



# COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to whoever will come—  
this church opens wide her doors and offers  
her welcome in the name  
of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

## **MORNING WORSHIP**

Safe with the Savior

*1 Samuel 22:6–23*

## **EVENING WORSHIP**

Corinthian Marriage  
(and Life) Counseling

*1 Corinthians 7:1–9; 17–24*

**May 5th, 2024**

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Rev. Jonathan Landry Cruse, Pastor



## MORNING WORSHIP – 10AM

Pastor Cruse leading and preaching in worship.

*“There was a defect in the faith of many who came to Christ to be healed. But it was not the strength of their faith that Christ looked to, but the reality of it. They got the cure though the hand that touched him trembled.” —Andrew Bonar*

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### God Calls Us into His Presence

*The word “church” literally means “called out ones.” In our very name, we acknowledge that our relationship with God is constituted by His call of us. Worship rightly begins with a Divine initiative. But recognizing we are too weak to worship God the way He deserves, we respond to His call in a prayer for the help of His Spirit (the invocation), to which God answers with the assurance of a warm welcome into His presence (the greeting).*

\* Call to Worship: Psalm 36:5–9

\* Invocation

Minister: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**People: Who made heaven and earth!**

Minister: Let us pray...

\* God’s Greeting

\* The Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* Hymn of Praise: 240, *O Love of God, How Strong and True*

### God Cleanses Us by His Law and Gospel

*God’s Word instructs us in holy living. We come to it now with humility as it reveals our sin, but also in hope as it reveals our Savior, the Word incarnate. Our corporate prayer of confession is followed by a bold declaration that we need not fear God’s condemnation because Christ has taken it in our place.*

Call to Confession: Ephesians 4:17–32

Silent Prayer followed by Corporate Confession

Minister: Let us confess our sins together, saying...

**People: Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. We ask this through our only mediator and advocate Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 18:30 (p.455)

\* Hymn of Thanksgiving: 459, *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

\* The Apostles’ Creed (p. 851)

## God Accepts Our Prayers and Gifts

*All of the Christian life is to be devoted to God. We demonstrate that by giving our hearts to Him in prayer, and our monies to Him in the offering. As our Father, He loves to hear our prayers. As our King, He well deserves our gifts.*

## God Speaks To Us by His Word

*The Bible tells us that it is through the “foolishness of preaching” that God saves sinners. So we eagerly come to hear from Him and receive His grace through the Scripture reading and sermon.*

## God Commissions Us to Serve Him

*The benediction (“good word”) is God’s placement of His name upon us, securing our identity in His love and promise.*

## Congregational Prayer

**Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## Giving of Tithes and Offering

*Please pass the offering plate all the way down  
2nd Offering: Building Debt Elimination*

\* Hymn of Preparation: 531, *Nearer, Still Nearer*

\* Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 22:6–23 (p.245)

Sermon: **Safe with the Savior** | no. 25 in series

Prayer of Application

\* Hymn of Response: 243, *How Firm a Foundation*

\* Benediction

\* Dismissal and Postlude

*While gathered worship has ended, service to Christ continues: let us go forth in the power of the Spirit to love and serve the Lord!*

# SERMON HELPS

**What is the Bible text and title of the sermon?**

**What are the main points?**

1. The M\_\_\_\_\_ that God P\_\_\_\_\_

2. The R\_\_\_\_\_ that God P\_\_\_\_\_



## EVENING WORSHIP – 6 PM

Mr. Brian Eshuis leading and Pastor Cruse preaching in worship

*“I am so thankful for the active obedience of Christ. No hope without it.” —J. Gresham Machen*

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\* Call to Worship: Psalm 113:3

\* Invocation

\* God’s Greeting

\* The Gloria Patri

**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.**

\* Psalm of Praise: 113A, *Hallelujah! Raise, O Raise*

\* Confession of Faith: The Westminster Shorter Catechism 31–32 (p. 970)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 98

Corresponding Psalm: 98A, *O Sing a New Song to the Lord* (vv. 1–4)

Congregational Prayer

Giving of Tithes and Offering

\* Hymn of Preparation: 446, *Be Thou My Vision*

\* Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:1–9; 17–24 (p.955)

Sermon: **Corinthian Marriage (and Life) Counseling** | no. 16 in series

Prayer of Application

\* Hymn of Response: 500, *Father, I Know that All My Life*

\* Benediction & Dismissal

*While gathered worship has ended, service to Christ continues: let us go forth in the power of the Spirit to love and serve the Lord!*

