



MIDDLEBURG FREE GRACE
REFORMED CHURCH

Knowing J esus and making J esus known

Pastor Mark Schwarz

WELCOME

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

Sunday, September 17, 2023

Order of Worship

Approach to God

Prelude

Praise & Worship Time

Just as I Am

Mighty to Save

Your Grace Still Amazes Me

*Opening Prayer

*Congregational Greeting Time

Children's Message – Rus Verburg

Announcements

Ministry of Music – Kristen Dekkers & Tara Kooiker

Congregational & Offertory Prayer

Song of Preparation # 638 (vs.1-4) *I Need Thee Every Hour*

(General Fund Offering)

Word of God

Message – *Two Questions about Salvation!* (Acts 15:1-5)

Prayer of Blessing

Response to God

*Song of Response # 564 (vs. 1-2) *Just a Closer Walk with You*

*Benediction

*Closing Song # 564 (vs. 4) *Just a Closer Walk with You*

*Postlude (*please stand if you are able)

Greetings! Whether a regular member or visitor – welcome to worship at Free Grace Church on this Lord's Day morning! We are glad that you are here and we trust that the Holy Spirit will speak to you, whether in the midst of a season of special joys or as you pass through a period of challenging testing, whatever that might happen to be. Take time after the service to greet other members of the congregation, expressing the caring and fellowship of God's family gathered in this place. May our hearts be knit together in love.

If you are a visitor, we would like to make contact with you. Please fill out a "Welcome to the Family" card located by the sanctuary doors and leave it on the table or put it in Pastor Mark's church mailbox. Thank you for coming!

Thank you to Kristen Dekkers and Tara Kooiker for their ministry of music this morning. Also thank you to Rus Verburg for leading our Children's Message. Much appreciated!

Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall today to enjoy coffee and lemonade. Thank you to our volunteers who are willing to serve each Sunday.

Today's Worship Attendants:

Organist – Nevonne S Power Point Creator – Brikenya D
Sound Tech – Luke K Ushers – Kevin M & Mike B
Coffee & Lemonade – Tayla K
Prayer Team – Harlan H & Steven B
Ministry of Music – Paul Kooikers
Children's Message – Rus V
Nursery Attendants – Kaylee M; Joslin H; Raelin DJ
Children & Worship – Little Lambs (3 yr olds-TK)
 Storyteller – Nelva H; Greeters – Ashley S & Haylee O
Elder Greeters – Harlan (east); Ken (south); Pastor (west)

Children & Worship for Little Lambs (3 yr olds-TK) will meet in the big room in the basement. *Dismiss your son or daughter when we stand for the offertory song.*

Sunday School classes begin today. There is no singing time so it will begin immediately after the morning service. *Parents of younger students are asked to help your child find their room.*

5:00 PM – Sr. RCYF will meet at church to leave for Oak Grove for their meeting.

LIFE Groups will meet tonight for their first gathering of the season. Check with your facilitator about the place and time of your meeting.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Let us remember our friends and family in our prayers:

- Scott Kooiman, son-in-law of Wrede & Barb (Kooiker) Vogel, who has aggressive colon cancer that has spread very fast. He had been given a clean bill of health earlier this year from colon cancer and medical tests now show it has spread. Pray for this family during this time of uncertainty. Scott is a nephew of Bill, Paul & Rich Kooiker.
- Edwin Punt, Harv's brother, had surgery this week to repair his broken ribs from his fall earlier this spring. His surgery went well and will be in the hospital for a few days. Family asks us to pray for no infection and for pain control at this time.
- Suzie, Deb Te Slaa's sister, Ezra Kraayenbrink, Dale Kraayenbrink, brother of Evan, and Dina Vander Wilt. Pray for their healing and recovery.
- Peter Leo Vander Zwaag, Cleo Te Slaa, Lucille Van Zee, Harriet Vander Zwaag, and Ann Wielenga, our elderly members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, October 15 – Make plans to attend an all church potluck in celebration of Pastor Appreciation Month. Families with the last name starting with A-K are asked to bring a cold dish and last names beginning with L-Z are asked to bring a hot dish. There will be cupcakes for dessert. Tableware and drink will be provided. The meal will begin at noon. Join us for some good food and fellowship.

From the Education Committee: We will be collecting items to fill shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. There will be a table in the Fellowship Hall where you can bring your donations. As school supplies are on sale and the end of summer sales are beginning, consider picking up a few extra items to donate to our boxes. Also boxes will be available if your family would like to fill one on your own.

