



MIDDLEBURG FREE GRACE

REFORMED CHURCH

Knowing Jesus and making Jesus known



Pastor Mark Schwarz

WELCOME

WE ARE SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE TO WORSHIP WITH US!

Sunday, May 15, 2022

Order of Worship

Approach to God

Organ Prelude

Praise & Worship Time

The Solid Rock

What a Beautiful name

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Opening Prayer

Children's Message – Rus Verburg

Announcements

Ministry of Music – Allison, Megan & Katelyn Wielenga

Congregational & Offertory Prayer

Hymn # 406 (vs.1-3) *Wonderful Words of Life*

(General Fund Offering)

Word of God

Message – *What is the Point of Life?*

Prayer of Blessing

Response to God

Song of Response # 11 (vs.1-3) *Come Thou Fount*

(Special Offering for Words of Hope/Sudan)

*Benediction

*Closing Song # 11 (vs.3) *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

*Postlude (*please stand if you are able)

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! This is the Fifth Sunday of Easter! We're glad you're here! Take time to greet other members of our congregation, especially those who are visiting. In this spring time of the season, creation is renewed through the coming to life of warmth, sunshine and rain.

What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding.

The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.

That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it;

You want to sing; it's fresh like spring. You want to pass it on!

(Kurt Kaiser)

If you are a visitor today, please fill out a "Welcome to the Family" card located by the sanctuary doors and leave it on the table or put it in the basket on the table in the Fellowship Hall so we can make contact with you.

Thank you to Allison, Megan & Katelyn Wielenga for their ministry of music this morning and to Rus Verburg for leading the Children's Message. Great Job Everyone!

Today's Worship Attendants:

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Organist – Nora V | Sound Tech – Bryce H |
| Power Point – Gina W | Ushers – Harlan H & Mikah S |
| Coffee – Lana O | Prayer Team– George M & Dilan M |
| Children's Message – Rus V | |
| Ministry of Music – Brad Wielengas | |
| Nursery Attendants – Janelle VZ; Lily L; Haylee O | |
| Elder Greeters After Service – | |
| George (east) – Jon (south) – Pastor (west) | |

Our Sunday School program concludes today. Please thank our teachers, Vicki Garris, Mary Hettinga, Nelva Huitink, Rich Kooiker, Leah Lehman, Scott Meerdink, Darla Siemonsma, Jan Vander Maten, Wayne Vander Maten, and Rus Verburg for leading our students this year. Thanks to the many substitutes who graciously taught when our teachers were gone. Please keep our students in your prayers, that the seeds of faith that were planted will continue grow in their lives,

PRAYER CONCERNS

Let us continue to remember our friends and family in our prayers:

- Darla Siemonsma who had hip surgery this past Thursday in Sioux Falls which went very well. Pray for her during her recovery time.
- Paul Kooiker who had a radical prostatectomy on this past Thursday also. Pray that his surgery was successful and for his recovery.
- Little Leo Boer who had surgery again in Denver this past Tuesday to have reconstruction surgery of his esophagus which was successful. Continue to uphold Leo and his family in your prayers as he recovers again from this extensive surgery.
- Peter Leo Vander Zwaag returned to his home at Landsmeer Retirement Home on Thursday. Keep him in your prayers in the days to come.

- Marv Heemskerk, Julie Schafer's father, has returned to his home after suffering a stroke.
- Lorin Schafer as he heals from his hip surgery.
- Isabelle Van Es, granddaughter of Leon & Gloria Te Grotenhuis following her hip & femur surgery.
- Wade Vander Maten as he recovers from his heart surgery.
- Lucille Van Zee, Harriet Vander Zwaag, and Ann Wielenga.
- Also the families of our church who have lost loved ones in the past months and for country leaders and military.

PRAYER FOCUS OF THE WEEK

Our prayer focus is the Jeff and Becca Kroese family. Jeff owns cows and works at Nyhof Dairy Inc. He enjoys growing crops and spending time with the kids. Becca is a stay at home mom. She enjoys feeding her sheep and the other animals on the acreage. She enjoys boating and water skiing. She is involved in HOME Ministries (House Of Missions and Equipping). Easton is a sophomore at Sioux Center High School. He enjoys cross country and track. He has many jobs but enjoys working with pigs. In his spare time he likes to go fishing. Jaelyn is an eighth grader and is home schooled part time. She is involved in cross country, basketball and track. She enjoys being in color guard (flags). Raelle is a sixth grader at Sioux Center Middle School. She enjoys music and some sports. She is looking forward to music and guitar lessons and showing their dogs at the fair. Hunter is in second grade and he enjoys being a farm boy. He likes to be helpful on the farm. Brighton is four years old. She enjoys the farm and doing crafts. The Kroese family asks us to join them in praying for adoptive and foster families. Pray the families will bond. Also, pray that couples will be willing to adopt or foster older children. Keep Jeff, Becca and their family in your prayers this week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Camp Middleburg can still use volunteers Please prayerfully consider helping in this program. There is a signup sheet on the MOVE table. If you are willing to help out, please talk to Nelva.

