



# **MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE** | April 14, 2024

## **PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP**

**Music**

## **THE LORD CALLS US TO WORSHIP**

**Call to Worship** | Psalm 87:1-3

**The Lord's Greeting** | Romans 1:7

## **RESPONSE OF PRAISE AND PRAYER**

**Trinity Psalter Hymnal 403** | Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken (1,2,4)

**Opening Prayer**

**Trinity Psalter Hymnal 404** | The Church's One Foundation (1-5)

## **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Lance & Chris DeVries, Emma, Mason, Ava

Zoe Dykstra

Nate & Annie Koops

Andrew & Carly Verstrate

## **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Knox Gregory Kooienga

Samantha Kay Verstrate

## **RESPONSE IN FAITH, PRAYER AND GRATITUDE**

**Trinity Psalter Hymnal 405** | I Love Thy Kingdom Lord (1-4)

**Congregational Prayer**

## **TITHES AND OFFERINGS followed by Prayer of Dedication** | General Fund

## **MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**Sermon Text** | Revelation 11 (*p.970 in church Bible*)

**Sermon** | "The Church's Witness in a World Gone Crazy" | Pastor Michael J. Schout

## **PRAYER OF APPLICATION**

## **WE RESPOND IN FAITH**

**Song** | O, Church Arise

## **THE LORD'S BLESSING**

**Benediction**

**Silent Prayer and Meditation**

# **EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE** | April 14, 2024

## **PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP**

**Music for Meditation** | Sarah Steenwyk

**THE LORD CALLS US TO WORSHIP** | Psalm 105:1-2

**TRINITY PSALTER HYMNAL 105C** | O Praise the LORD, His Deeds Make Known (1,3,5)

## **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

**SONG** | Jesus, Strong and Kind

**WE CONFESS** | The Apostles' Creed

## **PRAYER FOR MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM**

**TITHES & OFFERINGS and PRAYER OF DEDICATION** | General Fund

**SONG** | Holy Spirit

**SCRIPTURE** | I Samuel 17:1-54 (*p.224 in church Bible*)

**SERMON** | "David and Goliath" | Pastor Michael J. Schout

## **PRAYER OF APPLICATION**

**TRINITY PSALTER HYMNAL 476** | It is Well with My Soul

## **BENEDICTION**

## **SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION**

# **SERMON NOTES** | Revelation 11

## “The Church’s Witness in a World Gone Crazy”

### **1. The Church’s Witness**

### **2. The Church’s Victory**

Discussion Questions for Home:

1. What was most helpful to you about this message, and why?
2. Did anything surprise you about this message? If so, what?
3. What did this passage reveal about Jesus?
4. How did God speak to you in this sermon? What is He calling you to do as a result?

# SERMON NOTES | 1 Samuel 17:1-54

“David and Goliath”

## 1. The Setting of this Story

## 2. The Hero of this Story

Discussion Questions for Home:

1. What was the most helpful truth from this passage and message?
2. Did anything surprise you? If so, what?
3. What is the good news of this passage?
4. How did God speak to you in this sermon? What is He calling you to do as a result?

# TESTIMONIES

## **Lance DeVries**

I grew up in a Christian home with a loving family. My parents taught us the Bible and led us by being godly examples in their walk. I'm so thankful for their influence in my life. I enjoyed attending church and youth group. I went on many work service projects and was taught to share God's love by helping others. I enjoyed sharing my skills with those who needed help.

As a young adult my priorities became more about work and play. Life got busy and my faith became less important in my life. I was attending church but simply going thru the motions without much desire in living a Christian life. I'm thankful that as I got older the Lord put me in a place in my life to point me back to Him. I am blessed with a family and God given skills I use daily. I had a mentor and friend at work who prayed for me and influenced me to humble myself and helped me remember my need for Jesus. God uses Philippians 4:13 to encourage me "I can do all things thru Him who strengthens me." I pray that I live my life in thankfulness for the work done on the cross and that I keep growing in my relationship with Him.

## **Chris DeVries**

I was blessed to grow up in a loving Christian home. My parents prayed and read the Bible with us and I spent my childhood learning Bible stories, attending Sunday school and catechism classes. From a young age I knew of Jesus' work on the cross and I professed my faith in high school. As a young adult, I found myself just living my life, feeling like I had control and didn't focus on God's place in my life. I felt my confession was still true but I struggled with my walk and seeking a personal relationship with Jesus. By his grace the Lord was with me still and brought people and circumstances into my life that helped me in my faith. God led me to seek Him and trust in his promises.

