

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

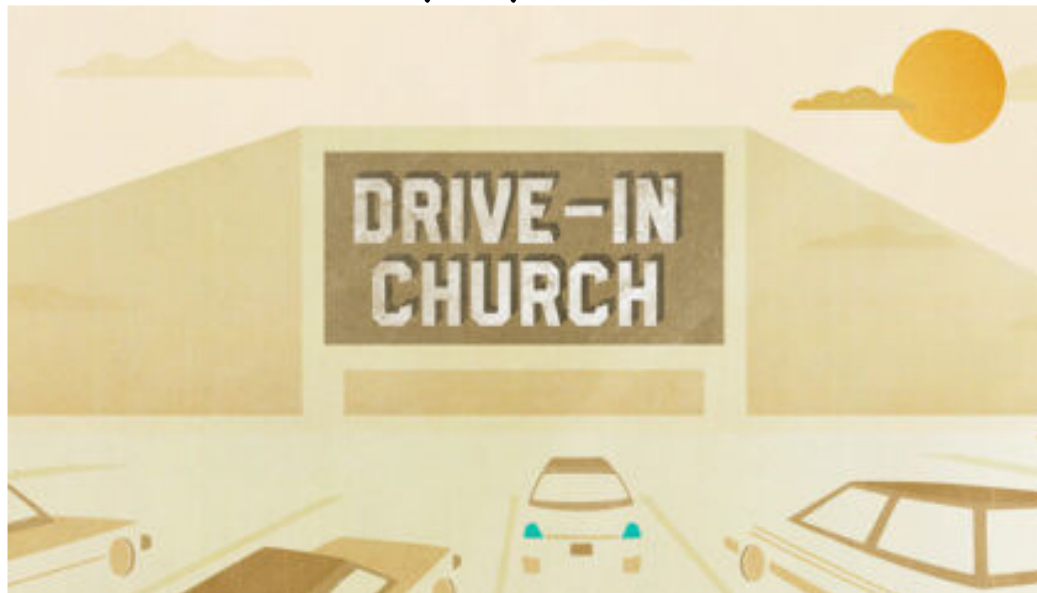
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OUTDOOR SERVICE

Sunday, July 26, 2020



Tune to FM 89.9 if you remain in your car with windows closed...

Welcome...

Here may the faithful find salvation and the careless be awakened;
Here may the doubting find faith and the anxious be encouraged;
Here may the struggling find help and the sorrowful find comfort;
Here may the weary find rest and the strong be renewed;
Here may the hurting find consolation and the searching be inspired;
Here may strangers find fellowship and friends be united;
Here may the voiceless find their song and the marginalized find a home;
Here may hate be challenged and community be formed.

CARE...

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **LaVerne Kampen** who passed away on July 18. **Don VanDeursen** continues his recuperation from surgery after breaking his elbow. **Rachel Wooley** is recuperating at home from out-patient foot surgery. **Don Spiekhout** has returned home from the hospital. **Sarah Bird**, daughter of Dan & Terry Dieck will be having disc surgery due to excessive pain.

Craig Nelson has been diagnosed with COVID, Jan has not been tested but they are both extremely sick and need our prayers. **Marla Owens** has returned to Dyer Nursing and Rehab Center, Room 164-2. **Bill Rietveld's** cancer has returned and is on a treatment schedule. **Leona Jacobs** continues in hospice care at Park Place in Elmhurst. **Bob Griffin** continues with treatments for lung cancer.

Ray Banks is home but continues to have physical, occupational and speech therapy. He has a long road of recovery ahead of him. Cards can be sent to Restoration Ministries (253 E. 159th Street, Harvey, 60426) and they will be delivered to him.

Thank you all for the cards, calls and support you have given me, it all keeps me smiling and keeps me going! I am so grateful for my 1st church family. - Marla Owens

Thank you to the congregation for their prayers and cards and many thanks to Pastor Rich for his uplifting phone calls. - Judy Brouwers

UP & COMING AT FIRST...

