcony
	78ers, Cadets, and GEMS
7-8:30p	Pinewood Derby Races in the Fellowship Hall
	<i>Thursday, March 21</i>
9:00a	Family Assistance
	<i>Next Sunday, March 24</i>
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Corey Visker
	Nursery Volunteers: Kim Wierenga, Lydia Visker
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Judy Alphenaar
	Coffee Servers: Rick and Lori Feenstra
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: Judy Jongsma
3:30p	CYG activity



## **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 was written by Bruce Power, [www.brucepower.com](http://www.brucepower.com).
- 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-2<sup>nd</sup>: 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](http://www.facebook.com/CalvinChristianReformedChurch)
- Subscribe to our YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/@CalvinCRC/streams](http://www.youtube.com/@CalvinCRC/streams)

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

Bulletin deadline: Wednesday Noon

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