From the Nursery Committee: We are asking for toy donations to update the options for the kids. Any new or used toys can be put in the black bins that are in the Fellowship Hall. Please have donations brought in by October 1st.

From the Consistory: In your church mailbox you received a letter with information and instructions regarding the nomination procedures. We will be nominating two elders and one deacon for three year terms beginning in 2024. You may nominate up to four candidates for elder and two candidates for deacon on the ballot provided. Please return your ballots in the box located on the MOVE table in the Fellowship Hall by Monday, October 4, 2023 at 5:00 PM. There are extra ballots by the ballot box if there are more members in your household eligible to vote or you misplaced your ballot.

From the Worship Committee:

- RightNow Media is a video library which is like the “Netflix of Video Bible Studies” and has a huge library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want – on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV. It is available at no cost to all members of Free Grace Reformed Church. If you are interested in getting access to RightNow Media, please talk to Pastor Mark and he will send you an invite to the media, after which you can set up your account.
- We will be updating our schedule for praise team members and instrument accompanists in October. If anyone who likes to sing or play an instrument and would like to join us, please contact Barby Schwarz.

Monday Night Women’s Bible Study will be doing a study on “Courage Influence”. We meet twice a month and if you would like to join us, please talk to Pat or Nelva.

Thank You – Free Grace Reformed Church Congregation: We are grateful for your continued financial support of LifeWise Academy-Boyden and Hull. We are excited to begin year two of our program and your gift will help out in big ways! Thank You!
The Staff and Board of LifeWise Academy

THIS WEEK:

Tuesday, 9:00 AM – Ladies Bible Study on the book “Take Courage: A Study of Haggai”. We study together, pray together, and encourage and support each other.

Wednesday, 7:00 PM – Wednesday Night Activities. All classes will be meeting downstairs. Children’s Choir will also begin. Activities will conclude at 8:00 PM.

Thursday, 4:00-5:30 PM – Ladies Bible Study on the book of John at Barby Schwarz’s home. You are invited to join us for a time of Bible study and a special prayer time. If you have more questions or want to join a small group of women call or text Barby 559-553-5897.

NEXT SUNDAY, September 24:

Pastor Mark’s Message –

Working Through Conflict (Acts 15:5-22)

Offering – General Fund

Special Offering – Benevolent Fund

Worship Attendants:

Pianist – Irene S

Power Point Creator – Brikenya D

Sound Tech – Garret VW

Ushers – Justin R & Dilan M

Coffee & Lemonade – Carol Knevelbaard

Prayer Team – Jon M & Joe K

Ministry of Music – Mark De Ruyters

Nursery Attendants – Darla S; Ethan S; Megan W

Children & Worship – Rainbows (K-2nd grade)

Storyteller – Nelva H; Greeters – Beth K & Ella S

Elder Greeters – Pastor (east); Harlan (south); Jon (west)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sept. 17 – Sunday School classes will begin.

Sept. 20 – Wednesday Night Activities will begin.

Oct. 1 – Pastor Mark & Barby on vacation

Oct. 9 – Consistory Meeting.

Oct. 14 – County-wide Praise & Worship Gathering at Free Grace.

Oct. 15 – All Church Potluck at noon.

Oct. 15 – LIFE Groups will meet.

Oct. 22 – New Membership Class & Luncheon.

Oct. 29 – Reformation Service at Carmel Reformed.

Two Questions about Salvation!

Acts 15:1-5

Two questions that arose at the Great Jerusalem Council:

- * *Is circumcision necessary to be saved?*
- * *Does someone have to accept the whole law before they are saved?*

Random thoughts in Acts 15:1-5

- * The Jewish leaders were a powerful _____.
- * Scripture is _____ on what the dispute was. Acts 15:1
- * Antioch church asks for _____ from the Jerusalem church
- * The Apostles utilized every opportunity to _____.
Acts 11:19 Acts 8:5 Acts 8:25
- * The _____ questions for all generations are:

Can a person earn the favor of God? Or
Do they receive the favor of God?

Is one acceptable to God because one keeps the law? Or
Is one saved by confessing that one breaks the law
and is utterly dependent upon Jesus Christ?

Does one work to make oneself righteous? Or
Does one cast oneself upon Jesus' righteousness?

Does one say, "Lord, I come offering my own works? Or
Lord, I come needing your mercy for coming short?"

**We DON'T come to know Jesus by our works ...
We come to know Jesus by His Grace!**



Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 AM
3630 370th St, Orange City, IA 51041
Church Office: 712-722-3300
Website: middleburgfreegrace.org
Email: freegracereformed@gmail.com

Force
Clear

Help
Preach

Root