CARING ELDERS/CARING DEACONS will meet **Monday, July 27** in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm followed by Elders meeting and deacons meeting. Please come wearing a mask and ready to comply with social distancing. The organ door will be used for entry.

ELIM DUTCH FESTIVAL: Support Elim's students and adults through this year's "No Fest Dutch Fest"! Due to the uncertainties of the coronavirus situation, we will not be able to host our traditional Dutch Festival event on Elim's campus in September. But you can still enjoy *many* of your Dutch Festival favorites through the "No Fest Dutch Fest" event! **Our Dutch Village ONLINE SHOP will be open July 13 – August 15!** Just go to elimcs.org/dutch-festival and place your order *by August 15*. Curbside pick-up will take place on Saturday, September 26, 2020, at Elim Christian Services. All proceeds directly bless children and adults with disabilities. Questions? Call 708-293-6509 or email Laura.Schnyders@elimcs.org.

SCRIPTURE

Love Dares Us to Change: The Danger of Self-Reliance

1) the poison of self-reliance

Galatians 3:1-6

1 You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. 2 I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? 3 Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh? 4 Have you experienced so much in vain—if it really was in vain? 5 So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard? 6 So also Abraham “believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

2) the antidote for self-reliance

II Corinthians 12:6-12

6 Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say, 7 or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. 8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. 9 But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

3) the posture of reliance

Ephesians 5:21

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Opening Responsive Reading

LEADER: Worship is a recalibration of our allegiances. Praise is a declaration of dependence on God.

PEOPLE: May all our inmost beings praise his holy name.

LEADER: Worship reminds us who is in charge - and it’s not us. Praise reorients our lives around the King of Creation.

PEOPLE: May we take new delight in the One who takes care of us, provides for us, heals us, forgives us, and satisfies us.

LEADER: Worship reminds us that the Victor's Crown belongs to Christ, but in his grace, he crowns us with his love and compassion.

PEOPLE: May we be renewed in strength and passion to follow his paths of justice and restoration.

LEADER: Worship reminds us that God is our friend, he speaks his peace over us, we live under the banner of his love.

PEOPLE: Let all who hear join us in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, Who o’er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e’er have been
granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen sound from His people again:
gladly forever adore Him.

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone.
What is our only confidence? That our souls to Him belong.
Who holds our days within His hand?
What comes, apart from His command?
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ, in which we stand.

**O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess:
Christ our hope in life and death.**

What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good.
Where is His grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer's blood.
Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Unto the grave, what shall we sing?
"Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!"
And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with Him.
There we will rise to meet the Lord,
then sin and death will be destroyed,
And we will feast in endless joy,
when Christ is ours forevermore.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world.
Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world.
Have mercy on us, have mercy on us, we pray.
Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world.
Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world.
Grant us peace, grant us peace, we pray.

Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
praise Him, all creatures here below,
praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts,
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, amen.

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SERMON NOTES



STAFF...

Rev. James Oord
Senior Pastor

Gerri VanBaren
Administrative Assistant

Pastor Corey Buchanan
Associate Pastor

Judy Gill
Care & Visitation Assistant

Dr. Anthony Bolkema
Pastor of Worship & Ministry

Steve Alexander
Church Custodian

Rev. Dr. Rich Grevengoed
Pastor of Care & Visitation

Jane Ackerman
Church Accountant

Nyla DeGraff
Church Administrator

Darcy Daly
Nursery Coordinator

Toni Smith
Director of Family Life Christian Pre-School & Day Care

Visit us online at www.frcsh.org

Join us again next Sunday in the church parking lot for our outdoor worship service. If you are visiting with us, we would like to get to know you better. Please fill out the information below and tear off and place it in the offering plate as you exit the parking lot.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

OUR GIFTS...

Sunday, July 19

Basket Total: \$9,150.00; Online Total: \$2,120.00

Giving Total: \$11,270.00 (Needed Weekly: \$11,250.00)