

The Lord's Day – April 6, 2025
Morning Worship - 9:30 A.M.
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude

Musical Offering: First CRC Choir – *“Hymn of Heaven”*

Welcome and Announcements

Silent Prayer

*Mutual Greeting

*Call to Worship: Isaiah 44:6

*Opening Song of Adoration: #244 *“God Himself Is with Us”*

Standard of Righteousness: Ephesians 5:1-2

Prayer of Confession

Covenant Baptism of Emmett Talsma

*Song of Thanksgiving: #260 *“Not What My Hands Have Done”*

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

Musical Offering: First CRC Choir – *“The Lord Almighty Reigns”*
“Then Sings My Soul”

Scripture Reading: Psalm 131 (p. 969)

Sermon: “A Life Well Lived”

*Song of Response: #480 *“Jesus, the Very Thought of You”*

Prayer of the Lord's People

Offering: Christian Education

Offertory: First CRC Choir – *“Goodness of God”*

*Benediction

*Parting Song: #638 *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

Next Sunday's Offering: Luke Society

The Lord's Day – April 6, 2025
Evening Worship – 6:30 P.M.
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude: Bells – *“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”*
“What Wondrous Love Is This”

Welcome & Silent Prayer

Expression of Dependence

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

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

*Call to Worship: Exodus 15:11

*Opening Song of Honor: #253 *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

Prayer of the Lord's People

*Song of Gratitude: #263 *“Just as I Am, without One Plea”*

Scripture Reading: Romans 5:6-8 (p. 1753)

Sermon: “Gospel Love for the Unlovely”

Professions of Faith

*Song of Response: #384 *“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*

Prayer for the Offering (Christian Education)

Offertory: Bells – *“Go to Dark Gethsemane”*

*Confession of the Faith: The Apostles' Creed

*Benediction

*Closing Song: #633 *“He Is Lord”*

SERMON NOTES – APRIL 6, 2025

**“A Life Well Lived”
Psalm 131**

**“Gospel Love for the Unlovely”
Romans 5:6-8**

REFORMATION MATTERS: "In the Bible, then, it is not merely God as Creator who is the object of faith, but also, and primarily, God as Redeemer from sin. We fear God because of our guilt; but we trust him because of his grace. We trust him because he has brought us by the cross of Christ, despite all our sin, into his holy presence. Faith in God depends altogether upon his redeeming work." - J. Gresham Machen, in *"What is Faith?"*

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:

Today	9:30 am	- Morning Worship
	10:45am	- Kid's Praise, Sunday school and Catechism
	6:30 pm	- Evening Worship
Tue	7:00 pm	- Council/Consistory Meeting
Wed	6:00 pm	- Kids of Grace
	6:30 pm	- Evening Coffee Break
	6:30 pm	- GEMS/Cadets
Thurs	9:30 am	- Christian Fellowship
	7:00 pm	- Friendship – Easter Lesson

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES:

April 13	Easter Music Festival
April 16	Youth Group and Kids of Grace Easter Party (6:30 PM)
April 23	Cadet Pancake Supper at Southwest Christian Elementary
May 11	Margaret Njuguna presentation

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

During our worship service this evening, we will have the joy of witnessing the public professions of faith from the following individuals: Hannah Masselink, Ryan Pap, Judd Prouty, Devin Schaap, Clint Schelhaas, and Jessica Sjaarda. We give the Lord great praise and thanks for his work in their lives!

This morning, we have the privilege of taking part in the covenant baptism of Emmett John Talsma, son of Steven and Kala Talsma. We take great delight in hearing and seeing the gospel promises made to the Lord's little ones in our congregation!

Thank you to everyone for your thoughts and prayers. I am so thankful for the church family. Thanks to Pastor Scott and Pastor Lee for their visits. Thanks for the special time our care group blessed us with. We so appreciate all the food brought in. God has greatly blessed us through all your acts of caring and love. -Evie Gilman

The Food Shelf volunteers want to thank the congregation for your recent generous offerings. We also are grateful for food donations given by the students from Southwest Christian and Edgerton Public, Friendship Class, GEMS and the combined community youth group. Thanks and Praise to God!

Our church will be hosting a community Easter Sunrise Service on Easter Morning, April 20, beginning at

7:00 a.m. We are inviting our area church congregations along with visiting family and friends to join us! Following the service, a breakfast will be served in the church's fellowship hall. We hope many of you will be able to join us.

