



February 23, 2025

Church office hours: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday—Thursday
Bulletin deadline: Wednesday Noon
616-451-8467 Office@CalvinCRC.org www.CalvinCRC.org

“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.” – Luke 6:27

Ordinary Time

* Please stand in body or in spirit

Ten o'clock

February 23, 2025

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Prelude: “Jesus, Priceless Treasure” [#425]

Johann Walther

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: “All Things Bright and Beautiful” [#20] arr. Cathy Moklebust

* Opening Hymns: “Come, Thou Almighty King”
“Be Still, for the Presence”

#492:1-3

#532:1-3

* God's Greeting

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Call to Confession: Psalm 32:1-7

Sung Call to Confession: “How Blest Are They Whose Trespass”

#669:1-2

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you call us to your merciful, gracious love
freely given without expectation or strings attached.

While we are eager to experience your mercy and grace
in our own lives,

we are quick to make our extension of your mercy and grace
conditional for others.

We would rather show mercy to those we judge worthy.

We would rather extend grace to those
who will show us grace in return.

We would rather love those who are easiest to love.

Forgive us, Redeeming God.

So transform our hearts with your amazing grace
and unconditional love that our relationships are transformed
as we extend your mercy and grace
as an expression of our gratitude for your saving love
we know in Jesus Christ. Amen.

* Assurance of Pardon

* Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

front cover of hymnal

* Song of Response: "Glory Be to the Father"

#961

(Children may come forward during this hymn.)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.**

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Message for Children

Blessing for Children

Leader: People of God, what is your prayer for these children?

All: The Lord be with you.

Children: And also with you.

All: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Anthem: "Lord, We Hear Your Word with Gladness" [#766]

arr. Cathy Moglebust

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession concluding with the Lord's Prayer:

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

* Hymn of Preparation: "Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels"

#307:1-4

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Luke 6:27-38

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Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: **WORDS TO LIVE BY?**

Prayer of Application

WE RESPOND IN GRATITUDE

- * Hymn of Response: “Take My Life and Let It Be” #863:1,2,5,6
- * Invitation to Offering: Marissa Dierlam
- * Offertory Prayer for Community Care
Deacon: God, your generosity to us is abundant and gracious.
Everything we have comes from you.
**All: Receive our gifts of our time, our selves, and our possessions.
Help us to grow in gratitude and joy as we follow Jesus. Amen.**
- * Benediction
- * Doxology: “Come, Thou Almighty King” #492:4
**To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be hence evermore!
Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see,
and to eternity love and adore. Amen.**
- * Postlude: “Jesus, Priceless Treasure” [#425] Johann Walther

Liturgist: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys
Preaching Pastor: Rev. Brad Zwiers
Ministry of Music: Allegro Ringers
Organist: Dorothy Frisch
Handbell Director: Stephanie Wiltse
Scripture Reader: Karl Van Harn
Audio/Video: Arc Frisch, Don Buist

Calvin CRC Announcements for February 23, 2025

WORSHIP Today, 10 AM

Morning worship: Rev. Brad Zwiers preaches from Luke 6:27-38, and the Allegro Ringers lead us in ministry of music.

WORSHIP Next Sunday, March 2

Morning worship: On this Transfiguration Sunday, Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys will preach from Exodus 34:29-35, “With Unveiled Faces.” We will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, and the Sanctuary Choir will lead us in music. The offering will be for Benevolence.

WORSHIP Ash Wednesday, March 5, 7PM

Evening worship: We will hold a service of worship on Ash Wednesday, March 5, at 7:00 PM. We will be led by the Covenant Choir, Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys will give a meditation from 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10, and we will offer the imposition of ashes. An offering will be received for Community Care.

COUNCIL NEWS

Giving statements can be found in your member mailbox. An error was discovered in our tracking software where certain gifts were marked as not tax deductible. This is incorrect, any gift given to the church is tax deductible. If you would like a corrected statement, please contact the office.

Council set the date for the **Congregational Meeting** required to affirm our decision to disaffiliate from the CRCNA for March 23, 2025.

