



Early on the
first day of the week ...
Mary Magdalene came to
the tomb and saw that the
stone had been removed
from the tomb.

John 20:1, NRSV

March 31, 2024

“For as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.” – John 20:9

Resurrection Sunday

Liturgists: Rev. Kelly Buist and Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys

Preaching Pastor: Rev. Brad Zwiers

Organist and Choir Director: Kenneth Bos

Trumpets: Jonathan Karnes and Ben Piela

Trombones: Aaron Hettinga and Ben Huisman

Handbells: Luanne Barnes, Josh Meyer, Elly Nyhof,

Lydia Tolsma, and Melanie Tolsma

“Hallelujah” Chorus Director: Melanie Tolsma

Scripture Reader: Irene Konyndyk

Audio/Video: Don Buist, Sarah Frisch

Ten o'clock

March 31, 2024

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Prelude: “Now the Green Blade Rises” [#203]

Mark Sedio

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” [#190]

William H. Harris

“Fanfare”

Jeremiah Clarke

Call to Worship: “Jesus, Our Lord, Is Risen Today”

Text: William Livingston

Music: Melchior Vulpus

Jesus, our Lord, is risen today. Hallelujah!

Death could not hold him, as he did say. Hallelujah!

Easter Greeting

Leader: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

Easter Reading: Luke 24:1-9

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Welcome and Announcements

* Opening Hymns: “O Sons and Daughters”

#190:1-3

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

#182:1-5

* God's Greeting

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**All: Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave,
you shattered the power of sin and death.
We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,
bound by the ways that lead to death.
We overlook the poor and the hungry
and pass by those who mourn;
we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed
and indifferent to calls for peace;
we despise the weak and abuse the earth you made.
Forgive us, God of mercy.
Help us to trust your power
to change our lives and make us new,
that we may know the joy of life abundant
given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.**

* Assurance of Pardon

* Hymn of Assurance: “Now the Green Blade Rises”

#203:1-4

* Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed

front cover of hymnal

* Song of Response: “Oh, to See the Dawn”

#177:1,3,4

(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: “He Is Not Here! He Has Risen”

Text: Luke 24, adapt. by Allen Pote

Music: Allen Pote

Additional text by Christopher Wordsworth

Early in the morning came women bringing spices and perfume,
to anoint the body of Jesus, lying in the tomb.

But the stone was rolled away, and the body was not there.

Then two men in dazzling clothes spoke to them:
“Why do you seek the living among the dead?
He is not here, for he has risen.”

He is not here, for he has risen from the dead! Jesus is alive!
Go and tell all the apostles, go and tell Peter and John,
go and tell those who will listen: Jesus is risen, he is alive!

Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise.
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
He who on the cross a victim for the world’s salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead!

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

* Hymn of Preparation: “Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”

#205:1,3,5

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: John 20:1-18

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Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: **WHILE IT IS STILL DARK**

Prayer of Application

WE RESPOND IN GRATITUDE

* Invitation to Offering: Graham Rayburn

* Offertory Prayer for Family Assistance

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.**

* Hymn of Response: “Low in the Grave He Lay”

#186:1-3

(During this hymn, those wishing to join the choir for the
“*Hallelujah*” Chorus may proceed to the front of the sanctuary.)

* Benediction

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

* Choral Closing: “Hallelujah,” from *Messiah*

Text: Revelation 11:15, 19:6, 19:16

Music: George Frideric Handel

Hallelujah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth!

The kingdom of this world

is become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ,

And he shall reign forever and ever.

King of kings and Lord of lords, hallelujah!

* Postlude: “Toccata,” from *The Fifth Symphony*

Charles-Marie Widor

Calvin CRC Announcements for March 31, 2024

WORSHIP Today, 10 AM

Morning worship: Together we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! Rev. Brad Zwiers preaches the Easter story from John 20:1-18, and the Festival Choir leads us in worship.