Prayer Warriors: Next week Sunday we will meet after the morning service of April 13. Please let your prayer partner know ahead of time if you cannot make it so you can find another time to connect and share prayer requests.

Dear Friends and Partners at First CRC, Thank you for your recent contribution and ongoing support of our ministry as we equip Christian teachers, schools and church leaders in Africa! Your committed partnership has been enabling us to make a Kingdom impact out here. Recently, we have been working around the clock on a new Teacher Certification Project that ACSI Africa is rolling out with the goal of certifying 1 million African teachers in Biblical worldview and integration by the year 2050. In addition, we will be traveling to the Central African Republic (CAR) in about two weeks for a conference on Christian education being hosted jointly by ACSI and the national association of Christian schools. It will be the first of its kind in CAR. Please pray with us for the church leaders, school directors, and teachers who will be gathering together to pray about and discuss how the church, family, and school can come together to raise up the next generation for His glory (Psalm 78:1-8). Together in Christ, Sosthene and Kara

We are grateful to announce that our beloved janitor, Rod Obbink, will be retiring this Thanksgiving after many wonderful years of faithful service. We thank him for his dedication and wish him all the best. We are now seeking a new janitor to serve our church. If interested, please contact Corey Vis or Dave Brons for more details.

Looking for a faithful way to serve our church? Our dedicated work group coordinators, Karen Fey and Gloria Roemeling, are stepping back from their roles and would love the opportunity to train the next coordinators. We deeply thank them for their commitment and contributions. We are now looking for new coordinators to step into these roles. If interested, please contact Karen or Gloria for more information.

In search of: Nursery Volunteers! If you are willing to help out (male or female, young or old) in the nursery, please let me know. With several new/expectant mothers, we are running a little short on help. If you are willing to help, please talk to me as soon as possible so that I can get you added to the schedule. Thanks! Kim

Royal Family Kids Camp SWMN needs you! We are in need of more adult volunteers. We can use help in all areas, but we specifically need male adult guides who spend the week one-on-one with a camper, and helpers for crafts & photography (must be at least 16 years old). Check our Facebook page - Royal Family Kids Camp SWMN to find an application, or talk to a director (Shellie Eisma, Nicole Fey, Morgan Schoonhoven or Erin Van Hulzen). THANK YOU for your prayers, monetary support, and encouragement for this mission!

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

KINGDOM KIDS PRESCHOOL at Southwest MN Christian Schools is open for enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year and we couldn't be more excited! What a wonderful opportunity for your child to explore and discover God's world! Registration forms can be picked up at the elementary campus office at 210 Elizabeth St W, Edgerton, or downloaded at our school website, swcschools.org. For more information, call the office at 507-442-6181 or email us at elementary@swcschools.org. If you'd like to tour the school or would like to check out the Preschool area, we'd welcome you to do that as well!

Southwest Christian High School Circle #12 is sponsoring the annual Music Festival to be held at the First CRC of Edgerton on April 13, 2025, at 2:30 pm. Choir and music groups from area churches and Southwest Christian are invited to participate.

We're excited to invite you the Black & Gold Banquet, an evening filled with delicious food, laughter, and connection on Saturday, April 12 at the SWC Elementary Gymnasium. Social Hour begins at 5:45; following by dinner at 6:15 pm. The mouthwatering dinner features fresh salad, beef tri-tip, baked potatoes, glazed carrots, buns, and refreshments. After dinner, prepare for some laughs as we welcome our special guest, *Slap Happy Comedy*, for an unforgettable comedy performance that will keep everyone in stitches! This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a meaningful evening with friends and community while supporting the Faith Fund at Southwest MN Christian. We hope you can join us for a night of fun, food, and giving! RSVP BY MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2025 by contacting the high school office at 507-442-4471 or email astoel@swcschools.org. We can't wait to see you there!

We are looking for hosts and hostesses for the Black & Gold Banquet! How to Participate: simply fill a table of 8 guests or host a table that is already filled, provide an optional centerpiece for your table, and cater your table with provided food and drinks the night of the event. This is a great opportunity to showcase your hosting skills and be part of a fun and memorable event supporting the Faith Fund at Southwest MN Christian High School. Let us know if you're interested or have any questions! RSVP's due by Monday, March 31. Call the High School office at 507-442-4471 or email Ashley at astoel@swcschools.org.