When Lance and I became parents, God called me to acknowledge that He is in control and has a perfect plan. My need for Him is great! When our son was born with extra health needs, I was often overwhelmed with so many questions and unknowns. I thought I had to figure it all out and handle it on my own. After some

time I was comforted that God is all-knowing, He loves us and I can rest in Him. I look back in thankfulness on His goodness and how He sustained me through those difficult years and reminded me to trust in Him alone. God is so good.

”Blessed be the Lord! For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy. The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.“

Psalm 28:6-7

During the last few years I really felt the Lord speaking to my heart, feeling a renewed desire to draw closer to Him. I am so grateful He led us to Grace Fellowship. Hearing the gospel, spending time in prayer and scriptures have given me joy again in Him. I am a sinner saved by grace, not by anything I have done but redeemed by Jesus on the cross. To God be the glory!

## **Zoe Dykstra**

I was raised in a Christian family, so growing up was entirely Christ-centered. I was blessed to attend a Christian school where I was surrounded by peers and friends who shared the same values and beliefs as I did, but my faith was never really challenged. It became easy for me to just do what I was “supposed to do”, so that’s what I did from the time I was old enough to understand my faith until I graduated from high school. Throughout high school, the Lord blessed me with so many opportunities to grow my faith whether it was the RYS Convention, mission trips, or the influence of Christian teachers/parents, but I’ve realized a lot of it was just head knowledge. It wasn’t until my freshman year at Grand Valley that I realized I never fully owned the personal aspect of my faith. Being a Christian is challenging at a secular university, but a friend of mine encouraged me to attend Campus Ministries with her. Through weekly worship services and a mission trip, I met faithful Christians at a similar place in life who challenged me in my faith and encouraged me to share my testimony. I realized how faithful God has been all my life, and I know that’s never going to change. Philippians 1:6 “Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.”

## Nate Koops

I was born and raised in a Christian home by Christian parents. Typically, I was well behaved, and was frequently told by my parents and others that I was such a good kid, which was good. And so I think because I was well behaved, I always saw myself as righteous in a way because I had never done any of the “big” sins, and after all, I was a pretty great kid. I knew I was a sinner and needed a savior, but so did everyone else, right? But I wasn’t too bad. But looking back, I thought heaven was mine largely because I was a pretty great kid. Then in my early teen years, I began to notice the beauty of the opposite sex, and was slowly drawn into sexual sin. Drinking or drugs never had any appeal to me, but this did, and no one had to know. I told myself I could control it, and after all God gave men these desires, right? As the years went by it became more and more of an addiction, and I had less and less control until I realized I had no control. I needed more and more, and felt all the more dead inside all the time. In December 2016 a great friend and relative let me borrow a Bible study that she said was amazing, called “Behold your God”. At this point I was depressed and hopeless, I remember crying out to God telling Him that I needed to know who He is because what I had of Him was not enough, and I was desperate. So I began going through this study in January 2017, and for the first time in my life I was not met with the “mild Jesus” who overlooks sin, but the God of the universe who is pure, just, holy, righteous, and no sin could stand in his presence! Then I looked at the mess my life was. I remember reading Isaiah 63:17 “O Lord, why do you make us wander from your ways and harden our heart, so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage.” And vs. 19 “We have become like those over whom you have never ruled, like those who are not called by your name.” I became undone and the tears began to run down my face. This “good” kid had nothing left to stand on before the righteousness of God. I remember feeling like all the walls were pushing in around me, and I had no escape, I was guilty, and had nothing left to say, it was over, Hell was for me, and I deserved it! And that’s when the absolutely indescribable beauty of the amazing news of the gospel hit me. Christ took MY place and punishment and gave ME His righteousness. For ME, the vilest of sinners. And I ran to Christ with all that I am, and am eternally free! Ephesians 2:1-8 sums it up very well and is one of my favorite passages. The first two words of vs. 4 “But God” in my opinion are the two most beautiful words in the entire Bible! God took the initiative,



and I am eternally free because of His great love! As far as becoming free from the physical addiction, I found reading scripture helped and keeping my mind focused on the things above, not on the things of this earth (Colossians 3:2): worship! I had to learn this, then several months later I heard a pastor put it into words: (talking about addictive sins) he said, “You worshiped your way into this, you must worship your way out”. And that is the absolute truth. There is only one worthy of our worship! To God be the glory!