REMINDER: Check the lost-and-found table for items left at church if they are yours and need to be taken home!

From the Consistory:

- Next Sunday, May 22, we will have a Congregational Meeting following the worship service to inform the congregation about our future building plans. A copy of the blueprint plans is posted in the Fellowship Hall and the south narthex. On June 5th, we will take a vote if you are in favor of pursuing this proposal or not. This will be done by a paper vote ballot that will be placed in your mailboxes prior to June 5th.
- We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Sunday, May 29th, instead of on June 5th, because of our outdoor worship service. Our special offering for the Mission Fund will also be received on May 29th instead of June 5th as previously scheduled.

2022 High School & College Graduates: Please submit a picture of yourself; information about the high school or college you are graduating from; your future plans; and your favorite Bible verse to Carol Oolman at jcoolman@mtcnet.net *today!* Graduate Recognition Sunday is May 22nd. *Parents – If you have a graduate from a tech college or with a two year degree or a Master's Degree that I am not aware of, please let me know. Thanks!*

2022 Summer Camp at Inspiration Hills: The theme of 2022 is "Wield the Sword". Registration is open now. See the brochures available in the cut-out stand in the narthex and online at www.inspirationhills.org. *Middleburg Free Grace pays for one-half of each camper's fees. Please contact one of the deacons if you have a camper(s) attending summer camp.*

THANK YOU

"Thank you SO much for your support and donations to our bake sale silent auction! It was a huge success. We appreciate everyone's generosity and hope you all enjoyed your baked goodies! We are excited for Power Connection in Minneapolis, MN at the end of July!" Jr. RCYF Members & Sponsors

NEXT SUNDAY, May 22 – Graduate Recognition Sunday

Pastor Mark's Message –

Random Questions: What is God Really Like?

Offering – General Fund

Offering – Education Fund

Worship Attendants:

Pianist – Haley B

Sound Tech – Loren TS

Power Point – Gina W

Ushers – Kevin M & Brad W

Coffee – Minerva K

Prayer Team– Wayne VM & Justin D

Children's Message – Kaylee M

Ministry of Music – Loren Schafers

Nursery Attendants – Vicki G; Raelle K; Kylie M

Elder Greeters After Service –

Pastor (east) – George (south) – Wayne (west)

Congregational Meeting following the worship service.

NEXT WEEK:

Wednesday, May 18 – Ladies Bible Study Brunch at Mary Swets' home.

SAVE THE DATE:

The Sunday School picnic is coming on Sunday, August 28.

Watch for signup and donation opportunities on the MOVE table in June. Any questions, please contact Tina K or Kate B.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday, May 25 – Worship Committee Meeting.

Sunday, May 29 – Pentecost Communion.

Sunday, June 5– AM Outdoor Worship Service & Potluck Lunch.

Sunday, June 5 – PM Tent Worship Service - Kempers Quartet.

Monday, June 6-10 – Camp Middleburg.

June 9-14 – General Synod. Pastor Mark will be attending.

Sunday, June 11 – Camp Middleburg program.

Saturday, June 25 – Family Siouxnam Water Park Fellowship.



Sunday Worship Services at 9:30 AM
3630 370th St, Orange City, IA 51041
Church Office: 712-722-3300
Website: middleburgfreegrace.org

What Is The Point Of Life?

"How can anyone discover what life means?"

Ecclesiastes 7:24 (GN)

When I don't Understand The Point Of Life - Ecclesiastes1

...Life seems useless v. 2-4

...Life seems tiresome v. 4-8

...Life seems un-fulfilling v. 8 10

...Life seems insignificant v. 11

...Life seems uncontrollable v. 15

Solomon's Conclusion:

If you don't know the purpose of life (v. 14) it's meaningless.

So...What is the point of life?

"Long ago, even before he made the world, God chose us to be his very own through what Christ would do for us ... with his love. His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by sending Jesus Christ to die for us. And he did this because he wanted to!" **Ephesians 1:4-5 (LB)**

"And this was his purpose; that when the time is right he will gather us all together... to be with him in Christ forever?"

Ephesians 1:10 (LB)

Life is _____ for eternity!

"He has set eternity in the hearts of men." **Ecclesiastes 3:11**

So...How Do We Prepare?

Get to know_____!

"To all who receive him, Christ gives the right to become children of God." **John 1:12 (LB)**

Become like _____!

"For those who love God... everything that happens fits into a pattern for good. For God... choose us to bear the family likeness of his Son, so he might be the eldest of many brothers." **Romans 8:28-29**

Practice _____!

"God, who made us... has given us new lives from Christ Jesus; and long ago, planned that we should spend these lives in helping others."

Ephesians 2:10 LB

Share Life's Purpose with other _____!

"...This is the wonderful message he has given us to tell others."

2 Corinthians 5:19 LB