

**FIRST REFORMED CHURCH**  
of **SOUTH HOLLAND**  
Resurrection of the Lord, April 5, 2026



**Welcome to First Reformed Church!**

**CHRIST IS RISEN; HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!**

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 nearly 178 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.

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
April 5, 2026

**WE APPROACH GOD**

Organ Prelude

*"The Day of Resurrection"*  
*"Thine Be the Glory"*  
*"He Arose!"*

Opening Song of Worship

*"Forever"*

\*Welcome & Greeting One Another

Pastor Corey Buchanan

\*Congregational Worship

*"Easter Bells, Set Free Your Music"*  
*"Christ The Lord is Risen Today"*  
*"The Day of Resurrection"*

Prayer of Adoration

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

\*Congregational Worship

*"Praise the King"*

**THE WORD OF GOD**

Scripture

John 20:1-10

Message

*"Leave it in the Grave"*

**WE RESPOND TO GOD**

Congregational Prayer

Pastor Corey Buchanan

Words of Instruction

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

Offering

*"Because He Lives"*

\*Benediction

Pastor Corey Buchanan

\*Closing Song of Worship

*"Hallelujah Chorus"*

\*Organ Postlude

*"He Lives"*

\*Those who are able please stand.

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

## *UP & COMING AT FIRST...*

### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5

**GREETERS:** Rodger Norris, Gerri VanBaren, Larry DeYoung, and Nyla DeGraff

**WORSHIP TEAM:** Kim Bolkema, Nolan Bolkema, Joe Fransen, Bill Nyhanna, Nick Paarlberg, Bella VanderWoude, Liam VanderWoude, and Abby Veldboom

**ORGAN & PIANO:** Joanne Hoeksema & Steve DeVries

**PROJECTION:** Felicia Flowers

**VIDEO:** Mike Decker

**SOUND:** Lucas Bolkema

**NURSERY:** Darcy Daly and Amber Fransen

**COFFEE SERVERS:** Roger & Laurel De Graff, Gwen Adams, and Faye Gowens

**COOKIE VOLUNTEERS:** Linda Capone, Laurel DeGraff, Nyla DeGraff & Sherry Norris

**PRAYER ROOM ELDER:** Don DeGraff

### MONDAY, APRIL 6

**THE CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed today.

**7:00PM:** Music Team Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

**7:30AM:** ACT meets in the Heritage Room

**6:30PM:** Women's Bible Study meets in the Genesis Room

**6:30PM:** Men's Bible Study meets in the Heritage Room

### SUNDAY, APRIL 12

**GREETERS:** Don & Nyla DeGraff

**WORSHIP TEAM:** Nolan Bolkema, Joe Fransen, Nikki Nyhanna, Nick Paarlberg, Lisa Triemstra, Benjamin Wooley, and Robert Wooley

**ORGAN:** Joanne Hoeksema

**PROJECTION:** Jonathan VanderWoude

**VIDEO:** Rhonda DeBok

**SOUND:** Aaron Wooley

**NURSERY:** Darcy Daly and Sara Jabaay

**COFFEE SERVERS:** Steve & Nancy DeVries and Mary Koster

**COOKIE VOLUNTEERS:** Megan DeYoung, Judy Gill, and Katie Sikkema

**PRAYER ROOM ELDER:** Roger DeGraff

## *CARE & PRAYER...*

**Jan Nelson** is recovering from a heart ablation. **Craig Nelson** has been diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). Also, their son **Christopher** is undergoing a difficult new treatment for his cancer.

**Mark Spiekhout** continues at Franciscan Hospital in Dyer due to an infection.

Please pray for **Stu Swenson** who broke his wrist and is in a lot of pain.

**Eric Pradelski** is awaiting mental health diagnosis testing he had on Tuesday, March 31. Praying it provides some degree of clarity and direction for the doctors/psychiatrist.

**David Gardner**, grandson of Jean Spiekhout, needs your prayers as he is suffering from a brain tumor.

**Lisa Magnon**, Anna Collins' daughter and primary care giver, is recovering at home from successful surgery.

Sharon Brooks' mom, **Paula Amos**, continues her immunotherapy for her cancer.

**OUR EXTENDED FAMILY:** Myrna Eytcheson, Clarendale Six Corners, 4715 W. Irving Road, Chicago, IL 60691

**PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU KNOW A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER WHO HAS BEEN ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL.**

## *ON DUTY FOR APRIL...*

**First Security:** Alison VanderWoude

**First Emergency:** Dennis Woltzen

## *CHURCH LIFE...*

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to the family and friends of Patricia Williams, Rachel Wooley's biological mother, who passed away March 30<sup>th</sup>. The visitation will be held at Hursen Funeral Home & Crematory in Hillside, IL on April 9 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm with the funeral to follow at 1:00 pm.