### **Annie Koops**

By God’s grace, I grew up in a Christian home and was faithfully taught the truths of His Word since I was a little girl. I am incredibly thankful to God for a faithful upbringing- it’s so easy for me to take that for granted. I struggled with the fact that I never had a specific day or time of life where I could say I was converted but I know now that that’s not what’s important. The important, beautiful fact is that Jesus is my Savior and He has redeemed me from the power of sin and death and is changing me daily. He deserves all the glory and honor! I am thankful that God is merciful and loves me in the midst of my arrogance and selfish pride and it is encouraging to know that the Holy Spirit is sanctifying me every day and I will not struggle with sin forever. When I publicly professed my faith as a teenager, I specifically remember someone telling me that this profession wasn’t an “end” or a final point of growth in my life, but a new beginning of my walk with the Lord. He has caused me to grow so much since that time. I’m grateful for all the people that God has put into my life to help me grow and fear Him more and I am especially thankful for my husband, Nate, who has shown me what a true heart for the gospel looks like. In a recent sermon on Philippians 3, I was reminded that I, like Paul, may have much to boast about in my upbringing and background but I must “count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of Christ Jesus my Lord.” I continually pray that God would show me the great depth of my sin because only then can I fully see His perfect holiness and the fullness of His love and mercy for me. Philippians 3:7-11.

## **Andrew Verstrate**

I was born and raised in a Christian home and went to a Christian school all the way through high school. After I graduated from high school, I started attending different churches and eventually stopped going. After I stopped going to church, I felt like something was missing from my life. While dating my wife I started going to church with her and realized that church and God were missing from my life. I know that the Lord is my Savior and there is no other way to salvation but through him and that he sent his son to die the death that I deserved on the cross so that my sins are washed away so I can have eternal life in glory with him.

Romans 3 23-24 “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,”

Isaiah 42 6-8 “I the LORD, have called you for a righteous purpose, and I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and appoint you to be a covenant for the people and a light to the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring prisoners out of the dungeon and those sitting in darkness out from the prison house. I am the LORD that is My name! I will not yield My glory to another or My praise to idols.”

## **Carly Verstrate**

I was very blessed to have grown up in a Christian home all of my life, attending Christian school all the way through high school. I grew up with parents who showed me the importance of a godly life.

I grew up with 3 older sisters. On June 12, 2017 my happy life was changed forever. The Lord called one of my sisters to be with him in glory. I became angry with God. I tried so hard to be happy but nothing was working. I would attend church with my family but wasn't listening. It wasn't until I opened God's word on my own that I felt comfort and forgiveness. Psalm 23, John 14, and Psalm 35:17-18.

I believe that one day I will see my sister again in glory because God sent HIS only begotten son to die for my sins. John 11: 25-26 “Jesus said ‘I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he was dead, yet shall he live.’”





# **WELCOME | We are so glad to have you here with us!**

## ***Guest Information***



If this is your first time worshipping with us, please stop by our Welcome Center in the foyer and fill out a connection card or scan the QR code. We would like to help you learn more about ways you and your family can connect here at Grace Fellowship.

## ***Worship***

We meet for worship at 10:30AM and 5:30PM. All of our hymns are projected at the front of the church. If you would like a printed copy of the music, please speak to an usher or pick up a copy at the Resource Center.

## ***Coffee***

Please join us for fellowship following the morning service and enjoy a beverage.

## ***Adults***

We offer adult Sunday School classes at 9:30AM.

## ***Children & Youth***

Children of all ages are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship.

- Ages 0–3 years: During the worship services, a nursery is provided for infants and toddlers on the north side of the building and is staffed by adult volunteers from our congregation. The service is broadcast in the pastor's study for nursing moms. The service is also broadcast in the conference room (across from the restrooms) during the service if parents need a quiet space to sit or talk with their children.
- Ages 2 years old–12th Grade: Sunday school classes are offered for all grade levels at 9:30AM, January through April, June & July, and September through November.
- Grades 6-12: Middle School Youth Group meets the 1st Sunday of the month 7-8:30PM and High School Youth Group meets the 3rd Sunday of the month, 7-9PM at Upward Bound Ministries, 541 E Washington, Zeeland, October through April. A meal is provided.

## ***Communion***

The first Sunday of the month is Communion Sunday alternating morning and evening service each month.

## ***Hospitality Lunch***

Hospitality lunches are frequently offered and are hosted by Church members and regular attenders. Members and visitors who are looking for a place to go for food and fellowship should ask for location information at the Welcome Center.

# GRACE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAMS

## **WELCOME MINISTRY** | our mission is to facilitate warm, gospel driven hospitality

If you have any interest serving in any of the following welcome ministries, please email: [welcome@gracefellowshipopc.com](mailto:welcome@gracefellowshipopc.com).