WORSHIP Next Sunday, April 7

Morning worship: Rev. Brad Zwiers will complete our series on the I AM statements of Jesus with a sermon from John 11:1-27, “I AM the resurrection and the life.” We will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, and the offering will be for Benevolence.

Staff notes: Pastor Rebecca will be on vacation April 1-8.

COUNCIL NEWS

To those of you who were nominated to serve as Elder or Deacon: we thank you for your prayerful consideration. We have received some positive responses, but not yet enough for a full slate of office-bearers. In light of the need in this area of service for the church, we invite you to continue to pray. If you turned down your nomination, we invite you to reconsider whether God may be calling you to serve in this way in this season. There are challenges to this work, and also deep rewards in being a part of guiding Calvin Church into its next season of ministry.

CHURCH FAMILY

85+ YEAR OLD BIRTHDAYS:

4/16 Jake Heerema (87)

4/24 Miriam DeLange (90)

4/30 Barb Hoekwater (91) and Hap Hecker (89)

4/6 Don Oosterhouse (93)

4/19 John VanderPloeg (96)

4/29 Bette Frieswyk (89)

The lilies in the sanctuary today celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

4/8	Rowan Wierenga (5)
4/11	Olivia Coulter (10)
4/14	Andrew and Jacob Brink (15)
4/30	Molly Netz (14)

TLC, Worship Center, Worship and Wonder, and Catechism will not be meeting on Sundays March 31 and April 7 for Easter and Spring Break. There will be volunteers in the nursery.

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS

BOOK CLUB: We will gather on Monday, April 8 at 3:00 PM to discuss the book, *Our Missing Hearts* by Celest Ng. Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, contact Pat Elders.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: We plan to meet on Wednesday afternoons, 2:30-4:00 PM, from April 10 to May 15 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.

CALLING ALL ARTS AND CRAFTERS: Would you like to free up some of your studio space while improving the biodiversity of the church grounds at the same time? Consider donating your handmade items to the April 17 Community Garden fundraiser. See the upcoming article in April's *Courier* or contact Cindy Burch for more details.

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.

BLOOD DRIVE coming soon, Wednesday, April 17, 2:30-7:30 PM in the church narthex. One hour, fun fellowship, and homemade goodies for all. Email judybode4@yahoo.com to request your time preference or sign up at https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/156334. This is a Triple Community Service Day! **Give** Blood and Save Lives. **Bring** food for Kids' Food Basket. **Welcome** neighbors for Pasta Party.

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
- Meat sticks - 0.28 oz sticks
- 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)

CALENDAR

	<i>Today, Sunday, March 31</i>
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Rachel Rayburn
	Nursery Volunteers: Christine Coulter, Allison Coulter
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Judy Stoner
	Coffee Servers: volunteers
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Donna Houskamp
	<i>Monday, April 1</i>
6:30p	Sacred Grounds committee meeting
	<i>Tuesday, April 2</i>
	Family Assistance closed for Spring Break
7:30p	Elders meet in the Atrium
	<i>Wednesday, April 3</i>
5:45p	Allegro Ringers rehearsal in the Bell Room
7:00p	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal in the Balcony
	<i>Thursday, April 4</i>
	Family Assistance closed for Spring Break
	<i>Next Sunday, April 7</i>
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Laura Prince
	Nursery Volunteers: Yvonne Triezenberg, Hannah Triezenberg
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Irene Konyndyk
	Coffee Servers: Bob and Beth Schoone-Jongen
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Trudi Huizenga



Growing in DiscipleshipTransformed 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 from *The Worship Sourcebook*.
- As the empty tomb revealed to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary that Christ had won for us the victory over death, so the bursting life-form radiates from a void to symbolize the dynamic and everlasting life of the redeemed. The metallic stitchery and satin trapunto express the concept of glory. The white background, which symbolizes purity, is borrowed from our medieval art heritage.
- 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
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