**SPRING BRUNCH:** FRC will be hosting a Spring Brunch following the service on **Sunday, April 12** in the Activity Center. Join us for a time of fellowship over a delicious brunch as we welcome spring and sunshine! Please sign up at the Welcome Centers by today, April 5.

**SOUTH HOLLAND COMMUNITY GARDEN:** We are excited to share that we are partnering with the Village of South Holland to bring a community garden to the grounds of First Church! This is a wonderful opportunity to grow fresh produce, build relationships, and serve our community in a tangible way. If you'd like to learn more, a rendering of the garden is available to view at the Welcome Center in the Fellowship Hall.

**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. Maybe you'll be interviewed next!

**COOKIE LADIES** please check your mailboxes for the new cookie duty schedule for May-August. Thank you for always providing such delightful treats.

## *REMINDERS....*

**BE SURE TO VISIT** the welcome centers and sign cards for our shut-ins and sign up for upcoming fellowship events. Please also remember to empty your mailslots.

**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!

**CHURCH COOKIES AND NUT ALLERGIES:** Our wonderful cookies served during fellowship time following church are made by volunteers from our congregation. It's our practice that any cookies containing nuts of any kind are clearly labeled.

## *LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES...*

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL** on Easter Sunday or Sunday, April 12! It will continue on Sunday, April 19 for all ages from 11:00am – noon.

**MEN & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES** meet next on **Wednesday, April 8**. Please consider joining the men and women of First Reformed as we seek to grow in the grace and truth of the gospel. If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Hoeksema or Steve & Alison VanderWoude.

**THE LADIES' MORNING BIBLE STUDY** will meet on **Tuesday, April 14**, at 9:30am in the Genesis Room. Please be prepared to share your findings from the homework on Session 7, "Peace in the Passion of Jesus", p 150-173 in the study guide. Hope to see you there!

**OASIS** (Junior & Senior High Students) will next meet on **Sunday, April 19**, from 6:30-8:00pm in the Activity Center and Loft. 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](mailto:anthony@frcsh.org).

## *AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS...*

**WE INVITE YOUR CONGREGATION** to join us for Evening for Calvin Christian School on **Friday, April 10** at 6:00pm at Blueberry Field Restaurant in SH, IL. Come together with fellow friends, families, and supporters to honor our students and teachers while enjoying an evening of fellowship and giving. Tickets available at [bit.ly/EveningforCalvin2026](https://bit.ly/EveningforCalvin2026).

**BIBLE LEAGUE SPRING LUNCHEON** is **Thursday, April 23**, held at the Bible League in Crete with Scrementi's catering. Tickets are \$30. Please see or call Becky Wright 708-220-7117 or Judy Gill 708-279-7599.

**SAVE THE DATE:** The annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast will be held on **Thursday, May 7**, at 7:30am at Spirit of God Fellowship. This is a powerful opportunity for our community to come together in prayer.

**EVENING OF THANKSGIVING:** Chicagoland Prison Outreach Banquet on **Tuesday, May 19**, celebrating 32 years of God's faithfulness at Tinley Park Convention Center. Reception begins at 6:00 pm and dinner will be served at 6:30 pm. Visit their website [www.cpoministries.org/banquet](http://www.cpoministries.org/banquet) to RSVP or call 708-331-3301.

***SERMON NOTES...***

John 20:1-10  
"Leave it in the Grave"  
Pastor Corey Buchanan

EVERY SUNDAY, an Elder is assigned to pray in our Prayer Room for 20 minutes following the service. The Prayer Room is located through the doors and down the hallway from the Chapel (exit the Sanctuary from the door by the piano). The praying elder will be praying for those who attended the service, the needs of our congregation, and various parts of our church's life together. If you have a particular prayer request, stop by and the praying elder will pray with you (or you can join her or him in prayer for our church).



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E-mail • [office@frcsh.org](mailto:office@frcsh.org)  
**SECRETARIES' OFFICE HOURS**  
9:00AM – NOON / Monday – Friday

***STAFF...***

**Dr. Anthony Bolkema**  
*Interim Executive Pastor*

**Pastor Corey Buchanan**  
*Associate Pastor*

**Jane Ackerman**  
*Church Accountant*

**Nikki Nyhanna**  
*Church Administrator*

**Gerri VanBaren**  
*Administrative Assistant*

**Darcy Daly**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Steve Alexander**  
*Church Custodian*

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

**Visit us online at [www.frcsh.org](http://www.frcsh.org)**

Find us in the app store by searching for  
"First Reformed Church South Holland" or by visiting [get.theapp.co/1779](http://get.theapp.co/1779).



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.