

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

of SOUTH HOLLAND

Sunday, August 23, 2026



Welcome to First Reformed Church!

At First Church one of the best ways we can grow together is through Sunday morning worship. Here, you'll find a warm and welcoming community of people from all different walks of life gathered together in unity to lift high the name of Jesus.

We do this in all sorts of different ways. We sing new songs with guitars and old songs with an organ. We pray new prayers from the heart and ancient prayers of the faith. We preach the same Good News of Jesus Christ in new and fresh ways in hopes of intersecting the Word of God with the stories of our lives.

Whether you grew up Catholic, married a Baptist, or anything in between, you'll find a home in worship here at First Church.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

August 23, 2026

WE APPROACH GOD

Prelude

"When the Morning Gilds the Skies"
"Oh How I Love Jesus"
"Jesus Shall Reign"

*Welcome & Greeting One Another

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

*Congregational Worship

"God's Holy Ways Are Just & True"
"Forever"

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Corey Buchanan

*Song of Assurance

"I Am Trusting"

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture

Luke 24:13-33

Message

"Biblical Theology"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Congregational Prayer

Gwen Adams

Offering

"Sanctuary Prayer"

*Doxology

*Benediction

*Sending in Grace

"We Are Sent By God"

*Organ Postlude

"Praise Ye the Lord, For It Is Good"

*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 & PRAYER...

Joseph Arojoye is beginning his third week of six weeks of radiation for cancer treatment. Please pray for peace and strength as he navigates this treatment.

Nia Clark left for boot camp in the Marine Corps. Please pray for her safety and security as she navigates this new role in life and for her family as they miss and care for her.

Clarence Brouwers has been able to return home and is doing well. Pray for his continued strength and rejoice in his healing.

George Dinkel has been released from the hospital and is in rehab at Marion Joy in Wheaton, he hopes to return home soon. Please pray for his quick and ongoing recovery.

Joanne Hoeksema completed multiple rounds of chemo. She will be having an abdominal CT scan this month to compare images from the first CT before chemo began. Pray for favorable test results.

Kathy Rhodes continues therapy on her shoulder. Pray for steady progress, renewed mobility, and a full recovery.

Eric Pradelski has recently received diagnoses of autism, anxiety, and attention deficit disorder and is working with his doctors as he navigates ongoing care and support. Due to exhaustion and burnout, he has also taken some time away from work to focus on his well-being. Please pray for wisdom and guidance for Eric and his medical team, along with strength, understanding, and encouragement during this time.

Craig Nelson had successful neck surgery on July 28th. In addition, Craig and Jan's son, **Christopher**, has begun a challenging new cancer treatment. Please keep the entire family in your prayers during this difficult time.

David Gardiner, grandson of Jean Spiekhout, is battling a brain tumor. Please pray for comfort, strength, and wisdom for his medical team as they care for him.

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY: Mary Ann Gouwens, Park Place of St. John #3216, 10700
Park Place, St. John, IN 46373

UP & COMING AT FIRST...

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

GREETERS: Sikkema Family

WORSHIP TEAM: Nick Paarlberg, Bill Nyhanna, Kim Bolkema, Robert Wooley, Benjamin Wooley and Dacia Hill

PIANO: Amy Veldboom

VIDEO: Nolan Bolkema

SOUND: Aaron Wooley

PROJECTION: Lucas Bolkema

NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Nikki Nyhanna

COFFEE SERVERS: Clair & Lynn Hoeksema and Gwen Adams

COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Felicia Flowers, Grace Jacobsma and Sherry Norris

PRAYER ROOM ELDER: Clair Hoeksema

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

9:30AM: Piecemakers meet in the Fellowship Hall

7:00PM: Music Team rehearsal in the Sanctuary

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

GREETERS: Rodger Norris and Gerri VanBaren

WORSHIP TEAM: Peter Keep, Julia Keep, Nick Paarlberg, Nolan Bolkema, and Towannah Graves

PIANO: Nick Graves

VIDEO: Mike Decker

SOUND: Rhonda Hesselink

PROJECTION: Jonathan VanderWoude

NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Dacia Hill

COFFEE SERVERS: Don & Nyla DeGraff and Clint & Merley Verhagen

COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Diana Abernathy, Kathy Rhodes and Mykah Lett

PRAYER ROOM ELDER: Jim DeGroot

ON DUTY FOR AUGUST:

First Security: Barry Voss **First Emergency:** Bill Nyhanna

CHURCH LIFE...

GATHER AND GRILL: Our annual church picnic is **Sunday, September 13**, starting at 11:30am. Burgers and hot dogs will be served in the Activity Center. We are asking all families to bring a sensational salad or side dish to share (serving spoons provided). Drinks and a special ice cream and float station will be set up for dessert! Join us for an afternoon of fellowship, fun games, delicious food, a celebration of the end of summer! Be sure to sign up at the Welcome Centers.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: There will be a brief but important congregational meeting immediately following the worship service on **Sunday, September 13**. The purpose of this meeting will be to provide the congregation with important updates on church staffing. Please make every effort to join us this for this time together.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY is **Sunday, September 20**. This is a special opportunity for us to reach beyond our church walls and invite friends, family, neighbors, and others who may be looking for a church home or have been away from church for a while. Churches across the country will be participating in this special day of welcome and outreach. More information to come, but we are excited to come together as a church family, ready to welcome our guests and show them the love of Christ and the community we share.

ARE YOU INTERESTED in learning more about what it means to become a member of First Reformed Church? Whether you are interested in joining or just have a whole bunch of questions about the church you'd like answered, please talk with Pastor Anthony or Pastor Corey. Classes began last week and continue on **Sundays at 10:45am today, August 23, and August 30 and September 13**.

WE NEED YOU! Our Sunday School and Nursery ministries are such an important part of creating a welcoming, nurturing church family for our children and their families. As we look ahead, we have a growing need for additional volunteers to help make these ministries possible.

You don't need to have all the answers; you simply need a willingness to serve, care for our children, and be part of helping the next generation grow in faith. Sunday School volunteers should be post-high school, and Nursery volunteers must be 13 years or older. Sign-up opportunities are available in the Fellowship Hall. *Thank you for prayerfully considering how you might help!*

REMINDERS...

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.

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING YOU'VE LOST? You can find our Lost and Found in the hallway just north of the kitchen, at the bottom of the stairs leading to the parking lot. Check there for your missing coat, pair of glasses, lost earrings, or anything else you may have misplaced!

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES...

THE FIRST CHURCH LADIES' MORNING BIBLE STUDY begins its new season on **Tuesday, September 22, at 9:30am** in the Fellowship Hall.

This year, our DVD study will be by Jennifer Rothschild:

"Heaven: When Faith Becomes Sight." As we delve into this study, we will gain a deeper understanding of what God has prepared for His children and also how to live with confidence today as we look forward to the glorious unending that awaits.

The cost of the study guide is \$24.00 (which includes access to the videos online should you miss a session). If you are an Amazon Prime member you may order your own study guide. Please text or call Mary Koster at 708-380-4316 by Sept 8 if you want to be a part of this exciting Bible study. We hope you can attend!

FAMILY LIFE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL AND DAY CARE verse of the month: **Isaiah 58:11. "The Lord will guide you always; He will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail."** We invite you to join them on their journey by learning and reflecting on this verse together as an opportunity for our whole church family to grow in faith together.



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
8:00 AM – 11:00 AM / 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.

SERMON NOTES...

"Biblical Theology"

Luke 24:13-33

Pastor Corey Buchanan

EVERY SUNDAY, an Elder is assigned to pray in our Prayer Room for 20 minutes following the service. 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).