

Covenant Christian Reformed Church
Morning Worship – February 24, 2008

WELCOME to all who have joined us for worship today!
We extend a special welcome to those who are visiting.
Please join us for coffee following the service...
we would like to get to know you.

Third Sunday in Lent

*--Indicates to stand, if able

PH—*Psalter Hymnal* SANC—*Sing! a New Creation*

Please **read**, in unison, all sections in **bold** type; *sing* sections that are ***bold/ italicized***.

God Gathers Us for Worship

**Call to Worship*

Come, sing for joy to the Lord;
shout aloud to the rock of our salvation.
Come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.

The Lord is a great God!
In his hand are the depths of the earth,
and the mountain peaks belong to him.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.

*Hymn: SANC 25 “Psalm 95: Come, Worship God”

*God’s greeting

*Hymn: PH #371 “Christ, the Life of All the Living”

*Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, for us yourself once giving to the darkest depths of woe:
through your suffering, death, and merit, life eternal we inherit:
thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you.*

*You have suffered great affliction and have borne it patiently,
even death by crucifixion: our atonement full and free.
Lord, you chose to be tormented that our doom should be prevented;
thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you.*

*Lord, for all that bought our pardon, for the sorrows deep and sore,
for the anguish in the garden, we will thank you evermore.
For the victory of your dying—sinful nature mortifying—
thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you.*

Service of Reconciliation

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

Prayer of Confession (taken from “The Worship Sourcebook”)

Merciful God, in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.

Although Christ is among us as our peace,
we are a people divided against ourselves
as we cling to the values of a broken world.

The profit and pleasures we pursue
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.

The fears and jealousies that we harbor
set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.

We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,
of intellect and reason,
and turn them into bonds of oppression.

**Lord, have mercy upon us;
heal and forgive us.**

**Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

New Testament Reading: Romans 5:1-11

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: SANC 136 “We Have Been Told” (all on refrain, solo on stanzas)

Children age 3 through Kindergarten are dismissed for their worship time downstairs in the Multi-Purpose Room.

The Word Proclaimed

Scripture: Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2

Message: “Anger Management”

Service of Thanksgiving

*Hymn: PH 231 “How Great Is the Love of the Father”

We bring our gifts for Justice For All

Offertory: “Wondrous Love” -David N. Johnson

We share our joys and concerns, followed by pastoral prayer

*Hymn: PH 501 stanzas 1,3,4 “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

*Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer’s praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!*

*The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease;
‘tis music in the sinner’s ears, ‘tis life and health and peace.*

*He breaks the power of canceled sin, he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean; his blood avails for me.*

*Benediction

*Hymn: PH 501 stanza 7

*To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.*

Pastor: Herm Van Niejenhuis

Organ: Lois Vander Zee

6:00 p.m. Evening worship will be a time to celebrate missions...our friends, Dave & Joyce Campbell who live and work among the people of Dalaba, Guinea, West Africa will be with us to update their ministries. A short (promise!) message out of II Corinthians 5 will be given. The offering will be for Christian Reformed World Missions. CRWM seeks to fulfill the following mandate:
~Proclaim the Gospel of the growing kingdom of God.
~Call people of the entire world to repentance, faith in Jesus Christ, and obedience to God in their personal lives and societal relations.
~Build the Church of Christ. Develop peoples who are gathered for worship, who train their own membership for leadership, and who are dedicated to service in and beyond the communities in which they live.
~Relieve suffering and minister to human needs through programs of Christian education and development, with the help of CRWRC and/or local diaconal organizations wherever possible.
~Encourage and enable the congregations of the CRC to call and commission missionaries and to provide cooperatively for their support.
Additional information on CRWM can be found at www.crcna.org/pages/crwm.cfm

Come and worship!

WORSHIP NOTES

Offerings for March: AM

2 General/Building Funds

9 Christian Education

16 Mission Support: Ryan & Tiffany Postma

23 Genesis One Chr Sch, Mendenhall, MS

30 Bread for the World

PM

CRWRC—Food Resource Bank
Compassion Fund (*Communion offering*)

Worthington International

Lao/Tai Dam Ministry

Mission Support: Biermas

Luke Society

Lenten Banners: A simple gray cloth with a black strip suggests the theme of humility.... This year our Lenten sermon series will focus on the theme of sin against the background of the traditional “seven deadly sins.” Each “sin” will be portrayed by a specific color in the banner. The seven colors, listed below, are presented in a dark value of the color for the six Sundays of Lent. Each one, however, is edged with a lighter, brighter strip to signify a hope for change.

Pride:	Purple	Humility
Envy:	Green	Creative activity
Anger:	Red	Cleansed by blood
Sloth:	Blue	Hope
Greed:	Yellow	Brightness of God’s glory
Gluttony:	Orange	God’s provision: harvest
Lust:	Fuschia	Beauty as God intended

Each of these colors also represents an aspect of our new life in Christ, and will be expressed in a second element for the banner on Easter with lighter, brighter colors.

Next Sunday, March 2—Evening Worship...

† we will celebrate the Lord’s Supper. A special offering will be taken for the Compassion Fund. This fund is used to help members of our congregation who have urgent financial needs. The Deacons thank you in advance for your financial and prayerful support for this important cause.

