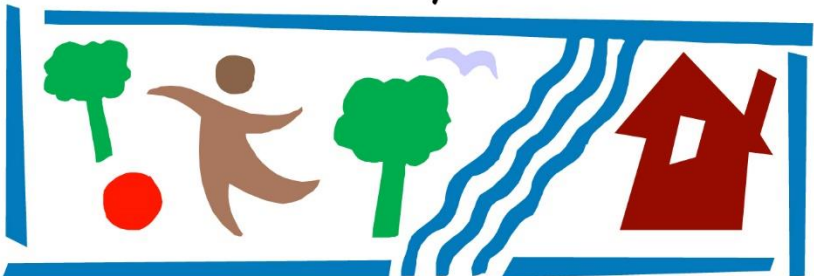




**See what love the
Father has given us,
that we should be
called children of God.**

1 John 3:1, NRSV



April 14, 2024

**“See what love the Father has given us,
that we should be called children of God.”
– 1 John 3:1**

Eastertide

Liturgists: Pastoral Intern Evie Dykhouse and Rev. Brad Zwiers

Preacher: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys

Ministry of Music: Sanctuary Choir

Organist and Choir Director: Kenneth Bos

Choir Pianist: Lisa Meyer

Scripture Reader: Lisa Meyer

Audio/Video: Graham Rayburn, Brian Netz

Ten o'clock

April 14, 2024

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Prelude: “Voluntary in G Minor”
“Pastorale”
“Voluntary in G Major”

Thomas Roseingrave
Charley Wesley
Henry Heron

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 Worship the King”
“The Heavens Declare Your Glory”

#2:1,3,5
#3:1-3

* God’s Greeting

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: God of everlasting love,
we confess that we have been unfaithful
to our covenant with you and with one another.
We have worshiped other gods: money, power, greed, and convenience.
We have served our own self-interest
instead of serving only you and your people.
We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded,
nor have we rightly loved ourselves.

**All: Forgive us, gracious God, and bring us back into the fullness
of our covenant with you and one another.
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

* Remembrance of Baptism and Assurance of Pardon

* Hymn of Assurance: “How Great Is the Love of the Father”

#683:1-2

* 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: “Lord, You Were God”

Text: Katherine K. Davis, adapt. James VandenBosch

Music: Genevan Psalter, arr. Katherine K. Davis

Lord, you were God before all human time,
before you made the sun and moon to shine.
You, God, who shone before the dawn of day,
shine in our hearts with your redeeming ray.
You dwell forever in the holy height,
known to our hearts but hidden from our sight.

You are the Lord to whom our vows are given,
who by your gracious love lifts us to heaven.
You are our God, our Lord forevermore.
Here at your feet we worship and adore.
We and all nations lift our hearts to sing
praise to the Lord, our great and glorious king. Amen.

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 Know that My Redeemer Lives"

#193:1,4,7

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: 1 John 2:29-3:10

page 990

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: **GOD'S CHILDREN**

Prayer of Application

WE RESPOND IN GRATITUDE

* Hymn of Response: "Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"

#796:1-3

* Invitation to Offering: Ron Rozema

* Offertory Prayer for Mission Outreach

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: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

#946:1,3

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.

In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing; you are my own.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.

Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.

Here my Spirit's power filled you; here his tender comfort stilled you.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free. Amen

* Postlude: "O God, We Love You"

Heinrich Scheidemann

Calvin CRC Announcements for April 14, 2024

WORSHIP Today, 10 AM

Morning worship: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys preaches from 1 John 2:29-3:10, and the Sanctuary Choir leads us in ministry of music.

WORSHIP Next Sunday, April 21

Morning worship: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys will preach from 1 John 3:11-24, and the Allegro Ringers will lead us in music. The offering will be for the Ministry Fund.

COUNCIL NEWS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: We will hold a brief congregational meeting after the morning worship service on April 21 to approve a slate of new Elders and Deacons. The nominees for Elder: Ron Rozema and Don Trap. The nominees for Deacon: Kris Bergh, Dan Hubka, and Elly Nyhof. More nominees will be added before April 21 because the Elder and Deacon slates are not yet completely filled; we will inform you of those nominees in due course.

CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations to **Bill and Diane Woolsey** who thank God for 52 blessed years of marriage with today's flowers in the sanctuary.

Thank you, Calvin congregation, for your outpouring of consolation upon the death of Dave's sister. In a time of sadness, it is good to know that others care.

Dave and Lois Huisman

Marjorie Wielsma (District 7) has moved to Raybrook Skilled Nursing 321N.

A memorial service for **Jane VanZytveld** (District 3) will be on Friday, April 19. Visitation will be from 10-11AM with the service following.

Jan Walhout (District 8) will have a memorial service on Saturday, April 20. Visitation will be from 10-11AM with the service following.