April 13, 2:30 pm: Join us for the Annual Music Festival at First CRC of Edgerton. Southwest Christian's choirs, along with individual and choral groups from area churches, will present selections during this afternoon of praise. Members of the audience will be invited to join the mass choir for the Hallelujah Chorus. An offering will be collected for Southwest Christian High School (sponsored as a fundraiser by Circle #12).

Do you have an hour available on Friday mornings? Come join Moms in Prayer. We meet each Friday morning throughout the school year, starting August 23. We meet at 8:15 at SWC High School. We pray over our school, students, teachers and staff. We'd love for you to join us. This is open to all moms, no matter the age of your kids. Join us each week, or whenever a Friday morning works for you. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Kimber Van Essen at 507-220-3465

COMMUNITY & MISC

Get ready for an unforgettable adventure at this year's **Vacation Bible School** — *True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World!* From June 9–13, kids will dive into exciting stories, games, crafts, and songs that point them to Jesus, our steady guide through life's wild twists and turns. Registration tables are now set up in church — don't wait, sign up today! You can also sign up with the link on our "VBS - Edgerton, MN" Facebook page. If you would like to purchase a CD of the songs we will be learning, sign up on the registration table. **Volunteers:** We're also calling all adventurers-at-heart to lend a hand — we need volunteers to help guide our young explorers from one exciting activity to the next. Please consider helping, VBS just isn't the same without YOU. Let's make this the best week of the summer!

Edgebrook GSS-Way will be putting on an Easter Basket Silent Auction again this year. Baskets were due March 28 and the bidding will start on March 31 through April 11. If you win a basket, it may be picked up between April 14 and April 18.

You are invited to the First Reformed Church Maundy Thursday Gathering on Thursday, April 17. Coffee and Rolls at 9:00am with the program to follow at 9:30am. The program will take place in the Fellowship Hall and will feature guest speaker Jason Snyder. Jason has been on several medical missions to Niger, South Africa. He has assisted his Physicians to perform cataract surgery for the native people. He will share his story. Offering will go to the local Food Shelf.

The ATLAS for Life Always Growing Greenhouse will be opening soon! Come enjoy the beauty of God's beautiful handiwork as you look forward to filling those planters and gardens. A great gift idea – an Always Growing Greenhouse gift certificate! Look for the opening date for the greenhouse on the grounds of Hubers Automotive – 105 8th Ave. (next to 8th Ave. Diner and across from Luann's Gas).

Cornerstone Prison Church Council, Board and Congregation would like to invite you to our Annual Benefit Banquet, Monday, April 7, 2025 at Trinity Christian Reformed Church, Rock Valley, IA at 6:30 p.m. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. Save your spot by Sunday, March 30 by calling Trinity CRC at 712-476-5292 or go to our website www.cornerstonepcsd.org. Join us for an evening of praise to celebrate 20 years of God's faithfulness inside the SDSP. A free will offering will be taken as an opportunity to financially support Cornerstone's ministry. We look forward to seeing you!

If you are unable to attend, you can send your donations to: Cornerstone Prison Church, c/o Dave Vande Kamp PO Box 88708, Sioux Falls, SD 57109, Or Donate online at www.cornerstonepcsd.org

SW MN Pro-life group will hold their annual Pro-Life Spring Rally on Monday, April 14th at 7:00 p.m. at S.W.C. High School. The speaker will be Carrie Meyers, executive director of Choices Pregnancy Center in Marshall & Redwood Falls. Carrie will be sharing her personal story of how she got involved & what the Pregnancy Center does to help women with an unplanned pregnancy. Please come to support this worthy cause.

Word & Deed Update: Myanmar Earthquake After hearing of the 7.7 magnitude earthquake that hit Southeast Asia last week, the people of Myanmar have been in our prayers. The Burmese people have suffered great upheaval over the last few years due to effect of a military coup and subsequent economic destruction. This earthquake only deepens their already significant struggles. Our partners

have communicated with us that they have heard of some churches who are mostly safe, but they have been unable to get in touch with all the churches and families located in the epicenter of the earthquake. This weighs heavily on them as thousands of dead bodies have been found amidst the debris of collapsed buildings. At the time of writing this update, our partner is making their way to ground zero and will contact us with more information once they have it. In spite of many international rescue teams, there are still places that are in great need of help. Word & Deed looks forward to standing beside our partners as they assess the situation, determine what type of need is necessary and communicate information as it becomes available. Thank you for your continued prayers for our brothers and sisters in Myanmar.

