

Prelude “How Good, Lord, To Be Here”
“Praise and Thanksgiving”

M. Sedio
D. Wood

The Welcome

The Greeting

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

***The Call to Worship**

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

**I will arise and go to my Father, and I will say to him, Father,
I have sinned against heaven and before you.**

While we were still far off, he saw us and felt compassion,
and ran and embraced us and kissed us.

**Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,
with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience.**

Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live.

**Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near.**

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to
the Lord, that he may have compassion on him.

**For he will abundantly pardon,
and satisfy us with his steadfast love.**

***The Hymn of Praise** “All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

LUYH 601 vs 1-4

***The Psalm**

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.
**For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.**

As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
**As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.**

***The Song of Praise** “The Lord is My Salvation”

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The Confession of Sin

Gracious Father, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. Like sheep we have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way. We have squandered what you have given, and have lived as though we were not your children. We have desired the far country, and have trusted in ourselves rather than in your mercy. We are no longer worthy to be called your children. Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love; blot out our transgressions, and cleanse us from our sin. Bring us home again, O Lord, and restore to us the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A brief moment of silence for individual confession of sin.

The Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news. While we were still far off, God saw us and had compassion. In Jesus Christ, he has come to seek and to save the lost. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. All who receive him, who believe in his name, he gives the right to become children of God. You are no longer strangers and aliens, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. In Christ, you are forgiven, restored, and received as sons and daughters.
Let us rejoice and be glad, for we were dead and are alive again; we were lost and are found. Amen.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God of mercy, you have brought us from death to life in Jesus Christ.
We thank you that while we were still far off, you drew near to us.

You have clothed us with Christ and seated us at your table.
You have put a new song in our mouths, a song of praise to our God.

You have called us your children and given us your Spirit.
We rejoice that we are no longer slaves, but children, and if children, then heirs through God.

Keep us in your love, that we may walk as children of light all our days.
To you be glory and praise forever. Amen.

***The Song of Thanksgiving** “Come Ye Sinners Poor and Needy”

CH 486

***The Prayer of Blessing**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said, Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God, look with kindness upon these children. Bless them and keep them; make your face to shine upon them and be gracious to them. Give them hearts to know you, to trust you, and to follow you. Keep them from the straying from your love, and draw them near to yourself. May they grow in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man. Establish them in your truth, and bring them into the joy of your house; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

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

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

The Gospel Luke 15:11-32

p. 874

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

The Prayer of Illumination

The Sermon “The Lost Sons”

The Prayer of Response

***The Hymn of Response** “Of the Father's Love Begotten”

LUYH 78 vs 1,2,5

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy 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.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

The Offering *Missions- The Tuls*

The Offertory "The Penitent"

Van de Water

*The Sending Song "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

LUYH 965

*The Benediction

The Postlude "The Doxology"

J. Bender

Worship Leaders & Liturgical Notes

Preaching: Mr. Erik Veker

Liturgist: Rev. Jay Knochenhauer

Organ: Jean Schuitman

Piano: Julie Hordyk

Soloist: Henk Ottens

Prayer of the People: Jason Zuidema

Vocalist: Christie VanderHeide, Evie Hoekzema

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 cookies after church so we can meet you!

This Sunday:

Today's Ministry Spotlight: Missions -The Tuls Family. Their Spring update is on the mission bulletin board near the mailboxes.

Walk-Out Worship: Worship Center I: Today our children will continue to celebrate our Risen Lord and will learn about His appearance to the disciples by the Sea of Galilee.

Worship Center II: Today our children will continue to celebrate our Risen Lord and will learn about the pattern of the Lord's prayer to use in their own prayer life.

Prayer Requests, Praises & Gratitude:

Please pray for Jill Holman as her father William (Bill) Holman passed away on Saturday April 11. A Service will be held at church on Monday April 20th at 1:00pm. Arrangements are by Klaassen.

