

SUNDAY, April 2, 2023

WORSHIP NOTES

Worship Services Online

Click [here](#) to go to Covenant's Facebook page (or copy this link and paste it into your browser: <https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-CRC-520064914738965/>). Then click on the "Videos" section and watch for the live video to show shortly before 10:00 AM. You can also watch a recorded version of the service after it is over.

Sunday Morning Worship

Today, **April 2**, is often called either Palm Sunday, focusing on the kingly entrance of Christ into Jerusalem, or Passion Sunday, focusing on the coming suffering of Christ. We can hold both of these in tension as we worship today, and as we have done throughout this Lenten journey to the cross, we will remember together again that God spreads a table before us in the wilderness as we see examples of God's great provision in stories throughout the bible. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Vespers

This Sunday evening, we will gather at 6:00 PM for a service of evening prayer, also known as Vespers. These services use prayers and litanies from *The Book of Common Prayer* and give us space and time for thanksgiving and praise, silence, and meditation on scripture. Services last between 45 minutes and an hour.

Holy Week Services

As we move into Holy Week, we have an opportunity to remember together the events leading to Christ's death and to celebrate together his resurrection. We invite you to join us in worship:

- **Maundy Thursday Worship: April 6** at 7:00 PM. We'll remember together Christ's last meal with his disciples as we celebrate the Lord's Supper together and Dr. David Westfall will be our guest preacher. Nursery will be provided.
- **Good Friday Worship: April 7** at 12:00 PM. Join us for a brief noontime service remembering Christ's crucifixion.
- **Easter Sunday Worship: April 9** at 10:00 AM. Celebrate Christ's resurrection with us! We will not have an evening Vespers service, but we will gather for a time of prayer at 6:00 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Pastoral Group Dinners

Today, **April 2** the **Schelhaas/Feikema** pastoral group will gather for food and fellowship. Visitors and college students are welcome to join them! Next Sunday, **April 9**, there is no Pastoral Group Dinner because of the Easter holiday, but we'll resume on Sunday, **April 16** with the **DeWit/DeJong** pastoral group gathering.

Church Education Schedule

- Sunday School and Catechism will not meet next Sunday, **April 9** because of the Easter holiday.
- Covenant Sunday Morning will be taking a break for the Dordt spring break, the K-12 area spring break, as well as Easter Sunday. We will resume on **April 16**.

Easter Invitation

Joel and Tricia Kok invite anyone who would like to join them for lunch on Easter to let us know and then join us in the parsonage at noon on Resurrection Sunday, **April 9**. We can share an Easter lunch as fellow members of the family of faith. If you'd like to join us (or if you have thoughts or questions), contact Pastor Joel (joelekok@gmail.com, 712-441-9993).

Edifying Engagement: ESA

After our morning worship on Sunday, **April 16**, the Deacons will convene a congregational dialogue regarding the new Education Savings Account (ESA) law in Iowa. We invite everyone to regather in the sanctuary about 10 minutes after the service to explore together how Covenant and other congregations will continue to relate to Christian Schools.

Save the Date: Intergenerational Fellowship

We invite you to an evening of fellowship and gaming on Friday, **April 28**, 6:00 PM at the Dordt Gaming Guild Bunker. Watch for more information to come. Questions? Talk to Pastor Joel!

Selection of Elders and Deacons

We are nearing the end of the term for some of our current elders and deacons. The council has made some adjustments to the selection process for elder and deacon this year which we hope you'll read about on the front page of the [April Courier](#). The goal of the revised process is to affirm a broader group of members each year with office bearing gifts, and to then let the Spirit guide the draw-by-lot process to call members into specific offices. Let a council member know if you have questions regarding the adjusted process. Please keep our congregation in your prayers as we seek new council members.

NAMI Support Group

The NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Support Group will meet in the Fireside Room of Central Reformed Church in Sioux Center from 7 to 9 PM on Tuesday, **April 4**. Video: Living with Schizophrenia. Individuals and family members coping with mental illness are welcome. For information, call Shirley Matheis (722-4462).

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God's blessing on the Jesucristo El Buen Pastor congregation and the ministry of Pastor Rodrigo Gonzalez.

Last week's offering General Fund \$1,100.00 Christian Education Fund \$425.00

Giving at Covenant

There are a variety of ways to give at Covenant! To give online, click [here](#). You can also give by leaving your offering in the boxes located at the entrances, mailing a check to church, paying via online bill pay at your bank, or by ACH Bank Transfer. Just a reminder, all cash/checks will be used as needed unless designated. Contact your deacon with any questions.

Helpful Links:

- The Bulletin Announcements and a link to Sunday's bulletin and liturgy are posted [here](#).
- The Community Activities (Blue) Sheet is posted [here](#).
- Mission & Ministry News: A newsletter from the Crulls is [here](#) and the Groenewold-Van Dyks' March newsletter is [here](#). The Maletoungous' latest newsletter is [here](#) and a newsletter from the Ribbens is [here](#). ReFrame Ministry's March prayer requests are [here](#).

Sunday Servant Scheduling:

If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, please find your own replacement. Thank you.

	TODAY	MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 6	NEXT SUNDAY, April 9
Greeters		AM: Pam DJ, Joan MC, Lee R	
Ushers		AM: Jan B, Mark T, Stan VB	
Coffee		Rob H, Shirley M, Dave S, Kris VP, Kurt V	
Subs		Donna B, Lisa C, Rin G, Sarah Ha, Kristi H, Joni V	
Sound/Projection	Jeff P ♦ Tom C	Doug DB ♦ Marty VP	Nick B ♦ Marty VP
Nursery	AM: Nick & Jenni B, Lee R	AM: Dave & Emily K, Duane & Jan B	AM: Jeremy & Kristi H, Doug & Marge DB

Encouraging our Missionaries

Got a minute? Send one of our missionaries a note of encouragement by email!

Kelly & April Crull
crulls@caimail.net

Gianni & Georgina Gracia
giannigracia@yahoo.com

Sos & Kara Maletoungou
smaletoungou@acsi.org

Mike & Megan Ribbens
mribbens@gmail.com

Ben & Tricia Groenewold Van Dyk
tvandyk@crncpartners.org

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Rebecca DeVries, John Visser, Megan Haan, Sam Eppinga, Isla Jewett

Happy Anniversary this Week

Brian & Barb Mellema

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 2nd	9:00 AM	Sunday School & Catechism
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	12:00 PM	Schelhaas/Feikema Pastoral Group Dinner
	6:00 PM	Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)
	7:15 PM	Sunday Evening Bible Study
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
	7:00 PM	Cadet-O-Rama
	7:00 PM	Youth Group
Thursday	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Service
Friday	12:00 PM	Good Friday Service
Sunday, 9th	10:00 AM	Easter Morning Worship
	6:00 PM	Prayer Gathering