



Worship Service for  
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost  
November 16, 2025

## Head Lifted: Entering God's Presence

**Prelude** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"  
"How Firm a Foundation" arr. P. Hurlbutt

arr. D. Wagner

### Call to Worship

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall.**

The Lord is our light and our salvation—whom shall we fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of our lives; we will trust in him this day and always.**

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

**I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

### God's Greeting

## Arms Open: Welcoming One Another

### Welcoming New Members

### Introductions

*The new members are invited to stand before the congregation.*

### Welcome

In your baptism, you were marked as members of Christ's church. It is our joy to welcome you today as members of this congregation. We believe that the Holy Spirit has led you to this congregation at this time for your own good and the good of this congregation. We invite you now to affirm your faith in Christ and express your commitment to the life of this church and mission God has given to us.

## **Vows**

Do you affirm that Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior, that the Bible is God's Word revealing Christ and his redemption, and that the teachings of this church reflect this revelation?

**I do.**

Do you promise to join with us, sharing your gifts, in our worship and fellowship, and in the mission God has given us in the world?

**I do.**

## *The congregation rises*

Do you promise to receive these new members in love as your brothers and sisters in Christ, support them with your fellowship and prayers, and, recognizing their gifts, invite them into the life and mission of our congregation?

**We do.**

## **\*Blessing of New Members**

Lord God, through your grace we are your people, through your Son you have redeemed us; in your Spirit you have made us your own.

We pray for our new members; Make our lives bear witness to the good news of Jesus, in word and deed, in the power of your Spirit.

Make our hearts worship you, the Savior of the world.

Make our wills eager to obey your Word, and our hands ready to do your work.

Make us live lives of prayer, trusting and believing that you are eager to bless.

Strengthen us in your service and fill our hearts with longing for your kingdom. Amen.

## **\*Mutual Greeting**

### **Hands Raised: Offering Our Praise**

## **\*Song of Praise** "What a Beautiful Name"

Fielding/ Ligertwood

## **\*Opening Prayer**

Almighty Father, whose mercy never fails and whose call is always to holiness, look with compassion on your servants gathered in your name.

**Strengthen us by your Spirit to walk in your ways without fear or shame.**

Grant that our words and deeds may bear witness to your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Knees Bent: Seeking Forgiveness

### Call to Confession

*"Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."*

Let us return to him in confession and trust.

### The Prayer of Confession

Lord of mercy, you have loved us with an everlasting love,  
but we have not loved you as we ought.

**We have resisted your Spirit, neglected your Word, and doubted your goodness.  
We have hidden our sins, excused our failures, and hardened our hearts to your call. Forgive us for what we have done and for what we have left undone.**

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Words of Assurance

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**In him, we are reconciled to God and clothed in his righteousness.**

Thanks be to God for his immeasurable grace.

## Ears Open: Hearing His Word

### WOW Girls Chorus "I Am Not my Own"

Getty

### Prayer of Blessing for Walk Out Worship

Almighty God, our strength and eternal comfort,

**We thank you that through the perfect sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ, you have completely paid the debt of our sin and set us free from the power of darkness; Give us grace in every moment, when we are young, and as we get older, to truly know and believe that we are not our own, but belong entirely, in body and soul, to our faithful Savior; and by the gift of your Spirit, through your Word, make us eager and ready to live for Christ alone from this day forward. Amen.**

(Children 4 years- 5th Grade are invited to Walk Out Worship.

They are dismissed at 11:20am from their classrooms located in the lower level near the nursery.)

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**The Sermon** “When the Years Draw Near”

**Prayer of Response**

**Hearts Overflowing: Giving Back to God**

**\*Song of Response** “Build My Life”

Yunker/Marin/Kaple/Redman/Barrett

**\*Confession of Faith**

Q 122. What is the first petition?

**A. “Hallowed be thy name.” That is: Grant us first of all that we may rightly know you, and sanctify, glorify, and praise you in all your works, in which shine forth your almighty power, wisdom, goodness, righteousness, mercy, and truth. Grant us also that we may so direct our whole life—our thoughts, words and actions—that your name may not be blasphemed because of us but always honored and praised.**

