

THE LORD'S DAY – OCTOBER 29, 2023
MORNING WORSHIP - 9:30 A.M.
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship: Psalm 34:1-3

*Opening Songs of Adoration: *"Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me"*

"Behold our God"

Standard of Righteousness: Matthew 5:14-16

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*Song of Thanksgiving: #375 *"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"*

At this time, children ages 3-5 may be dismissed for a Bible lesson,
located downstairs in Room 4.

Scripture: Acts 8:26-40 (p. 1705)

Sermon: *"Grace and Joy Come to One Man"*

*Song of Response: #412 *"Jesus Shall Reign"*

Prayer of the Lord's People

Offering: Christian Education

*Benediction

*Parting Song: *"May the Lord"*

Next Sunday's Offering: Dordt University

THE LORD'S DAY – OCTOBER 29, 2023
EVENING WORSHIP – 6:30 P.M.
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude

Welcome & Silent Prayer

Expression of Dependence

Pastor: I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where does my help come?

People: Our help is in the Name of the LORD, Maker of heaven and earth.

*Call to Worship: Micah 7:19-20

*Opening Song of Honor: #244 *"God Himself Is with Us"*

Bible Reading: Exodus 14:21-31 (p. 109)

Prayer of the Lord's People

*Song of Gratitude: #489 *"When Peace Like a River"*

Musical Offering: Selection from Bel Canto

Confession of Faith: Belgic Confession, Article 34 (selected portion)

Scripture: Matthew 28:18-20; Titus 3:4-7

Sermon: *"Baptism—Part One"*

*Song of Response: *"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"*

Musical Offering: Selection from Bel Canto

Prayer for the Offering (Christian Education)

Offertory: Selection from Bel Canto

*Confession of the Faith: The Apostles' Creed

*Benediction

*Closing Song: #635 *"Gloria Patri"*

SERMON NOTES – OCTOBER 29, 2023

GRACE AND JOY COME TO ONE MAN

Text: Acts 8:26-40

BAPTISM – PART ONE

Text: Matthew 28:18-20;

Titus 3:4-7

REFORMATION MATTERS: "If your Lord calls you to suffering, be not dismayed; there shall be a new allowance of the King for you when you come to it. One of the softest pillows Christ has is laid under his witnesses' head, though often they must set down their bare feet among thorns." - Samuel Rutherford (1600-1661), in *"The Loveliness of Christ"*

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:

Today	9:30 am	- Morning Worship
	11:45 am	- Potluck
	6:30 pm	- Evening Worship
Wed.	9:30 am	- Coffee Break
	6:00 pm	- Kids of Grace
	6:30 pm	- Evening Coffee Break
	7:45 pm	- Adult Bells
Thur.	7:00 pm	- Friendship

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES:

November 7	- SWMC Fall Soup and Dessert Supper
November 11	- SWC Donation Sale
November 12	- Prayer Warriors
November 16	- Congregational Meeting & Potato Supper

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, concerns, visits and meals following my thyroid surgeries. Above all, we thank God for healing and answered prayers of no more cancer found. Carol and Duane

The elders have received and approved the membership transfer of Justin Gunnink from the Edgerton Protestant Reformed Church. Further, the elders approved for Lexi Gunnink to make her public profession of faith here at First. She will do so at an upcoming worship service in the weeks ahead and we will also celebrate the covenant baptism of their daughter, Emmy.

We rejoice with Alex and Shannon Nykamp over the recent birth of their daughter, Leah Jean Nykamp. We praise the Lord for his marvelous goodness and grace to us!

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

During our evening worship service tonight, the Bel Canto choral group from Southwest will be singing a number of songs. We look forward to this time of worship together!

The elders wish to heartily commend to the congregation of First CRC our evening worship service. Though viewed as irrelevant by the world, the Word preached is the very means of grace and the primary origin of faith (Rom. 10:17, HC Q&A 65). The Fourth Commandment is still valid, and the

entire day belongs to the Lord; the Sabbath's higher purpose is to take spiritual rest by communing with God and the saints.

We understand many things compete for our people's time. Yet, we continue to call you to worship, both morning and evening, not out of tradition or stubbornness, but because of our charge to "present everyone mature in Christ" (Col. 1:28), and because we are convinced that there is no better place to be or better activity to be engaged in than gathering with God's people to hear the Words of our Savior and the bread of life, the Holy Gospel proclaimed. To worship here on earth is a foretaste of heaven, and the Chief Shepherd himself calls you to assemble with His flock.

A HUGE THANK YOU to the entire congregation for welcoming our brothers and sisters from Costa Rica! They thoroughly enjoyed their time in and around Edgerton and truly felt "at home" here. Thank you for opening your homes, donating water and snacks, lending warm clothing, giving of your time, fuel, and resources (including combines, tractors and firearms), and praying for them while they were here. You all made it possible for them to experience a taste of small town/farm life AND learn and grow in their faith. To God be the Glory!

