



Worship Service for the
Third Sunday of Epiphany
January 21, 2024

Welcome visitors, we are glad you are here! Please fill out a Welcome Card (in the pew rack) and place it in the offering basket. Also, join us for coffee after church so we can meet you!

The Gathering

Prelude: "Jesus Shall Reign"

arr. by Flor Peeters and Robert Hobby

The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

***Welcome and Mutual Greeting**

We Worship the Triune God of Grace

***Call to Worship**

Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.
The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness
in the sight of the nations.

**He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!
With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise
before the King, the Lord!**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!
Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord,
for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

Let us sing praises to the Lord!

(Psalm 98)

***Hymn of Praise:** “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

LUYH 146 vs 1,2,5

***Prayer of Preparation**

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Spirit, may shine with the
radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to
the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and
the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

***Song of Worship** “Arise, Your Light is Come”

LUYH 102

Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbor,
in what we have thought, in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins
to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him:
have mercy on you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins;
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness;
and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Song of Assurance “Create in Me a Clean Heart”

SNC 49

The Means of Grace

The Blessing of our Children

Almighty and everlasting God, you have called us all to bear witness to the Gospel:
Raise up from among our children, evangelists and heralds of your kingdom, that your
Church may proclaim the unsearchable riches of our Savior Jesus Christ, to whom,
with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages.
Amen.

Children Leave for Walk Out Worship

(Children 5 through 2nd grade are invited to follow the banner to Walk Out Worship.
Parents will find the classroom on the lower level, near the nurseries).

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 1:16-2:12

pg 837

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Questioning Authority

Covenant Renewal

***Hymn of Response:** “In Christ Alone”

LUYH 770

***The Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection and the life everlasting.
Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Offering: Faith Promise ~ Steve & Kim Holtrop

Let us bring our gifts and offerings.
**Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works, and
give glory to your Father in heaven.** (Matthew 5.16)

The Offertory: “Jesus Shall Reign”

LUYH 219, vs 1-4

***Hymn of Sending:** “Jesus Shall Reign”

LUYH 219 vs 5

***Benediction**

Postlude “Trumpet Tune”

Roy Brunner

Credits & Liturgical Notes

Participants:

Preacher: Rev. Tim Blackmon

Organist: Jean Schuitman

Flute: Karen Katje

Pianist: Julie Hordyk

Liturgist & Prayer of the People: Paul LaMaire

Vocalists: Paul LaMaire, Christie VanderHeide

We display all music and readings on the screen. LUYH (red hymnal) and SNC (green) are in the pew rack; CH (brown) is located under the seat. Large print bulletins are available in the narthex.

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Prayer Requests, Praises, Gratitude:

Corky North is in the hospital due to breathing difficulties. He and Mary ask for prayers for healing and strength.

Dave Weesies was admitted to the hospital over the weekend initially for a broken ankle. He is currently in the ICU but showing signs of improvement. He underwent a surgical procedure Tuesday for his ankle. Please keep *Dave & Barb, Dirk* and their family in your prayers.

"On Dec. 27, my wonderful wife, Sherrye, died. Our family immediately gathered to grieve and comfort one another. When Sunday morning arrived, I expressed my anxiety to my daughters about going to church and into the "outside world." " Dad", they said, "you must go and let your church friends and family also grieve with you." And were they ever right!

Our church and Christian family's warm handshakes and sincere hugs were a testament to God's unshakeable love for all of us. It was a cocoon of warmth and caring that protected us from the pain and grief of losing Sherrye. Thank you hardly covers the prayers, love and compassion shown to me and my family during this very difficult time. Thank You to our Second CRC family. You really care through in our time of needing God's love and Christian compassion." ~ *Carl Vertregt and Family*

"Thank you for your generosity. *Western Michigan Christian* is such an important part of Christian education in our area and we could not do it without the generosity of our supporters."~ *Christopher J. Ruiter, Principal*

Announcements:

Today's Offering: *Faith Promise* ~ Steve & Kim Holtrop work with Resonate Global in Central America. Steve is the leader of their team. A December update is posted on the missionary bulletin board.

Directory Updates:

The Cunningham's have new phone numbers, Todd: 616-210-8583 and Amy: 616-256-9431. Carolyn Sturrus' phone number is 480-695-8071.

Nomination Update: Additional nomination forms for Office Bearers are available in the church office. Please return them to the office by Sunday February 4.

Cuba Mission Trip: The recent economic changes in Cuba have hit hard. With prices skyrocketing for essentials like water, electricity, food and fuel, many households and small businesses are struggling to make ends meet. In 2024, Cuba has eliminated assistance for basics like rice or sugar for most people. People are genuinely worried about affording everyday needs. This is why our mission trip this summer is crucial. If you would like to join us to offer support, bring hope and Jesus love to those affected, **please contact Rob Wagenmaker** at 616.638.0976 or rwagenmaker@hotmail.com.