MISSION OUTREACH: Following our congregation's vote on the Loving and Learning Together document we informed all the mission outreach causes we currently support of our decision. Since that time we have received word from three of the mission teams, Rev. Anthony and Sara Sytsma (Resonate/Uganda), Rev. Dr. David and Hiroko Sytsma (Tokyo Christian University), and Daryl and Carol VanDyken (TWR), informing us that they believe they cannot, in good conscience, continue to accept our financial support. We have also received a message from another team applauding our decision. Since that team works in an area where support for the affirming position would likely jeopardize ministries and relationships we are not now disclosing names. These exchanges highlight the sensitivity of this challenging matter and differences in beliefs and viewpoints. We urge the congregation to be increasingly in prayer for all who are and have been directly and indirectly impacted by our statement and for all who have, over time, experienced exclusion from the life of the church.

CAN YOU SPARE A CAR? Eric Ruvuna, a new member of Calvin Church, has temporary need of a car that seats six. Are you currently able to loan a car or van? If so, or for more information, contact Rosemary Stevenson.

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS

From the Christian Schools Committee: In an effort to make Christian school education an affordable opportunity for all member families, this congregation provides K-12 tuition assistance. The tuition support request form for the upcoming school year is now available. Forms are due back to Lisa by April 28. If you have questions, need a form, or would like to know more, please contact Lisa TerBeek.

INSTRUMENTALISTS: Please join us for the Calvin Church Orchestra on April 28. We would love to make a joyful noise together with you!! Let Amy Netz know if you are able to play - amy.netz@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: We will meet this Wednesday, April 17, from 2:30-4:00 PM in Room 1. Contact Pastor Rebecca 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.

HUNGRY KIDS 34,260 local kids are considered food insecure. Kids Food Basket helps to fill this need by distributing sack suppers through the school system. Since July 2023 over a million suppers have been assembled and delivered. Calvin Church will be filling sacks on **April 17**. We have plenty of zip top bags now - thank you! To try to fill 400 supper sacks, we need many more of a few of the items. *Please bring donations to the table by the kitchen by tomorrow, April 15!*

- Pretzel, Cheez-it, or Goldfish bag (1.5 oz or smaller)
- Fruit Cup or Pouch (no foil tops)
- Pudding Cup

BLOOD DRIVE: Thank you to our 18 willing donors so far! Lots more are welcome! If you intend to donate, let me know, so that Versiti will send appropriate staff numbers. (Walk-ins are always welcome, yet appointments help us plan:)

When: Wednesday, April 17, 2:30 -7:30

Where: Church Narthex

Prepare: Drink extra fluids and eat a high protein lunch!!!

Questions about your eligibility? Email me and I will find the answer!

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Classis-wide Pentecost Worship Service: Over the past months, as the churches of Classis GRE have been discerning their relationships to the denomination and to each other, there have been opportunities for the members of Classis GRE to gather for communal prayer via Zoom. As we’ve moved through the themes of LAMENT, SURRENDER, and RESURRECTION, we’ve been able to celebrate our life together, seek the Spirit’s leading, and surrender our hurts, fears, and desires to God’s will. **We now look forward to gathering in person on May 19, 6:00 PM at the Calvin University Chapel, to worship, pray, and gather at the Lord’s Table. Everyone is welcome!** Various pastors will guide us through prayer and communion, and we will pray over our classis delegates to synod. (Those who are interested in being part of a combined choir should plan to attend a rehearsal at 4:00 on May 19; please reach out to Chan Gyu Jang, director of music at Woodlawn CRC (music@woodlawncrc.org) to RSVP or request more information.)

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

Bulletin deadline: Wednesday Noon

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

<i>Today, Sunday, April 14</i>	
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Amy Netz
	Nursery Volunteers: Judy Alphenaar, Molly Netz
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Norma Spears
	Coffee Servers: Dale and Joanie Rosema
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: Cindy Lanning Burch
6:30p	CYG Bible Study
<i>Monday, April 15</i>	
1:00p	Fellowship Hour in the Atrium
<i>Tuesday, April 16</i>	
9:00a	Family Assistance
<i>Wednesday, April 17</i>	
2:30p	Blood Drive in the Narthex
	Women's Bible Study in Room 1
5:00p	Pasta Party in the Fellowship Hall
5:45p	Allegro Ringers rehearsal in the Bell Room
7:00p	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal in the Balcony
<i>Thursday, April 18</i>	
9:00a	Family Assistance
<i>Friday, April 19</i>	
10:00a	VanZytveld visitation
11:00a	Memorial Service
<i>Saturday, April 20</i>	
10:00a	Walhout visitation
11:00a	Memorial Service
<i>Next Sunday, April 21</i>	
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Gwen Overbeek
	Nursery Volunteers: Erin Hubka, Hazel Nunn
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Mary Brummel
	Coffee Servers: Mark and Julie DeKoster
11:20a	Worship and Wonder in Room 9
	Catechism
	Congregational Meeting in the Fellowship Hall
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Rick Feenstra