The next **“Coffee with the Council President”** will be held on March 9. Updates will be given on the disaffiliation and reorientation process. There will also be an opportunity for the Council members to hear questions and comments from the congregation.

CHURCH FAMILY

85+ YEAR OLD BIRTHDAYS:	3/5 Joy DeBoer (93)
3/8 Celia Steele (94)	3/10 Wayne VanWynen (96)
3/15 John Stegink (91)	3/23 Gert Bokhout (87)
3/23 Rich Wevers (92)	

COLLEGE AND CAREER AGE: 3/23 Lydia Tolsma (20)

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

MARCH BIRTHDAYS:	3/5 Franklin Knapper (4)
3/7 Abi Lizewski (17)	3/12 Wesley Visker (10)
3/21 Jack Rayburn (10)	3/26 Ruby Nunn (11)
3/30 Ezra Dierlam (3)	

FAITH FRIENDS is a reciprocal discipling relationship between an adult member of Calvin Church and a young person. Here are some things that may be included: connection at church on Sundays, sending cards and/or letters, service projects or activities outside of church (with parental permission, of course!), and prayer. Participating in this ministry will by no means be an overwhelming time commitment; each Faith Friends pair can decide what their shared discipleship might look like. We'd love to pair every Calvin Church young person in grades 3–12 with an adult Faith Friend. Please prayerfully consider joining this ministry, fill out the form in your mailbox, and return it to the church office.

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS

GALLERY ART: Annelies Dykgraaf, who was born and raised on the African mission field while we supported her parents, has some of her linocut and woodcut art on display. These are depictions of religious themes and stories. Many of her prints include a lizard, which is a good luck symbol. See how many you can find.

DISPLAY CASE: Judy Bode has a display of carved wooden bowls and trays in the display case near the nursery. Read the description of how she brings diseased, damaged wood back into service, and the analogy of Christ changing us so we can serve.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR: We will gather for games, puzzles, and great company on February 24 from 1–3 PM in the Atrium. All are welcome to join.

FAMILY SUPPER: A light supper will be provided at church on February 26 for adults and their children, especially those involved in Wednesday evening programming. Kris Bergh, Elly Nyhof, districts 5 & 6 will serve. Food will be served from 5:00-6:30 PM.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS WITH EASTTOWN NEIGHBORS: Thursday, February 27, 6-7PM Join us to hear Habitat Hero founder and John Ball Zoo conservationist, Travis Kurts, share his experience in Mexico visiting the Monarch overwintering habitat and learn about John Ball Zoo's program to save our pollinators. Our community connector will be working in the nursery to help parents with 0-4yr olds attend the conversation. Heather is looking for one additional adult volunteer with Safe Church training to help her. Please contact Heather at 907-978-5166 if you can serve in this way.

BOOK DISCUSSION: You are invited to a discussion of *Telling Stories in the Dark: Finding Healing and Hope in Sharing Our Sadness, Grief, Trauma, and Pain* by Jeffrey Munroe. We will gather at 11:30 AM in Room 1 on Sunday, March 2, to discuss the book. Discounted copies of the book are available at the table in the narthex for \$10, cash or check payable to Calvin CRC.

Rev. Munroe will lead us in a follow-up conversation on Sunday, March 16. He will preach in worship that Sunday morning, and we will have a time of conversation with him following the service.

FAMILY ASSISTANCE NEEDS BLANKETS. We have continued to get a lot of orders asking for blankets and pillows. We are finding that we are getting a lot more requests from caseworkers working with refugee families. Due to government funding cuts, the refugees are not receiving as much assistance when they arrive, therefore our requests have been increasing the last few weeks. Please consider bringing any gently used or new pillows and blankets to the church office to help keep out shelves stocked.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you desire a Christian education for your child that is joyful, academically challenging, and screen free? Trinitas Classical School is a community of Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant Christians committed to cultivating lives of faith, reason, and virtue. We are now enrolling full-time students in grades K-8 and home school partners in grades 5-8. As we enter our twentieth year, we are also considering opening a high school with grades 9 and 10 this fall. Join us for Discover Trinitas Night Thursday, February 20, 6:30-8:00 PM or schedule a tour! You can find more information on our website www.trinitasclassical.org