Faith Promise Updates & Praise:

Don Slager will be briefly sharing during the January 28 service about his translation work in Liberia. After the refreshment time, he will be in the sanctuary providing a more in-depth presentation about his work. Don has been a long-time Faith Promise recipient of Second Church. Come and be encouraged by his stories of God's faithfulness and provision!

"Thank you so much for your continued generous giving toward our ministry to college students. Thank you for the generous Christmas gift and lovely note too. It was a great encouragement to hear from all of you. It is a joy and a blessing to be teamed up with you for the gospel." ~ *Daniel, Kristin, Anja, Isaiah and Ian Hamilton*

January Series: Beat the winter doldrums, get out of the house, and join other members of the congregation and community at 12:30pm as together we share treats, learn, and grow. This week's speakers are:

Mon – Kendall Vanderslice – Table Conversations: Building Community as We Eat

Tues – Dr. Lydia Dugdale – The Lost Art of Dying: Ethical Considerations in Facing Our Mortality

Wed – Niala Boodhoo – Lessons I've Learned from Listening

Thurs – Tommy Caldwell – Route Finding for Success

Fri – Felicia Wu Song – Restless Devices: Christian Formation in a Digital World

Midweek Gathering: A 5-week Bible Study with dinner and children's programs continues Wednesday January 24 and runs through February 7.

Sovereign Grace: The Five Consolations of the Canons of Dort with Rev. Tim Blackmon

- *Read the Third and Fourth Main Point of Doctrine (p. 13-20)*

Grief, Loss, Death, and Dying with Amy Anderson:

- Reading: "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" in Songs of Suffering: 25 Hymns & Devotions for Weary Souls By Joni Eareckson Tada (p. 45)
- Prayer: "A Liturgy for Grieving a Death Due to Natural Disaster" in Every Moment Holy, Vol II By Douglas Kaine McKelvey (p. 47)
- Scripture: Joel 2:21-27; Psalm 42-43 (p. 48)

CHAOS and *Midweek Kids* will both occur during the time of Bible Study. If you haven't signed up, you are still welcome to join us, even if you can only make it for dinner and fellowship.

Summer Camp: Attention families, day camp and overnight camp schedules are starting to come out. The Welcome Desk has information about *Camp Geneva*. Interested in a scholarship for a Christian Camp? Contact **Amy Wolffis** for a form.

Tool Time: We will continue our study on the Gospel of John on Saturday January 20 from 7:30-8:30am at church. Coffee and donuts are provided. Please contact Rick Geertsma at 616-402-9791 for more information. Upcoming Dates: February 3 and 17, March 2 and 16.

VBS 2024: Mark it on your calendars to dive into a thrilling undersea adventure at SCUBA! Calling all kids from ages 4 years old to 5th grade to join us on July 8 to 11, from 9:45 am to 11:45 am. Through this immersive experience, children will uncover the truth that God is a faithful friend who loves them endlessly. Also, we're seeking enthusiastic minds to join us and help elevate this experience for the children. Reach out to [Rob Wagenmaker](#) at 616.638.0976 if you'd like to help.

Volunteer Schedule

January 21, 2024

Projection: Dan Braak

Video: Chuck DeWitt, Jason Zuidema, Jay Brace, Ethan Hodge

Ushers: Steve Marotti (Team 1) Todd Cunningham, David Brace, Eric Wolffis

Coffee Hosts: Chris & Kim Van Stratt, Art & Marilyn Bolt

Nursery: Darcie Clapp, Kim Van Stratt

Little Lambs: Sam Farrar, Reed Van Stratt

Walk Out Worship: Amy Anderson, Corrine Van Stratt

Greeters: Dennis Schaaf, Dale & Norma Schuitema

Offering: Faith Promise- Steve & Kim Holtrop

January 28, 2024

Projection: Eric Wolffis

Video: Mark Boelens, Jim Query, Ethan Hodge

Ushers: Curt DeJongh (Team 2), Chris Hordyk, Chris VanStratt

Coffee Hosts: Alan & Cindy VanDyke/ Jim & Sheila Warners

Nursery: Dawn Rotman, Mary Wierenga

Little Lambs: Cherise VanderHeide, Gabe Schaaf

Walk Out Worship: Rob & Joslyn Wagenmaker, Kyla Zuidema

Greeters: Garry Vanden Berg, Brian & Barb Sikkenga

Offering: Teen Challenge West Michigan

Calendar

Sunday, January 21

10:00 AM–Sunday Service

6:30 PM –Focus

Monday, January 22

11AM-1 PM–Office Hours

12:30 PM – January Series

Tuesday January 23

9 AM-1 PM–Office Hours

12:30 PM – January Series

Wednesday January 24

9 AM-1 PM–Office Hours

12:30 PM – January Series

1:30 PM Knitting Club

5:30 PM Midweek Gathering

7:00 PM CHAOS

Thursday, January 25

9 AM-1PM–Office Hours

12:30 PM – January Series

Friday, January 26

12:30 PM – January Series

Saturday, January 27

Sunday, January 28

10:00 AM–Sunday Service

11:30 AM- Faith Promise Update

Connect with Second CRC

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YouTube: @2ndCRCGH

Give online: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1460116>