Second
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Worship Service for the
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2026

God Gathers His People

Prelude Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above arr. Wilson

The Greeting

The LORD be with you.
The LORD bless you. Ruth 2:4

***The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

***The Call to Worship**

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets the prisoners free;

the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless.

The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.
Praise the LORD! Psalm 146:1-2, 5-10

***The Opening Hymn** "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" LUYH 572 vs 1,2,4,5

***The Collect of the Day**

Gracious God, in your providence you go before us, and your kindness does not forsake the living or the dead. In the shadow of your wings we find refuge. Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the ordinary fields of our lives, and make us generous with all you have given us, so that others may find in us a glimpse of your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Ruth 2:12, 20; Psalm 36:7

God Pardons and Renews Us

The Call to Confession

"In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land." Those were days when "everyone did what was right in his own eyes." We know such days, and we know such hearts. Let us confess our sin together. Ruth 1:1; Judges 21:25

The Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, you care for us more than we know, yet we live as though everything depends on us. We worry about tomorrow and trust our own planning more than your providence. We hold tightly to what we have and harvest to the very edges of our fields, leaving little for the poor, the stranger, and the one who has nothing. We have been slow to notice those who live at the margins of our lives, and slower still to show them kindness. Forgive our anxious hearts and our closed hands. Teach us to rest in your care and to give as freely as we have received; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leviticus 19:9-10; Matthew 6:31-33

The Kyrie "Kyrie Eleison" Iona Community

The Words of Assurance

Hear the good news: "We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose… He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?" In Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Blessed be the LORD, **who has not left us this day without a redeemer.**
Romans 8:28, 32; Ruth 4:14

The Rule of Gratitude

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Lord, have mercy upon us, **and incline our hearts to keep this law.**
Romans 8:28, 32; Ruth 4:14

***The Song of Praise** "Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near" Dever/Faucett

God Speaks His Word

***The Prayer for Illumination and Blessing of the Children**

Gracious God, your kindness goes before us, even when we cannot see it. You have taught us that we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of your law, and by your Holy Spirit feed us with your Word and give us grace to receive Christ our Redeemer as he is offered to us in the gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.
Psalm 119:18; Deuteronomy 8:3

The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in, from this time forth and forevermore.
Amen. Psalm 121:7-8

The Reading of Ruth Ruth 2:1-22 p 222

The New Testament Reading Luke 9:12-17 p 866

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Sermon "As It Happened"

***The Hymn of the Day** "God Moves in a Mysterious Way" LUYH 25

The 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.

We Respond in Faith

The Prayers of the People

The Sung Lord's Prayer Williamson

The Offering *Calvin Theological Seminary*

"When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow."
Deuteronomy 24:19

The Offertory “God Moves in a Mysterious Way” arr. Ashford

God Sends Us Out

***The Closing Hymn** “May the Peace of God” Getty

***The Benediction**

The Postlude “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” arr. Ashford

Worship Leaders & Liturgical Notes
Preaching: Rev. Tim Blackmon
Organ: Cathy Schaaf
Piano: Mauricio Espinal
Prayers of the People: Rob Wagenmaker
Vocalists: Patrice Frantz, Paul LaMaire

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

Welcome Guests:

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: Calvin Theological Seminary (CTS) is a Reformed seminary that serves the Christian Reformed Church in North America and wider constituencies by preparing individuals for biblically faithful and contextually effective ministry of the Word and by offering Reformed theological scholarship and counsel. CTS embraces a holistic form of education that attends to the character, spiritual, and vocational formation of students.

Worship Center I: Today our children will see how God used David's everyday skill as a shepherd—throwing stones with a sling—to help him defeat Goliath.

Worship Center II: Today our children will learn about how God lovingly created the Garden of Eden, a place of delight and shalom. They will practice the art of pausing and notice God's presence in examples of creation.

New Members Classes: Our two-session New Member Class will be held starting today following the Worship Service in the lower level.

FOCUS High School Youth Group: Join Danny tonight at 6:30PM in the lower level.

Next Sunday:

Atrium Art Gallery: “Making the Unseen, Seen” is the new exhibit in our Atrium Art Gallery, featuring the paintings of Deborah Hoover. Please take a few moments to view her work, which she describes as “our amazing and wonderful creation and the narrative of redemption,” which showcases the complicated and beautiful world in which God reveals himself to us, where what is “unseen is eternal.” Mark your calendars for a reception with the artist on Sunday, November 15th following the Worship Service & Coffee Time.

Prayer Requests, Praises & Gratitude:

Please pray for Alyce TenCate as her brother, Pierson DeBoer, passed away last week in Kalamazoo. Alyce gives thanks to God for His comfort and great love.

Jack Brace had a stroke and is recovering at Mary Free Bed. Please pray that with time he may be able to regain strength and return home with Marcia.

Jean Schuitman is home recovering from complications with arrhythmia. Please pray for healing and strength.

Ron Retsema will be moving to Robbinswood. Please keep him in your prayers as he recovers.

Church Announcements:

Book Club: The Great Gatsby is next up for discussion. Join us Monday, November 9th at 1:30pm in the parlor. All are welcome!

Cadets: It’s not too late to sign up for Cadets! We will meet Mondays in November -16th and 30th. Meetings take place at First CRC from 6:45-8:30pm. Need more information, contact Pete at pmalek413@gmail.com.

CHAOS Middle School Youth Group: The middle schoolers are making their way through Alpha Youth, a creative series that prompts kids to have meaningful conversations about life, faith, and purpose.