† the offering will be for CRWRC Food Resource Bank: The Food Resource Bank (FRB) is a Christian, non-government humanitarian organization committed to providing food security in the developing world. It does this by facilitating growing projects in communities around the United States making 100 percent of funds raised by these projects available to its member organizations, such as CRWRC, for food security programs. CRWRC and FRB have food security programs in process in many countries in the developing world like Cambodia, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Niger, and Zambia. These programs help men and women get the tools and training they need to provide food for themselves and their families throughout the year.

Scripture readings for next Sunday—the third Sunday in Lent:

Psalm 23	<i>The Shepherd Psalm</i>
I Samuel 16:14-23	<i>Making music for the King.</i>
Ephesians 5:8-20	<i>Making melody to the Lord.</i>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTICE: At the suggestion of Sioux County Community Health Partners, **Covenant's nursery will be closed today.** It will be closed on a week-by-week basis so look for future emails to let you know when it will reopen. If you have questions regarding this you may contact a member of the Nursery Committee: Kate Ver Velde, Janelle Swager, or Shawna Van Niejenhuis

The Hoekstra/Mulder Pastoral Group will meet today for a noon meal in the fellowship hall. Next Sunday the **Kamp/Versluis Pastoral Group** will gather for a noon meal. Please bring a hot and cold dish to share.

Council nominations: The Council is receiving names of people you would like to nominate for the office of Elder or Deacon on or before tomorrow evening (February 25). You can do so by contacting your pastoral Elder or Deacon, or the Clerk of Council—Hubert Krygsman, by phone, email or writing your nomination on a piece of paper and placing it in their church mailbox.

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Tuesday evening, 7:00 p.m., is our last February mid-week gathering. Beth Swagman, the CRC’s Abuse Prevention Director will help lead us in addressing the serious issues involved in making churches safe places.

Who should attend?...probably not young children, but all who are involved in leading and serving at Covenant are encouraged to come... I think that means everyone! Obviously, the topic is not light-hearted...but it is necessary. There will be time for questions and conversations.... Pie and coffee will follow. Save room!

See you on Tuesday.

Covenant Women's Evening Study group will resume this Wednesday, February 27. We will gather at 7:30 p.m. at Pam De Jong's home and discuss chapter 11 in our book Whose Land? Whose Promise?

The Sunday Evening Adult Study Group will meet next week following the evening service. They are viewing Ray Vander Laan videos; all adults are invited to join them.

Designated offering(s) from last week: Mission Support: Dave & Joyce Campbell--\$892.30; Amistad Cristiana--\$522.16.

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday	12:00 Noon	Hoekstra/Mulder Pastoral Group Dinner
	6:00 PM	Evening Worship
Monday	7:00 PM	Elders Meeting
Tuesday	7:00 PM	<u>WWW.COV</u> Presentation of Safe-church policy
Wednesday	9:30 AM	Coffee Break
	7:00 PM	GEMS
	7:15 PM	Cadets
	7:30 PM	Covenant Women’s Evening Study Group
Sun., March 2	12:00 Noon	Kamp/Versluis Pastoral Group Dinner
	7:15 PM	Sunday Evening Adult Study Group

CONGREGATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

TODAY

VALET PARKING ATTENDANTS:

AM & PM: Niki Altena with Dan or Sandi

GREETERS:

AM:

PM:

NURSERY:

AM INFANT:

AM TODDLER:

PM:

Mom of the Month:

USHERS:

AM: C Goedhart, Deb Hibma, M Horstman,
C Jongsma, M Kamp

PM: B Kooi, J Lesage, J Maatman

Subs: N Lantinga, R McCarthy, B Mellema

COFFEE: J Zwart, P Adams, J Alberda, D Altena,

S Altena, J Bajema, K Boersma,
Micah Schuurma, Nathan Smith
(Sub: J Breems)

NEXT WEEK

VALET PARKING ATTENDANTS:

AM & PM: Lauren Boersma with Ken or Lisa

GREETERS:

AM: D&S Altena, R&D Brink, E&N Brummel

PM: K&L Boersma, P&R Clousing, S&P Crull

NURSERY:

AM INFANT: J&E Eggebeen, Betsy Dekens,
Sara Hanenburg

AM TODDLER: B&R DeSmith, B&J Elgersma

PM: A&I Castelan, J Faber

Mom of the Month:

USHERS:

AM: R Oostra, T Rylaarsdam, J Schaap,
C Taylor, M Tazelaar

PM: D Tinklenberg, J VanWyk, S VandenBerg

Subs: L Rhoda, M VandenBosch, D VanderPlaats

COFFEE: N Brummel, A Castelan, P Clousing,
M DeBoer, P DeJong, L DenBoer, M Dengler
Jeremy Westra, Emily Wierenga
(Sub: M Christians)

GREETERS: *The first name/family scheduled for today should stand by the main entrance; the second name/family by the northeast entrance and the third name/family by the southwest entrance.*

GREETERS, NURSERY ATTENDANTS, and USHERS are asked to wear name tags.

NURSERY ATTENDANTS: *It would be helpful, when trading with others for nursery duty, if a trade was done evenly. If you're a couple, please trade with another couple (not a family); if you're a family, trade with another family--preferably of similar size and similar ages of children. Also, please notify the church office of any trades. Thanks for your help in caring for the youngest members of our body.*

Bulletin announcements are due by noon on Thursday.

Email: covenant@mtcnet.net **Phone:** 722-4465 **Website:** www.covenantcrc.net

Regular office hours: Tuesday & Thursdays 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.