“John’s MRI was held on Monday and we received answers to his pain. He had an injection on Tuesday to the lumbar/sacral region of the spine. We are blessed to have your prayers, cards and calls.” John & Cindy Klinger

Please pray for Stan Teunis, he is recovering from surgery for a pacemaker. He is also scheduled for a procedure on Monday April 27. Please keep him and Pearlene in your prayers.

Please continue to pray for health and healing for Bobbi Erdmann.

Please pray for Pastor Tim & Betsy, Ken & Mary Terpstra, Dave Vander Wall and Gord Buitendorp as they are in the Netherlands with a group from Calvin Seminary.

Thank you to everyone who contributed delicious treats for our Easter Sunday coffee hour. The left-over treats were packaged and frozen, to be used for the GVSU campus ministry.

Church Announcements:

Bridal Shower: Please join us on Saturday, May 16 at 9:30am for brunch to celebrate Ava Rotman’s marriage to Ethan Hill in June. They are registered at Amazon.com. Remember, all gifts are to be given anonymously. Please sign up at the welcome desk by Sunday, May 10.

Friendship Club: Our Spring Session continues Tuesday, April 21 at 7pm in the North Hall. If you are interested in being part of Friendship Club or just curious about it, you are always welcome to join us. There is a sign-up at the Welcome Desk for cookies/bars. Questions, please call Ruth Marotti at 616-886-6216.

Musical Gift of Gratitude: As an expression of gratitude to the Second CRC community and a way to thank God for the arrival of Spring, Mauricio Espinal invites you to a special musical offering: *"Echoes of the Heart: Piano Improvisations,"* on Sunday April 26 at 11:30am. This 20-minute unscripted journey will weave together familiar melodies and spontaneous themes, flowing without interruption. Join us for a moment of spiritual renewal and reflection through the keys.

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

Prayer Volunteers: You may have noticed that our Sunday "prayer of the people" is often delivered by a member of the congregation...one of the people. If you are willing to lift praise and petition to God, please contact Amy Wolffis or Julie Hordyk for more information or to be added to our volunteer list.

SWAN's: Please reserve Tuesday April 21 at 1:30pm for an inspirational Sight and Sound video on the Biblical book of Ruth at church. The video will be 2 hours long, with an intermission and snacks. Questions, contact Carole Ruiter or Barb Hammond.

Synod Volunteers: Second CRC is the convening (host) church for Synod 2026. Would you be willing to drive a golf cart for a few hours around Calvin University? Often referred to as the best job at synod, volunteers support delegates with golf cart rides. Synod needs drivers everyday at different times during their June 12-18, 2026 meetings. Please sign up online at: www.signup.com/go/igYLABH or contact Jeff Bolt at 616-224-0817.

Tool Time Men's Bible Study: We will continue Saturday April 11 at 8:00am at church. Future Dates: Apr 25 and May 9. Questions, call Tony Razzini at (614) 753-2164.

Vacation Bible School: *Save the Dates of July 13-16.* Our plans are underway, and we need your help for all the amazing adventures in Rainforest Falls! From decoration set up to welcoming faces at the doors and registration tables, to group leaders, to crafts and games. We're looking for over 30 volunteers to help children learn about the Nature of God! See the *Atrium Table* for volunteer descriptions and decide how you can best use your gifts. Please contact Rob or Annie with any questions about volunteering or donating items.

Women's Bible Hour: We will conclude our session on Thursday April 30 at 1:30pm. We will discuss lessons on growing older and wiser.



MIDWEEK GATHERING

Spring Session: Weds. April 29- Weds. May 27, 2026
Dinner at 5:30pm | Bible Study at 6:30pm
Register Online or at the Welcome Desk.

The Life of Renewal: Recovering the Roots of Spiritual Vitality *with Pastor Tim*

Why do some congregations flourish while others remain stagnant? Why do we drift through seasons of spiritual decline, and—more importantly—how do we navigate the path back to growth?

Spiritual vitality in a church is rarely an accident; it is the result of a community intentionally preparing the "soil" for the Spirit's work. In this five-week course, we will explore the essential preconditions for renewal, from addressing the roots of spiritual lethargy to recovering a deep, functional Gospel-centeredness.