Heidelberg Catechism Lord’s Day 47

**Prayers of the People**

**The Offering** “Missionary Christmas Gifts”

**Offertory** “Peace I Give to You”

Visser

**Feet Sent: Walking in His Blessing**

**\*Sending Song** “O God, our Help in Ages Past”

LUYH 405 vs 1,4,5,6

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude** “O God our Help in Ages Past”

arr. Matthews

**Worship Leaders & Liturgical Notes**

**Preaching:** Rev. Tim Blackmon

**Flute:** Karen Katje

**Organ & Choir Director:** Jean Schuitman  
**Piano & Accompanist:** Julie Hordyk  
**Prayer of Blessing:** Maelyn Wagenmaker  
**Prayers of the People:** Jason Zuidema  
**Vocalist:** Amy Goorman, Christie Vander Heide  
**WOW Chorus Director/Pianist:** Annie Hoekzema, Robin Kieft  
**WOW Chorus:** Cora Brace, Evie Hoekzema, Sydney Marotti, Brinley Wagenmaker

We display music on the screen. LUYH (red hymnal) in pew rack; OneLicense.net #A-721176, CCLI#7750

### Welcome Guests:

Welcome, we are glad you are here! Please fill out a Guest Card (in the pew rack) and place it in the offering basket or scan the back of this bulletin for an online form. Also, join us for coffee and sweet treats after church so we can meet you!

### This Sunday:

**Today's Ministry Spotlight:** This Sunday's offering is for the Christmas Gifts for our Missionaries (Faith Promise). There's also a table in the North Hall with Christmas Cards for you to wish them a blessed holiday season.

### **Walk-Out Worship:**

Worship Center I: Today children will learn about the Tabernacle and God's desire to live with His people.

Worship Center II: Today children will learn about Israel's plea for a king, who God chose, and who was anointed to be the next king.

### Prayer Requests, Praises & Gratitude:

Please keep Chuck & Jeanne Schuch in your prayers. Chuck's brother Tom has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Please continue to pray for Eileen Harnden. She was moved to Serenity Home in Marne last month and is gradually adjusting. She is feeling a bit lonely without her church family and friends from Friendship Club. Eileen loves to get mail, so let's shower her with cards, showing her that we care about her. Please reach out to Anne Zuidema (care elder) with questions. Address: Eileen Harnden, c/o Serenity Home, 830 Hayes St., Marne MI 49435

"I am so thankful to report that my body is slowly improving after having experienced an infected appendix. Your prayers and good wishes have meant so much to me during this time. They really make a difference! I look forward to returning to my regular activities soon." ~ Jane DeGroot

"We want to thank you for all the cards and heartfelt notes of congratulations in recognition of Pastor Mike's 25th anniversary as an ordained minister in the CRC. What a beautiful surprise to receive them throughout the month of October! We are grateful that God led us to Second CRC 21 years ago, and we count it a privilege and joy to have ministered among you for 10 years. You were a blessing to our family and we recount often how God faithfully sustained us through your prayers, support, and love. To God be the glory!" ~ Pastor Mike & Mindy Koetje and Alyssa, Nathan, Mattias.

"A sincere thank you to all of you who participated in our Annual Thanksgiving Day food drive. With your help, 2,009 pounds of food was collected and delivered to the Love Central Food Pantry. Your generosity made it possible for many families in our community to enjoy this Thanksgiving season!"

"Thank you for your generous support of *Connect Two* through five additional volunteer mentors, your faithful commitment to prayer, and your special offering taken in September. Because of your partnership, more than seventy students in Grand Haven and Spring Lake are experiencing the steady care of a mentor who listens, encourages, and reminds them that they are deeply valued by God. We are so grateful for your shared heart for this ministry and for the many ways you reflect Christ's love in the community." ~ Jill Pyle at Love in Action.

### Church Announcements:

**Art Gallery:** An Artfelt Thank You to all who attended the art reception and to all those enjoying the exhibit of Lori McElrath Eslick and Sarah McElrath. Both women expressed their thanks in these words: "Thank you so much for all you and your team have done to get ready for this event and for this exhibit. My family and friends said they really enjoyed both of our presentations - and they all think it is amazing how Second CRC highlights art and artists." "*Connections. Pause. Reflect. Wonder.*" will be showcasing until the end of January. Please invite your family and friends to visit the Atrium Gallery during regular office hours. Also, a list of pieces for sale is available in the office.

**Angel Tree:** We are supporting the Christmas Shoppe at Love in Action. The Angel Tree is in the Atrium along the windows decorated with gift tags. Our donations will brighten Christmas for LIA's Housing Guests and families of those in their "Financial Fitness" program. Please consider taking a tag or two from the tree and place the items unwrapped under the tree by Sunday, December 7. Thank you! ~ The Outreach Team

**Book Club:** We will meet on Monday, November 17 in the church parlor at 1:30 PM. The book to be discussed is "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" by Lewis Carroll. The meeting is open to anyone interested in this children's classic.