Welcome Center | Greeters | Ushers | Nursery  
Refreshments | Hospitality Hosts

## **WORSHIP MINISTRY** | our mission is to promote vibrant, Christ-exalting worship

If you play a musical instrument, sing, or are interested in learning more about our worship ministry, please email: [worship@gracefellowshipopc.com](mailto:worship@gracefellowshipopc.com).

## **WALK MINISTRY** | our mission is to mobilize multigenerational, every member growth

If you are interested in getting plugged into the following ministry areas, please email: [walk@gracefellowshipopc.com](mailto:walk@gracefellowshipopc.com).

Sunday School | Women's Ministry | Men's Ministry | Youth Ministry  
Young Adult Ministry | Congregational Care Ministry | Visitation Ministry

## **WITNESS MINISTRY** | our mission is to encourage a culture of evangelism

If you want to learn more about our witness ministries, please email:

[witness@gracefellowshipopc.com](mailto:witness@gracefellowshipopc.com).

**Ministry Administrator** | Dave Alkema [ministryadmin@gracefellowshipopc.com](mailto:ministryadmin@gracefellowshipopc.com)

# GRACE FELLOWSHIP SERVICE TEAMS

Audio/Visual | *Cade Schumaker*

Building & Grounds | *Nick VanderZwaag*

Décor | *Erica VanRee*

Fellowship | *Mary Van Ree & Leah Folkert*

Greeters | *Mark & Jan Smith*

Nursery | *Lisa VanStrien & Heidi Pronk*

Refreshments | *Shannon VanderZwaag*

Ushers | *James Meekhof*

Welcome Center | *Dustin & Nadine Boven*

Women's Ministry | *Christy McGeehan*

Worship Ministry | *Ted Himebook*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Friday Night Fellowship** | Please join us on Friday, April 26 at 6:00 pm for a pig roast potluck meal at The Old Wooden Barn at 5178 New Holland St., Hudsonville. We'll enjoy locally grown roasted pork along with side dishes and desserts. Families with last names A-M bring a side dish (your choice hot or cold), and N-Z bring a dessert. Pulled pork, rolls, beverages, and table service will be provided. Tim Vander Zwaag, Farmhouse Restaurant co-owner and farm accident survivor, will be sharing his powerful story of God's faithfulness. Please bring outdoor yard games if you have them and sign up at the Resource Center.

**Knitted Together** | Women/girls of all ages are invited to gather on May 18, 10am-12pm at church for feminine fellowship! Bring whatever project you are working on: knitting, crocheting etc. and a treat to share. Don't have a current project or would like to learn a new skill? Come and learn how to make granny squares! Questions? Contact Katrina Schumaker or Terry Vandervelde.

**New Women's Bible Study** | Seeing is believing. If we want to know more about Jesus and why He is important in our lives, we need to take a closer look at what He says about Himself. Join us for an 8 week study exploring the question "Who is Jesus?" using his "I am" statements in the Gospel of John. By observing, applying, and reflecting on key Bible verses, we'll learn to see Jesus, trust Him alone for salvation, and proclaim His goodness to others. Invite a friend and join us on Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30PM. Sign up at the Resource Center.

**RYS Middle School Retreat** | The RYS Midwest Middle School Retreat is coming up April 26-27 at Cranhill Ranch in Rodney, MI. This event is for students in grades 6-8. Rev. Shaun M. Furniss, pastor of Trinity CRC, will teach from Daniel 1-6 with the theme, "Believers in Babylon." Activity options include archery, climbing wall, horse trail ride (first-come, first-served). Cost will be \$35 per student. *Please sign up at the Resource Center with your name, grade, and activity preference, and fill out two waivers (turn in to Merari Herrera's mailbox) by TODAY..*

**Spring Cleaning** | Church Spring Cleaning is May 4, 9AM-12PM. Please sign up at the Resource Center by April 28. If you have any questions please see Nick VanderZwaag. If you can bring an extra vacuum, extra buckets, rags, or empty spray bottles, please note that when you sign up.

