

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH of SOUTH HOLLAND

Third Sunday of Easter, April 19, 2026



Welcome to First Reformed Church!

Did you know that in the church calendar, Easter is not just one day, it's a whole season, encompassing the 50 days from Resurrection Sunday until Pentecost (May 24 this year). During this season, we watch the grass get greener, the flowers blooming, and the days getting warmer, and we celebrate the Spring of our souls, the new life we experience in Jesus!

We are so glad that you are here to celebrate this truth with us: Jesus' Resurrection changes everything! For 178 years, First Church has been a loving place where God's people have grown and experienced transformation and new life. Join us in the joy, worship, community, and hope that Jesus brings!

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER April 19, 2026

WE APPROACH GOD

Organ Prelude

"Be Still My Soul"

"He Will Hold Me Fast"

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

*Welcome & Greeting One Another

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

*Congregational Worship

"I Will Sing of the Mercies"

"God's Holy Ways Are Just and True"

"Unchanging"

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

*Song of Assurance

"Christ Our Hope in Life and Death"

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture

Genesis 12:1-9

Message

"The Start of Something Big: Going with God"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Congregational Prayer

Russ Paarlberg

Offering

"Jesus Loves Me"

*Benediction

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

*Sending in Grace

"Christ is Alive!"

*Organ Postlude

"Blessed Assurance"

*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...

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

GREETERS: Barry Voss and Larry DeYoung

WORSHIP TEAM: Peter & Julia Keep, Bill Nyhanna, and Nick Paarlberg

ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema; **PIANO:** Pastor Anthony Bolkema

PROJECTION: Gwen Adams; **VIDEO:** Keith Flowers

SOUND: Rhonda Hesselink

NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Kim Bolkema

COFFEE SERVERS: Don & Nyla DeGraff and Gerri VanBaren

COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Mary Bosman, Amber Fransen, and Becky Wright

PRAYER ROOM ELDER: Jim DeGroot

MONDAY, APRIL 20

6:00PM: F-PEC meets in the Fellowship Hall

7:00PM: Music Team Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

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

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

GREETERS: Dennis and Debbie Woltzen

WORSHIP TEAM: Nolan Bolkema, Dacia Hill, Nick Paarlberg, and Lisa Triemstra

ORGAN: Steve DeVries

PIANO: Nicholas Graves

PROJECTION: Liam VanderWoude

VIDEO: Eric Pradelski

SOUND: Rhonda Hesselink

NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Dacia Hill

COFFEE SERVERS: Don & Noreen VanDeursen and Roger & Sherry Norris

COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Felicia Flowers, Grace Jacobsma, and Alison VanderWoude

PRAYER ROOM ELDER: Clint Verhagen

CARE & PRAYER...

Mike Costello is recovering at home from a heart ablation he had Tuesday at Ingalls.

Mark Spiekhout was transferred to Ignite Rehab in Dyer to continue his recovery from hip surgery.

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 and has been admitted to the hospital.

Joyce Novak, Linda Capone's mother, has temporarily moved in with Phil and Linda following hospitalization for blood clots in her lungs. Pray for healing, that she might be able to return home.

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

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

Continue to pray for those battling cancer, going through treatments, facing side effects, or caring for a loved one with cancer and for those giving care to parents, spouses, siblings, children, and/or friends who are struggling.

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY: Barb DeWolf, 12565 Renaissance Circle, Room 308, Homer Glen, IL 60491

ON DUTY FOR APRIL 19...

First Security: Jessica DeBok

First Emergency: Dennis Woltzen

CHURCH LIFE...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Charlie Rietveld who is turning 90 today! Please join the family for cake in the Fellowship Hall after the service.

SOUTH HOLLAND COMMUNITY GARDEN: We're excited to announce our partnership with the Village of South Holland to establish a new community garden on the grounds of First Church! The garden will feature *five available beds* for individuals or groups in our church interested in participating this season. Whether you're an experienced gardener or just getting started, all are welcome. To reserve a garden bed, sign up individually or as a group using the sheet available at the Fellowship Hall welcome center. For questions or for more information, please see Megan DeYoung.

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.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES...

SUNDAY SCHOOL continues today for all ages from 11:00am-noon. PreK-8th Grade gather to sing, work on memory verses, and collect an offering in the Genesis Room from 11:00-11:30am, then move to their classrooms until noon.

- PreK–2nd Grades/Genesis Room 3rd–5th Grades/Library
- 6th–8th Grades/starts in Genesis Room 9th-12th Grades/Chapel
- Tibstra House/Heritage Room

OASIS (Junior & Senior High Students) will next meet tonight, **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.

MEN & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES meet next on **Wednesday, April 22** at 6:30pm for their last session till next fall. If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Hoeksema or Steve & Alison VanderWoude.

REMINDERS....

BE SURE TO VISIT the welcome centers and sign cards for our shut-ins and please remember to empty your mailslots.

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.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS...

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.

THE EXODUS PROJECTS is holding a prayer event on **Thursday, April 23** from 6:00-7:30pm at their new building in Chicago Heights to praise the Lord for all He is doing in the Chicago Heights community. Those attending will rotate through various prayer stations. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP online at www.theexodusprojects.org/praiseandprayer.

SAVE THE DATE: The annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast will be held on **Thursday, May 7**, at 7:00 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 will be held on **Tuesday, May 19**, celebrating 32 years of God's faithfulness at Tinley Park Convention Center. Reception begins at 6:00pm and dinner will be served at 6:30pm. Visit their website www.cpoministries.org/banquet to RSVP or call 708-331-3301.

JOIN THE MEN AND WOMEN of the South Holland Ministerial Association for a time of prayer and Bible fellowship. This is a monthly gathering specific to men and women respectively. Men meet every 2nd Tuesday from noon to 1:00pm at Heritage House (443 E. 157th Street) and the women meet every 2nd Tuesday from 6:00-7:00pm at the Community Center (501 E 170th Street). For more information, email southhollandchurches@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!

SERMON NOTES...

Genesis 12:1-9

“The Start of Something Big: Going with God”

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

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).



15924 South Park Avenue • South Holland, IL 60473

Office: 708.333.0622 • Prayer Line: 708.333.8150

E-mail • 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

Find us in the app store by searching for
"First Reformed Church South Holland" or by visiting 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.