Using Richard Lovelace's *Dynamics of Renewal* as our roadmap, we will investigate the specific theological and practical commitments that transform a congregation into a vibrant, outward-facing presence. Join us as we rediscover the primary elements of a healthy church and learn to embrace renewal, not as a seasonal event, but as a way of life.

A Living Member Forever:

The Beauty and Necessity of the Church in the Three Forms of Unity *with Erik Veker*

Belonging to the church is not optional. It is a living reality into which believers are placed and sustained—for their good and the glory of God. The Three Forms of Unity are not relics of the past. They are rich, precise, and alive with a vision of the church that is beautiful and necessary.

We will spend most of our time in the Belgic Confession and Heidelberg Catechism—lingering where the Catechism calls believers not merely individuals with private faith but living members of Christ's body. That changes everything. It shapes how we see Christ, ourselves, and how we endure until the Day. I want you to love the church. Not abstractly. Not cautiously. But with settled affection. What a joy to be held by Christ and placed among his people. In him—we are living members forever.

Midweek Kids:

Children will learn about spring storms to better understand the wonders of our God. We will learn about His power and might and how we can trust and rest in His control.

CHAOS: Middle School

Leaders and kids explore the Bible and what their faith really means in today's world.

There are also games, events, and lots of, well chaos!

We welcome any middle school student to join this fun fellowship.

Volunteer Schedule

April 19, 2026

Projection: Eric Wolffis

Video: Gary Roelofs, Paul Marotti, Jay Brace, Ethan Hodge

Sound: Rick Clapp

Ushers: Rick Geertsma, Rosemary Geertsma, Dirk Weesies, Ralph VanDuyn

Coffee Hosts: John & Marie Rycenga; Joe & Joy Gasser

Nursery: Kari DeLange, Victoria McCarthy

Little Lambs: Jane DeGroot, Kyla Zuidema

Walk Out I: Marie Rycenga, Elisa Alvarado

Walk Out II: Joslyn Wagenmaker, Reed VanStratt

Greeters: Steve Marotti, Roger & DeeAnn Hordyk

Council in Parlor: Tony Razzini, Dale Schuitema

Offering: Missions – Tuls

April 26, 2026

Projection: Dan Braak

Video: Chuck DeWitt, Paul Marotti, Mark Boelens, Harley Dyk

Sound: Jim Warners

Ushers: Dan Braak, Jeff Erickson, Joe Risselade, Paula Risselade

Coffee Hosts: Rick & Rosemary Geertsma; Lee & Mary Groters

Nursery: Mary Terpstra, Kathy Westveld

Little Lambs: Cherise VanderHeide, Sheila Warners

Walk Out I: Mary Winkle, Cheryl Diephouse

Walk Out II: Annie Hoekzema, Maelyn Wagenmaker

Greeters: Tony Razzini, Jon & Ann Kaemingk

Council in Parlor: Dale Schuitema, Dennis Schaaf

Offering: Christian Leaders Institute

Calendar

Sunday, April 19

10:00 AM–Worship Service

11:30 AM– Bell Choir

Monday, April 20

9 AM-1 PM – Office Hours

1:30 PM – Book Club

1:30 PM – Ping Pong

Tuesday, April 21

9 AM-1 PM – Office Hours

1:30 PM – SWAN's

7 PM – Friendship Club

Wednesday, April 22

9 AM-1 PM – Office Hours

1:00 PM – Knitting/Craft Group

Thursday, April 23

9 AM-1 PM – Office Hours

1:30 PM – Women's Bible Hour

Friday, April 24

Office Closed

Saturday, April 25

Sunday, April 26

10:00 AM – Worship Service

11:30 AM – “Echoes of the Heart Piano Improvisations”

Connect with Second CRC

2021 Sheldon Road

Grand Haven, MI 49417

(616) 842-0710

admin@secondcrcgrandhaven.org

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Registration:



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