Stories Shaped by the Spirit: The Racial Justice Team of Classis Grand Rapids East of the CRC will host an event on Sunday, March 9, from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. A light supper will be included. This event will recall, at times with lament, the racial justice journey among Christian Reformed sisters and brothers in southeast Grand Rapids with particular honor to our matriarchs and patriarchs who helped lead. Guest speakers include Mrs. Loutisha Patterson, Rev. Karl Westerhof, and

Mr. James White. RSVP by March 1 at classisgretrip@gmail.com; please provide your name, church, and the number attending.

Sherman Street Church will once again be hosting Spencer LaJoye in concert at 7:30 PM on Friday March 14. Spencer LaJoye (luh-JOY) is a singer/songwriter from the Midwest (and a graduate of Calvin University) making queer indie folk music for everyone. The 2021 Kerrville Songwriting Competition and 2024 Songwriter Serenade winner spins crystalline vocals through a loop pedal while strumming an acoustic guitar in charming, banter-heavy performances that keep audiences laughing one moment and weeping the next. More information about Spencer can be found at <https://www.spencerlajoye.com/>. Suggested donation of \$20 at the door. (Doors open at 7PM.) No expectation from students.

Welcome to Calvin Church

In Worship:

- Our worship proceeds unannounced and follows the printed liturgy.
- Reprint and streaming licenses are One License A-730126, CCLI#2532147, and CSPL#175060.
- The Prayer of Confession is by Teri McDowell Ott, *Presbyterian Outlook*.
- The Chancel banner expresses the Christian belief that in one God there are three divine persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The color green represents spiritual growth during the season of the Lord's life and ministry.
- Large-print resources are available at the Information Desk.
- Our facility is equipped with the Loop hearing system.



For Children:

- Ages 0-2: Infant and toddler nurseries are available.
- Preschool: The Little Children (TLC) gathers in the nursery prior to the morning worship.
- K-2nd: After the Children's Message the Children's Worship ministry meets downstairs in Rooms 11 & 13 until the conclusion of worship. Parents meet their children there following the service.
- Busy Bags for young children are on the picket fence in the Atrium.
- Bulletins for older children are in the rack in the Narthex.

Fellowship and Information:

- Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments following the morning service.
- "Like" us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/CalvinChristianReformedChurch
- Subscribe to our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/@CalvinCRC/streams

CALENDAR

	<i>Today, Sunday, February 23</i>
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Corey Visker
	Nursery Volunteers: Kim Wierenga, Josh Meyer
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Irene Konyndyk
	Coffee Servers: Gord and Jane Vandenberg
11:20a	Worship and Wonder in Room 9
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Rick Feenstra
3:30p	CYG Bible Study in the Catacomb
	<i>Monday, February 24</i>
1:00p	Fellowship Hour in the Atrium
6:00p	AA meeting in Room 16
	<i>Tuesday, February 25</i>
9:00a	Family Assistance
6:00p	AA meeting in Room 16
7:00p	Reorientation meeting in the Conference Room
	<i>Wednesday, February 26</i>
3:30p	Engagement Team meets in the Conference Room
5:00p	Family Supper in the Fellowship Hall
5:45p	Allegro Ringers rehearsal in the Bell Room
6:00p	AA meeting in Room 16
6:15p	Covenant Choir rehearsal in Room 9
7:00p	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal in the Balcony
	78ers meet in the Catacomb
	<i>Thursday, February 27</i>
9:00a	Family Assistance
6:00p	AA meeting in Room 16
	Seeds of Promise: Monarch Butterflies
	<i>Friday, February 28</i>
6:00p	AA meeting in Room 16
	Catechism Retreat
	<i>Next Sunday, March 2</i>
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Marissa Dierlam
	Nursery Volunteers: Lisa Schipper, Hannah Triezenberg
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Anjean Stegink
	Coffee Servers: Dale and Joanie Rosema
11:20a	Worship and Wonder in Room 9
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Phil DeJonge