*Dear Grace Fellowship Family,*

*We want to thank you for your care for my family over the last month as I recover from issues with my heart. Thankyou so much for the meals, cards, prayers and visits. The love of our church family has be so appreciated! We ask for continued prayers as my heart continues to heal and strengthen.*

*Andrew and Kelli Kapenga*

*We want to express our sincere thanks to our Grace Fellowship church family for the cards, texts, planter, and expressions of care after the passing of our mom and grandma. While we still mourn, it is not as those without hope. IT hess. 4:13-14.*

*Matt & Dawn Harsevoort, Jarod, Jordyn & Jaylyn*

# GRACE FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

## TODAY

**AM Worship** | 10:30AM

Pastor Mike Schout

*Overflow Room: Himebook/Benczkowski Shepherding Group*

**PM Worship** | 5:30PM

Pastor Mike Schout

## NEXT SUNDAY

**AM Worship** | Pastor Mike Schout

*Overflow Room: Karel/Folkert Shepherding Group*

General Fund

**PM Worship** | Pastor Mike Schout

Special Offering: OPC Spring Offering

## EVENTS @ GRACE FELLOWSHIP

### THIS WEEK

**Tuesday** 6:30PM Session Meeting

**Tuesday** 6:30PM Bridal Shower

**Wednesday** 7PM Women's Bible Study

**Saturday** 7AM Men's Bible Study

**Saturday** 6PM Young Adults Bible Study

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 26-27** Middle School Retreat

**April 26** Friday Night Fellowship

**May 4** Spring Cleaning

**May 18** Knitted Together

# VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

## NURSERY

### This Week

**AM** Kara Bennett | Heidi Pronk

**Infant** Sheryl Alkema | Sara Weiss

**PM** Mara Baum **Infant** Marie Marcusse  
Sadie Schout

### Next Week

**AM** Lisa Brink | Leah Folkert

**Infant** Holland Huyck | Eliana VanderMeyden

**PM** Cindy Hoeve **Infant** Elise Hulst  
Rachelle Marcusse

## USHERS

### This Week

Paul Fields & Kevin Schuiteman

### Next Week

Chris Benczkowski & Nate Bordewyk

## GREETERS

### This Week

Kevin & Julie Everts

### Next Week

Dan & Deb Kooienga

## COFFEE SERVERS

### This Week

Mary Remick

### Next Week

Mary Ann VanDyke

## WELCOME CENTER

### This Week

Tim & Lisa VanDyken

### Next Week

Pastor Mike & Naomi Schout

## UNLOCK/LOCK

### This Week

Jon Kraker

### Next Week

Nick VanderZwaag

## JANITORS

### April 20

The Lanning Family

### April 27

Paul & Kim Fields



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 | Andrew VanDyke  
2 | Nate Koops  
3 | Dylan Engelsma  
3 | Carol Smith  
4 | Louisa Marcusse  
4 | Isaac Kapenga  
4 | Jonathan Johnson  
5 | Todd Entingh  
6 | Alysha Tjapkes  
6 | Jane Jennings  
7 | Elizabeth Kuiper  
8 | Simeon VanderMeyden  
9 | James Wedekind  
10 | Gabriella Tanis  
10 | Holland Huyck  
10 | Tracey Huyck  
10 | Barb Powell  
11 | Jarod Harsevoort  
11 | Michelle Berry  
11 | Haley Brown  
13 | Jennifer Coleman

13 | Nick VanLoo  
13 | Rick Brander  
14 | Ted Himebook, Jr.  
16 | Liam Dykstra  
16 | Gerrit Gritters  
17 | Grady Veldink  
17 | Anneke Wind  
19 | Caleb Boven  
19 | Pete VanStrien, Sr  
19 | Aaron Batts  
20 | Jayden Dykstra  
21 | Natalie Lummen  
21 | Dan Kooienga  
22 | Trey Decker  
22 | Michelle VanDyke  
22 | Mary Remick  
23 | Elijah VanStrien  
23 | Kelly Schuiteman  
27 | Gezina Baum  
29 | Benjamin Berry  
29 | Emma Yonker  
29 | Selah Steenwyk

29 | Ebellien Brouwer

30 | Teri Meekhof

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

2 | Kevin & Julie Everts  
2 | Ron & Joan Kootstra  
4 | Matt & Dawn Harsevoort  
17 | Austin & Erica VanRee

### ELDERS

elders@gracefellowshipopc.com

Ted Himebook

Merari Herrera

Chris Karel

John McGeehan

Pete VanStrien

Steve Yonker

David Pronk

Thomas Huyck (intern)

### DEACONS

deacons@gracefellowshipopc.com

Chris Benczkowski

Mike Folkert

Tom VanRee

Luke Veldink

Eric Widner

Dale Hoeve

Darrell Tanis

### TRUSTEES

trustees@gracefellowshipopc.com

Chris Benczkowski

John McGeehan

Shannon VanderZwaag

### PASTORAL INTERN

Merari Herrera

Merari@gracefellowshipopc.com