From the Costa Rica Christian school team - We wish to THANK ALL who made our trip a marvelous success in every way! We only wish we'd had more time! Thank you to all those who helped coordinate, opened their homes, lent automobiles, fixed food, (lent guns!), and shared family time with us! May God bless you richly, and may God continue to bless your church and community with the love of Jesus that you so joyfully shared with us! ¡Dios les bendiga ricamente! - For the team, Rev. Bill & Aletha Green

Two Housekeeping Items:

1. If you lent totes, baskets, rice cookers, clothing, coats, etc., please pick up your items in the basement (on or below the coat rack) before November 5! Items remaining on Monday, the 6th will be donated.
2. Kitchen Items: The lost and found cart near the kitchen is overflowing! Please take a moment to look through the stacks and collect your items. All items left on November 6 will be donated.

We want to express great appreciation to our churches and community for the generous offerings, gifts of money, and food donations. This month we served 159 community members. In November we will be distributing turkeys, hams, and frozen pies to our recipients. Sincerely, The Food Shelf Committee

It's time for Operation Christmas Child. The boxes are here and ready to be filled. As you prayerfully prepare to pack your shoebox gift, please remember that your shoebox gift will be an expression of God's love to a child. Please donate the \$10.00 online or by check using the postage paid envelope in the box. Thank you in advance for your gifts.

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Southwest MN Christian High School Circles invite you to their annual FALL SOUP and DESSERT SUPPER on Tuesday, Nov. 7th. Serving time is 5:30pm - 7:30pm. Menu choices include chili, cheesy vegetable, pea, and chicken rice soups, BBQ's and desserts. Free will donations are gratefully accepted.

LESS THAN TWO WEEKS AWAY! The SWC Donation Sale will be held on **Saturday, November 11** at 6:00pm, at the Elementary gym. Supper will be served from 4:00-6:00pm so come and feed the family with delicious BBQ's, chips and homemade bars! A freewill donation for the meal will be gratefully accepted. This is the **one and only Donation Sale** for the school year, so we thank you in advance for taking this opportunity to bless SWC Schools with your donations, along with your financial and prayerful support through this Sale. Shares will be sold that evening for the Tuition Need Fund.

The Donation Sale raises significant funds for the general operating needs of the school, and the goal set by the School Board for the Donation Sale is \$175,000. Donations are greatly appreciated and can be brought to either school office. Early donations are advantageous as they can then be processed onto the Bill of Sale timely. Visit News/Announcements on our school website at swcschools.org in the coming days for more information and a **link to view the items for sale!** Be sure to join us for a fun evening in support and celebration of our roots of faithfulness; roots that have blessed us with the opportunity to provide Christian education for our children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren! Let's come together in thankfulness and support of God's special blessings of **430 students** at SWC this year!

COMMUNITY & MISC

Come to the 13th annual Gospel Jubilee on Sunday, October 29, 3 PM at American Reformed Church Luverne, featuring The Baker Family. The Baker Family is a high energy bluegrass and gospel band from south central Missouri. Freewill offering.

ATLAS Christmas Rummage and Boutique – Pipestone will be held on Saturday, November 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the ATLAS building (101 2nd St. NE) in Pipestone. Fresh caramel rolls and coffee may be purchased as you shop for Christmas décor items and the ever-favorite potted Christmas arrangements. A free-will donation, hot sandwich meal will be served starting at 11:30 a.m. and will be a great "to-go" option. Thank you for your financial and prayer support of this annual fundraiser for ATLAS.

Word & Deed Dinner: Come and hear how the Lord is working in Egypt and the Middle East through our partner El-Soora Ministries. A Word & Deed dinner will be held (D.V.) on Saturday, November 11, at The Lunch House (1129 Main St. Rock Valley). Doors will open at 5:30 PM with dinner starting at 6 PM. Our speaker for the evening will be Dr. Sherif Fahim, Director of El-Soora and Chairman of the New Testament Department at the Alexandria School of Theology and Adjunct Faculty of Eschatology at PRTS. You can register for this evening at <https://wordanddeed.org/event/iowa-fundraising-dinner/> or contact Dave Vander Meer at dvandermeer@wordanddeed.org.

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

TODAY:

Nursery: AM – Marshall & Tawni P, Levi & Mara M, Ava B, Carli S

PM – Jana T, Andrea L, Tage M, Grant B

Valet: Darrin DK

Ushers: Tyson B, Logan B, Lester S, Steve E

Sound: Ray S

Video: Kevin VH

Projection: Jan S/Jonathan S

Medical Assistant: Barb O

Children's Worship: Brigette P, Shelbi K

Praise Team: Lori S, Becky S, Jody S, Zan VB, Vonda T

Keyboard: Brittany F

NEXT WEEK – NOVEMBER 5:

Nursery: AM – Nick & Shawna S, Christa B, Karen F, Brooklyn T, Shelbi K

PM – Carmen F, Lois S, Raelyn S, Lydia T

Valet: Mark S

Ushers: Randy F, Del VE, Corey V, Owen T

Sound: Jesse VH

Video: Jacob M

Projection: Kirk VH/Blair W

Medical Assistant: Brenda K

Children's Worship: Kelsey S, Tage M

MISSIONARIES

Margaret Njuguna

En-Gedi Children's Home,
Kenya

Sos and Kara Maletoungou

Christian Reformed World Missions
West Africa

Rev. William & Aletha Green

Latin Amer. Fellowship of Reformed
Churches, Costa Rica

K & K

Global Serve International
Central Asia

Cornerstone Prison Church

Sioux Falls, South Dakota