District 4 Dinner: All District 4 Members are invited to enjoy a time of fellowship and connection on Wednesday, November 11th at 5:30pm in the North Hall. Please contact Dan Wagenmaker if you have questions (dan@wagenmaker.net).

FOCUS: *Money Misunderstood* – What does Jesus say about wealth and the Kingdom of God? Is it truly easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle? How has money been misunderstood from the biblical age to now? Find out this Sunday as we dive into Luke 18 to study the biblical, the practical, and the misunderstood meaning of wealth.

Love In Action Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive: It's time again for our Annual Thanksgiving Drive for Love In Action and the need continues to be high in our area for food. All items can be used, but we especially need: Tea, Coffee, Canned Fruit (especially Pineapple and Mandarin Oranges), Sugar, Flour, Canned Veggies (especially Green Beans and Corn), Jello, Stuffing. If you are able to donate any of these items, please drop them off in the church parking lot on *Friday, November 20th*, between 9am and 12noon. Please contact Ron Brouwer, 616-405-7249, with any questions or concerns.

Parents Night Out: Coming up on Friday November 20th. You may drop your children off at church from 5-7:30pm for pizza, crafts, and games. Families are encouraged to invite another family to this event, too. Please RSVP to Annie Hoekzema by Wednesday, November 18.

SWANs: The SWANs are excited to sponsor a fall event for ALL LADIES of our church. Mark your calendars for Monday, November 16 at 11am. The faith-based movie, “The Little Drummer Boy" will be airing at the Grand Haven 9. We hope you come and enjoy a ladies day out with the SWANs! We are also planning to go to Russ’s for lunch afterward. If you would like to attend, please call Carole at 616-502-2015.

Student Name ~ Grade

Ian Clapp ~ Seniors (12)
Pierce VanStratt Seniors (12)
Aurelia Koch ~ Seniors (12)
Gabe Schaaf ~ Junior (11)
Rio Gasser ~ Junior (11)
Vivienne McCarthy ~ Sophmore (9th)
Reed VanStratt ~ Sophmore (9th)
Maelyn Wagenmaker ~ Sophmore (9th)
Kyla Zuidema ~ Sophmore (9th)
Sydney Marotti ~ 8th Grade
Evie Hoekzema ~ 6th Grade
Alice Hendricks ~ 6th Grade
Cora Brace ~ 5th Grade
James Marotti ~ 5th Grade
Johnny Schaaf ~ 5th Grade
Colbie Van Duyn~ 4th Grade
Brinley Wagenmaker ~ 4th Grade
Levi Hoekzema ~ 4th Grade
Jackson Steigenga ~ 3rd Grade
Ethan Wolffis ~ 3rd Grade
Micah Brace ~ 3rd Grade
Alton Knochenhauer ~ 3rd Grade
Theo Knochenhauer~ 1st Grade
Madison Steigenga~ Kindergarten
Owen Wolffis ~ Kindergarten
Lane Beswick ~ Preschool
Leddy Brian ~ Preschool
Arielle De Lange ~ Preschool
Finley Knochenhauer ~ Nursery
Graham Beswick ~ Nursery
Bridget De Lange ~ Nursery

Volunteer Schedule

November 8, 2026
Projection: Eric Wolffis
Video: Dan Wagenmaker, Paul Marotti, Dan Meindertsma, Jason Zuidema
Sound: Jim Warners
Ushers: Team 11- John Rycenga, Jon Mulder, Carl Vertregt, Jim Sacks
Coffee Hosts: Bob & Manette deJonge; Agnes DeBoer; Bobbi Erdmann
Nursery: Kim VanStratt, Kari DeLange
Little Lambs: Sheila Warners, Evie Hoekzema
Walk Out I: Sheri Van Duyn, Vivienne McCarthy
Walk Out II: Betsy Blackmon, Gabe Schaaf
Greeters: Ken Terpstra; Brian & Barb Sikkenga
Council in Parlor: Hank Byma, Dan Wagenmaker
Offering: Calvin Theological Seminary

November 15, 2026
Projection: Paul Marotti
Video: Dan Wagenmaker, Jim Query, Mark Boelens, Ethan Hodge
Sound: Todd Cunningham
Ushers: Team 1 – Steve Marotti, Todd Cunningham, David Brace, Mike Buitendorp
Coffee Hosts: David & Rita Zuidema; Lois Poel, Lola Fuhs
Nursery: Rosemary Geertsma, Victoria McCarthy
Little Lambs: Manette deJonge, Sydney Marotti
Walk Out I: Barb Fritz, Reed VanStratt
Walk Out II: Sheri Van Duyn, Rio Gasser
Greeters: Hank Byma; Glen & Yvonne Sparling
Council in Parlor: Dan Wagenmaker, Tony Razzini
Offering: Missions Christmas Gifts

Calendar

Sunday, November 8
10:00AM – Worship Service
11:30AM – New Members (1)
6:30PM – FOCUS

Monday, November 9
9AM-1PM – Office Hours
1:30PM – Book Club

Tuesday, November 10
9AM-1PM – Office Hours
7-8PM – Friendship Club

Wednesday, November 11
9AM-1PM – Office Hours
1PM – Knitting/Craft Group
5:30PM – District 4 Dinner
6:30PM – CHAOS

Thursday, November 12
9AM-1PM – Office Hours
7:00PM – Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 13
Office Closed

Saturday, November 14

Sunday, November 15
10:00AM – Worship Service
11:30AM – New Member (2)
11:30AM – Art Reception

Connect with Second CRC
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YouTube: @2ndCRCGH

Give Online:

Guest Registration:

Listen on Spotify: