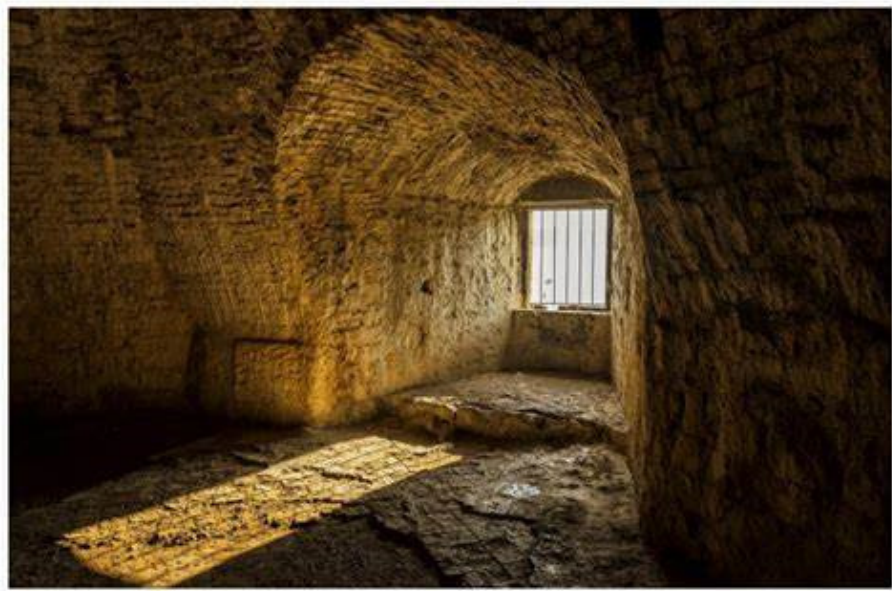


FIRST REFORMED CHURCH
of SOUTH HOLLAND
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 21, 2023



Welcome...

Eastertide is the 50-day period beginning with Easter Sunday and ending with the celebration of Pentecost. How beautiful that the Church's celebration of

New Life and Resurrection aligns with the season of Spring here in the Northern Hemisphere. As one hymn puts it, "See, the spring of souls today, Christ has burst death's prison!" Just as the dreary drab cold of winter bursts into green new life around us, we experience the life-giving power of the gospel as we meet Jesus here.

For 175 years, First Reformed Church has been a place celebrating the "spring of souls" that we find in Jesus. So, whether you've been worshipping here for 90+ years, whether this is your first time here, whether you're old or young, a lifelong Christian or someone seeking answers to life's questions, this is a place to meet Jesus, our risen Lord, and find new life, abundant life, changed life, meaningful life in him

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 21, 2023

WE APPROACH GOD

Organ Prelude

"Early in the Morning, Our Song Shall Rise to Thee"
"There is a Higher Throne"
"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Welcome & Greeting

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

*Congregational Worship

"Sing Praise to the Father"
"Let It Rise"
"Worthy, You Are Worthy"

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Corey Buchanan

Song of Assurance

"Cornerstone"

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture

Matthew 11:1-19

Sermon

"Doubt & Disappointment"

Song of Response

"Blessed Assurance"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Congregational Prayer

Pastor Corey Buchanan

Offertory

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

*Doxology

*Benediction

Pastor Steven Harrison

*Sending in Grace

"The Day of Resurrection"

Postlude

"Standing on the Promises"

*Those who are able please stand.

Please join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall after worship for a cup of conversation and a cookie.

CARE...

Ruth DeBoer was admitted to Franciscan Hospital in Munster with a broken vertebrae due to a fall. She has also contracted pneumonia.

Grace Jacobsma is recovering from shoulder replacement surgery at Hartsfield Rehab.

Bev Van Dommelen continues her recovery from a broken leg.

Carol Barnes continues in rehab in Florida due to a broken hip.

Alice Kats has been transitioned to hospice care in her home.

Kathy Oord begins four weeks of radiation treatment this month.

Rachel Wooley's tumor in the colon is gone. The tumors in the liver are now being treated with immunotherapy and chemotherapy.

Pray for Mike and Pam Costello's son, **Shawn**, who has undergone spinal surgery at the University of Chicago. Please pray for complete healing, and for Shawn to regain full lower body movement.

Pray for **Marsha Pilipow** as she tends to the health of her aging mother, Patricia, whose medical condition has gotten worse.

Lula Brown, Felicia Flowers' mother, is recovering from breast cancer surgery.

Dianne Gruger, Megan DeYoung's mother, has completed her treatment for lung cancer. She continues in a monitoring stage. She is recovering from eye surgery.

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY: Mary Thompson, 16418 S. Dobson Ave., South Holland, IL 60473

VISIT THE WELCOME CENTER in the narthex to sign cards for our shut-ins and hospitalized.

OUR GIFTS...

Sunday, May 14

Basket Total: \$5,377.30; Online Total: \$3,660.00

Giving Total: \$9,037.30

ON DUTY FOR MAY 21...

First Emergency: Mary Decker

First Security: Mike Costello

UP & COMING AT FIRST...

SUNDAY, MAY 21

GREETERS: Cindy Nylén and Rodger Norris

WELCOME CENTER: Raylene Oord

WORSHIP TEAM: Nolan Bolkema, Dacia Hill, Nikki Nyhanna, and Nick Paarlberg

PROJECTION: Felicia Flowers

VIDEO: Keith Flowers

SOUND: Rhonda Hesselink

ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema

PIANO: Jeremiah Green

NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Amber Fransen

COFFEE SERVERS: Trina Taylor, Gwen Adams, and Faye Gowens

COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Nyla DeGraff, Mary Bosman, and Gerri VanBaren

MONDAY, MAY 22

7:00PM: Music Team Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

THURSDAY, MAY 25

4:00-6:00PM: Clothing Closet in the Activity Center

SUNDAY, MAY 28

GREETERS: Dennis Woltzen and Don VanBaren; **WELCOME CENTER:** Deb Woltzen

WORSHIP TEAM: Lucas Bolkema, Nolan Bolkema, Daniel Day, Julia Keep, Lisa Triemstra, and Rachel Wooley

PROJECTION: Izzy Veldboom

VIDEO: Eric Pradelski

SOUND: Aaron Wooley

ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema

PIANO: Amy Veldboom

NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Abby Veldboom

COFFEE SERVERS: Rodger & Sherry Norris and Cindy Nylén

COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Nancy DeVries, Barb Grevengoed, and Joanne Hoeksema

CHURCH LIFE...

TODAY WE WELCOME TO OUR PULPIT Pastor Steven Harrison. Pastor Harrison is the new pastor of Grace Church in Lansing and developed and taught the Bible and Theology Curriculum at Unity Christian Academy, where he served as the Head of Administration. Steven and his wife, Chloe, have three children: Shalom, Storie, and Shepherd. We are so excited to hear God's Word from Pastor Harrison!

JOIN US ON THE FRONT LAWN this afternoon from 3:00pm-4:30pm for a time of yard games and fellowship. Games such as Lawn Yahtzee, Bean Bags, Can Jam, Giant Jenga, Spike Ball, etc. will be available for play, and you should please feel free to bring any of your own games. Contact Anthony with any questions!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE CONGREGATION for your nominations, attendance, and vote at this year's congregational meeting. The following members were elected to office: Elders: Don DeGraff, Russ Paarlberg, and Clint Verhagen. Deacons: Sara Jabaay and Noreen VanDeursen. Trustees: Mark Spiekhout and Don VanDeursen. The Consistory and congregation take this opportunity to give thanks to God for the leading of these individuals to service in our church. We pray for God's blessings on each of them as they will take important leadership positions in 2023-2024. We also bless God for the humble leadership and service of Andy DeBoer, Barb Grevengoed, Bill Nyhanna, Cindy Nylen, Ron Rietveld, Clifton Rhodes, and Dennis Woltzen, who are outgoing members of the Consistory.

SUMMER BOOK CLUB: Over the summer, we will be reviving our Book Club for the months of June, July, and August. Books will be distributed at the beginning of the month; we will meet to discuss what we've read on the last Sunday of each month following our church service. Sign up at the Welcome Centers.

LEAN IN 2023: As discussed at the congregational meeting (if you weren't there, talk to a pastor or elder), we are asking everyone to re-sign up for various volunteer positions, under the headings of "Welcome," "Worship," "Dig In," and "Reach Out." We need the help of every member of the congregation to "lean in" and commit to the continuing ministry and mission of First Reformed Church as we grow together in the grace of Christ. Sign-ups are located in the Fellowship Hall. Re-commit to the ministries you're already involved in and/or get involved in something new! Let's lean in and live out!

FAMILY LIFE CHRISTIAN PRE-SCHOOL & DAY CARE GRADUATION is scheduled for **Friday, June 2**, at 3:00pm in the Sanctuary. All First Church members are invited to come and support our families in the Family Life Day Care Program.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: When you go downstairs for coffee, take a look at the screens in the Fellowship Hall. We're continuing a series of "Getting to Know You" slides where our church family can meet various members and learn interesting tidbits about each other. We'll be starting with members of our staff but stay tuned... maybe you'll be interviewed next!

REMINDERS...

PLEASE KEEP THE PARKING AREA that is lined in the front and on the north side of the church - which is closest to the elevator - available for those who have difficulty walking. Thank you!

OASIS (Junior & Senior High Students) meets tonight, **Sunday, May 21**, from 6:30-8:00pm in the Activity Center and Fellowship Hall. If you are or know of a student in 6th – 12th grade who would like to participate in this ministry, please email Anthony at anthony@frcsh.org.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE will be held on **Monday, May 29**, at 11:00am. The parade begins at South Park Avenue and 170th Street, heading north to Veterans Memorial Park. This parade is to honor those in the United States military who have risked their lives for all of us. Following the parade, there will be a remembrance ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park.

AREA REMINDERS...

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, September 23, is the Elim Dutch Festival. Please think of ways in which you can be part of this wonderful ministry serving children and adults with disabilities. We will need volunteers that day, baked or candy goodies, craft items, or any type of donation is appreciated. If you have any questions, please call Judy Gill, Lynn Hoeksema, or Tricia Paarlberg.

DONATE YOUR EXPIRED EYEWEAR to someone in need. All donations go to the South Holland Lions Club for 'Healthy Vision Month.' Your donation can be dropped off to the South Holland Public Library at the Circulation Desk or at our Welcome Centers for the month of May.

SERMON NOTES...

“Doubt & Disappointment”

Matthew 11:1-19

Pastor Steven Harrison

PRAYER ROOM: Need a word of encouragement or someone to pray with? Come to the prayer room after church until 11am. It is located outside the double doors west of the Chapel. A team of dedicated volunteers would welcome the opportunity to pray with you this morning.



15924 South Park Avenue • South Holland, IL 60473

Office: 708.333.0622 • Prayer Line: 708.333.8150

E-mail: office@frcsh.org • Online at www.frcsh.org

STAFF...

Rev. James Oord
Senior Pastor

Pastor Corey Buchanan
Associate Pastor

Anthony Bolkema
Pastor of Worship & Ministry

Rev. Dr. Rich Grevengood
Pastor of Care & Visitation

Nyla DeGraff
Church Administrator

Gerri VanBaren
Administrative Assistant

Steve Alexander
Church Custodian

Jane Ackerman
Church Accountant

Darcy Daly
Nursery Coordinator

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

Visit us online at www.frcsh.org

To get to know you better, please fill out our [Welcome Card](#) in the pew and place it in the offering plate. If you want more information about the life of First Church, make sure to include your email address.

[SECRETARIES' OFFICE HOURS](#)

9:00AM – NOON / Monday – Friday