We would love for you to join us at American Reformed Church in Luverne MN at 4:00 PM on Sunday, May 4 for an inspiring event and hear how Robin Sertell survived all odds to grow into the talented woman she is today. Robin survived three saline abortion attempts and now travels the world equipping other survivors to be a voice and share their stories. Robin has written 2 books and addresses the Civic and Social issues surrounding Pro-Life Advocacy. *You are Unique. You are Loved. Your Life has Value. What will you do with the Time God has given you?* A freewill offering will be received for Robin.

MIK+ YOUNG ADULTS (19-29 year old singles) is a sister ministry to MIK Youth (6th-8th grades and 9th-12th grades). Both of these ministries are supported by three Christian Reformed Classis (Minnkota, Lakota and Heartland). MIK Youth has been around a long time, but MIK+ Young Adults is NEW! We are still trying to get the word out about this awesome ministry opportunity for our young adult singles in our regional CR Churches. MIK+YOUNG ADULTS....Here is the tentative schedule for the next 2 months. Be watching for more info and updates! If you'd like to be added to my text list, text Lee DeGroot at 712-470-4244 and give him your name. Saturday March 1 – ACTIVITY- Waiting to hear back from RJ Golf in Sioux Center. More information coming soon. Saturday, March 22- Bible Study (Leviticus) at Hull 1st CRC Youth Building. Saturday, April 5 – Activity – Planning on reserving Escape Rooms in Sioux Falls. Will need to RSVP in advance to pay for tickets in advance. More info coming soon. Saturday, April 19 – Bible Study (Numbers) in Sioux Center Bridge of Hope CRC Youth Building.

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Turkey & the Seven Churches of Revelation (May 27 - June 8, 2025): Visit ancient sites connected with Paul's First, Second, and Third Missionary Journeys as well as the seven churches to whom John wrote the Book of Revelation. Join Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, for this inspirational biblical tour. Contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

JUSTICE FOR ALL is planning the 2025 *Service and Learning* Opportunities and would love to have you join one of the teams! These weeks are wonderful opportunities to serve others but also to experience and understand God's Kingdom in new and important ways! Dates and places: Harvest Hands Ministries, Juarez, MX – January 17-25; JVPPerkins Foundation, Jackson MS – February 1-7; Voice of Calvary Ministries, Jackson, MS - February 8-14; Grace Covenant Ministries, Annville, KY – March 1-7; Grace Reigns, Colorado City AZ – April 4-12. Each week is a wonderful opportunity of building relationships with people from a community which is very different than our own, through serving, learning, and studying God's Word together. Nick LeLoux, Service and Learning Coordinator will be holding an informational meeting Monday, September 16, 6:30PM at the JFA Ministry Center. If you

can't make it to the meeting but would like more information or sign up for a project, please contact Nick at JFA 712-476-2804 or email nickl@jfa-nwiowa.org. You can also check out our website: jfa-niowa.org

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

TODAY- APRIL 6:

Nursery: AM – Ann Marie B, Brian B, Shawnie V, Nilson VH, Tyler S

PM- Andrea L, Dana H, Jayden B, Kaitlyn Scha

Valet: Nathan B

Ushers: Rod C, Steve E, Logan/Tyson B, Bob S

Sound: AM – Jeff PM – Jeff

Video: Kevin VH

Projection: Orey/Jody

Medical Assistant: Barb O

Children's Worship: Mara M, Max VH

NEXT WEEK- APRIL 13:

Nursery: AM – Jen B, Kim V, Jody S, Max VH, Josi VH

PM- Becky S, Brigette P, Tabitha S, Hartley B

Valet: Mark S

Ushers: Rod C, Steve E, Logan/Tyson B, Bob S

Sound: AM – Dean E PM – Ray S

Video: Kaden S

Projection: Jon/Jared

Medical Assistant: Nick S

Children's Worship: Becky S & Jorja H.

Praise Team: Mark & Lori, Kurt & Vonda, Tadd & Erica, Seth & Brittany

Keyboard: Kaitlyn

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

A&K L.

Global Serve International
South East Asia

CHURCH INFORMATION