**Handbell Choir:** We will rehearse on Sunday, November 23 at 11:30am in the choir room. New members are always welcome. Questions, contact Jean Schuitman at [morbaroque@gmail.com](mailto:morbaroque@gmail.com) or by text at (231) 750-6676.

**Holiday Services:** Please mark your calendars that we will have services on:

\*Thanksgiving, Thursday November 27 at 10am

\*Christmas Eve, Wednesday December 24 at 5pm

**Ministry Anniversary:** This November marks 30 years since Rev. Blackmon's ordination. Pastor Tim served at Oasis Community Church, River Rock Church and The American Protestant Church of The Hague and as Chaplain at Wheaton College, prior to becoming our pastor in 2022. The congregation is invited to bring or send cards during November to recognize Pastor Tim's faithfulness to serving God and His church.

**Missionary Christmas Cards:** There's a table in the Atrium with Christmas Cards for our missionaries for you to wish them a blessed Christmas. Please sign them by Sunday, December 7.

**Ping Pong:** We continue on Mondays at 1:30pm in the church basement.

**Sanctuary Choir:** Fall rehearsals continue on Thursday November 13 at 7pm, in the choir room. New members are always welcome! Questions, please contact Jean Schuitman at [morbaroque@gmail.com](mailto:morbaroque@gmail.com) or text (231) 750-6676.

**Tool Time Men's Bible Study:** We will meet Saturday, November 22 from 8-9am. Fall Dates: December 6 & 20. Questions, call Tony Razzini at (614) 753-2164.

## Volunteer Schedule

### November 16, 2025

**Projection:** Eric Wolffis

**Video:** Gary Roelofs, Ian Clapp, Jay Brace, Ethan Hodge

**Sound:** Todd Cunningham

**Ushers:** Team 11- Ken Terpstra, Jon Mulder, Jim Sacks, Carl Vertregt

**Coffee Hosts:** David & Rita Zuidema; Candy Van

Wieren; Susan Van Eerden

**Nursery:** Kari DeLange, Cathy Brolick

**Little Lambs:** Manette deJonge, Cherise VanderHeide

**Walk Out I:** Annie Hoekzema, Maelyn Wagenmaker

**Walk Out II:** Cindy Brace, Gabe Schaaf

**Greeters:** Tony Razzini, Jay & Cindy Brace

**Council in Parlor:** Deborah Erickson, Steve Marotti

**Offering:** Missionary Christmas Gifts

### November 23, 2025

**Projection:** Dan Braak

**Video:** Chuck DeWitt, Paul Marotti, Mark Boelens, Jason Zuidema

**Sound:** Rick Clapp

**Ushers:** Team 1- Steve Marotti Todd Cunningham, David Brace, Mike Buitendorp

**Coffee Hosts:** Doug & Jan Zuidema - Maelyn

Wagenmaker; Hazel Smith

**Nursery:** Victoria McCarthy, Laura Knochenhauer

**Little Lambs:** Onika Beswick, Vivienne McCarthy

**Walk Out I:** Lori Buitendorp, Reed VanStratt

**Walk Out II:** Cindy Brace, Ian Clapp

**Greeters:** Deborah Erickson, David & Sandra Brace

**Council in Parlor:** Steve Marotti, Tony Razzini

**Offering:** Resonate Global-The Slacks

## Calendar

### **Sunday, November 16**

10:00 AM–Worship Service

6:30 PM – Focus (High School)

### **Monday, November 17**

9AM -1PM – Office Hours

1:30 PM – Book Club

1:30 PM – Ping Pong

### **Tuesday, November 18**

9 AM-1 PM – Office Hours

7 PM- Friendship Club

### **Wednesday, November 19**

9 AM-1 PM – Office Hours

1 PM – Knitting / Craft Club

6:30 PM – CHAOS (Middle School)

### **Thursday, November 20**

9 AM-1 PM – Office Hours

### **Friday, November 21**

Office Closed

### **Saturday, November 22**

8:00 AM – Tool Time

### **Sunday, November 23**

10:00 AM–Worship Service

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### **Thursday, November 27**

10:00 AM – Thanksgiving Service

## **Connect with Second CRC**

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(616) 842-0710

[admin@secondcrcgrandhaven.org](mailto:admin@secondcrcgrandhaven.org)

YouTube: @2ndCRCGH

## **Give Online:**



## **Guest Registration:**