# SERMON NOTES

# SERVANT SCHEDULE

## TODAY'S SERVANTS

Preaching: Pastor Cruse

Opening/Closing: Bryce Bekius

Greeter: Mary A

Nursery AM: Julie H, Lily H, Caroline H

Nursery PM: Cassie M, Sarah G

A/V: Eshuis

Coffee Prep: Olivia V

Snacks: Seth V, Adam V

Hospitality: Westerman

Piano: AM, Michele E | PM, Kelly Y

## NEXT WEEK'S SERVANTS

Preaching: Pastor Cruse

Opening/Closing: Derek McElvain

Greeter: Dan V

Nursery AM: Lyndsey V, Jen T, Elizabeth M

Nursery PM: Liz S, Clair V

A/V: Ybema

Coffee Prep: McElvain

Snacks: *Happy Mother's Day!*

Piano: AM, Jane P | PM, Cassie M

Communion AM: Vreeman

# PRAYER REQUESTS

## OUR CONGREGATION

- Elders and Deacons: For God to strengthen and uphold them through his word daily. For unity and wisdom from the Holy Spirit to carry out their responsibilities at home, work, and church as they care for and provide oversight to Christ's Bride. That God would give them servant hearts.
- For Lyndsey Vlietstra's mother, Jill Mulder, who's cancer has returned. This week they learned her cancer continues to aggressively spread. She is receiving chemotherapy and radiation in Chicago. A tumor caused a bone fracture in her left arm and she will need surgery. Please pray for pain control, strength, and endurance in the journey ahead.
- For John DeVries, still in the hospital, as he recovers from recent foot surgery. For full healing and for peace.
- Praise for the Lord's provision for remediation at the Hamming's home this past Friday and Saturday. Pray for safety, clarity, and complete remediation of the mold and for additional provision as the Hamming's work to rebuild.
- For our pregnant mothers: Heather Vlietstra, Megan Meulenberg, Megan Novak, and Cassie Morrison.
- For ongoing health needs in the church: Tim Bero, Brayden Bodfish, John DeVries, Steve Glerum, Rebekah Hill, Dave Nieuwenhuis and John Wonser.

## THE WIDER CHURCH

- For Rev. Stephen Pribble (Norma) of Grace OPC in Lansing, who is recovering from a fall this week and surgery for a fractured femur.
- Covenant (Komoka, ON), Pastor John Ferguson (Lori). Praise God for his gracious blessing, including – baptisms, confessions of faith by covenant children, new members, visitors, and for continued peace and unity. Pray for desired growth in purity, that the Lord would call men to serve as elders and deacons, and for wisdom and strength for the Session in regard to current and future plans
- For the missionary families we support: (Hub–Spokes) the Hopps in Mbale (Uganda), the Johnsons in Thailand, the Quebec project in Canada, Charles (Alice) Telfer (Wycliff Bible translation consultants), and OPC Japan.
- That those coordinating and leading short term mission teams would be energized to prepare for summer missions.

## THE WORLD

- For our federal, state, and local elected officials.
- For global unrest due to conflict in the middle east

## SESSION

Pastor Jonathan Cruse  
Brian Eshuis  
Tom Vander Band  
Perry Westerman (Clerk)

## DEACONS

Bryce Bekius  
Derek McElvain (Chairman)  
David Post  
Jacob Schumaker  
Seth Verschoof (Sabbatical)

## MINISTRIES

Women's Prayer | Sun, 9:40am  
Dead Theologians Society | 2nd Wed, 7pm  
Prayer Meeting | 4th Wed, 6:30pm  
Women's Morning Bible Study | Thurs, 9am  
Teen Girls | 3rd Fri, 6pm  
Men's Breakfast | 2nd Sat, 8am

## TITHES & OFFERINGS

(thru 3/31/24)

YTD Actual: \$74,202  
YTD Budgeted: \$65,000  
Diaconal Fund: \$11,598  
Building Fund: \$127,917

## CONTACT & CONNECTION

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## WELCOME

A staffed nursery is available during both services, across the foyer from the sanctuary. There is also a private room for nursing mothers in the north hallway off the foyer, and ADA restrooms as well. Another set of restrooms is located just outside the fellowship hall, in the south hallway near the offices. After worship you are invited to enjoy coffee and light refreshments, followed by Sunday School (11:30am–12:15pm) for all ages.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **This morning**, we will take a 2nd offering for building debt reduction.
- **Men: Dead Theologian's Society** meets THIS Wednesday at 7pm.
- **Women's Morning Bible Study** meets THIS **Thursday, May 9th, 9am**, in the Hearth Room. Childcare is available.
- **Teen Girl Hangout**, THIS Friday, May 10th, 6:30pm in Classroom 3.
- **Men's Breakfast**, Saturday, May 11th, 8:30am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Note that there will **NOT be a Fellowship Meal** in May in celebration of Mother's Day.
- **Softball Game, May 18, 4pm**. The Fellowship Committee invites you to our annual spring softball game (co-ed) at the fields behind Spring Valley Church (5240 Mt Olivet Rd, Kalamazoo). See the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center. If you're not interested in playing, come to enjoy fellowship and cheer on the players!
- **Garage Sale Update!** See below for details and additional information. Please contact Melissa Bekius, Lyndsey Vlietstra, or Julie VanderRoest with any questions or to help with any of these items.
  - » Dates: Friday, May 17th, 9am – 6pm,  
Saturday, May 18th, 9am – 3pm
  - » Location: Church parking lot
  - » Donations are being accepted through Wednesday, May 15th, unless otherwise arranged. Large items may be dropped off the morning of the sale.
  - » We need volunteers (13+) for the sale! See the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center.
  - » We are in need of 2-3 clothing racks during the event that will be returned after.
  - » Please note, that for safety reasons the church will be closed during the sale, except for volunteer bathroom use.
  - » Also, if anyone is interested in organizing and running a bake sale during this event we would love to include that as well!
- **Save the date:** Building Dedication service on June 2nd, 6PM.
- **Please note** that Pastor Cruse and family will be gone on Sabbatical from June 17th through August 26th. We will be served by a solid group of Reformed ministers and professors who will fill the pulpit this summer, in addition to Cliff Foster who will be a part-time intern.