

Thanksgiving Service

Thursday, November 28, 2024

Pastor Brian Dunn

Welcome to Thanksgiving Worship!
Giver of all good things, I am thankful beyond words
for your generosity and love.
Help me share your love broadly. Amen.

Opening of Worship

Call to Worship – Psalm 100 Responsive
Opening Prayer
*Opening Hymn: “Give Thanks”
Prayer of Adoration
*God Greets Us/Mutual Greeting
*Song of Praise: “Let All Things Now Living”

Expressing Our Thanksgiving

Moment of Thankful Reflection and Prayer
Special Music – Choir “Psalm 62 (My Soul Finds Rest)”
Responsive Reading of Psalm 138
Song of Praise: “Now Thank We All Our God”

Hearing God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination
Scripture Reading: **1 Thessalonians 1:2-10**
Sermon/Meditation: “*Three Things to be Thankful For*”

Sent Out with Hearts of Thanksgiving

*Song of Praise: “Goodness of God”
Blessing/Benediction
*Doxology: “We Receive Your Blessing”

**Please stand, if able.*

The Generosity Cycle

God makes us rich in every way so we can be generous on every occasion, which will result in thanksgiving to God. ... God doesn’t bless us to provide for our own needs; he blesses us so we can be generous. -- Rick Warren
(based on 2 Corinthians 9:11)

Growing through Gratitude

Thankfulness, studies show, has multiple physical, mental and emotional benefits. Psychologist Robert Emmons calls gratitude “fertilizer for the mind” because of its powerful effects.
He admits gratitude isn’t always easy – especially when life throws us curveballs – but says it can be most helpful during and after difficulties. Emmons suggests reframing challenges using thankfulness-based language. Ask, for example: Though I wasn’t grateful for the experience at the time, how can I be now? What lessons did I learn, and how did I grow as a person?
Throughout his letters, the apostle Paul reframes his extensive sufferings and urges us to do the same. “Give thanks in all circumstances,” he writes, “for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus” (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

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<u>Elders</u>	<u>Care Gr.</u>	<u>Deacons</u>
Pete Van Velzen '25 Clk	1	Nathan Ver Meer '27
Keith Habben '27	2	Cory Jansen '26
Denny De Jong '26	3	Brennan Granstra '25
Harlan Bolkema '27 Vicar	4	Jon Nieuwendorp '26
Dolan Granstra '25 V.P.	5	Dusty Doppenberg '25
Ryan Kats '26 Pres.		Ethan Van Holland '27 Treas.

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Secretary Julie Hengeveld **Office** 324-2374 **Hrs:** T., W. & Th. 9-3
Email: firstcrc@hotmail.com **Website:** www.atfirst.org

If anyone needs assistance: Call Brenda Bolkema 348-0287
or Connie Heynen 348-4393

Our Missionaries: Rev. Eric & Penny Schering and
Lauren & Connie Runia - Papua New Guinea
Danny & Christa Longkumer – Laos
Jake & Brittany Korver – Ethnos 360 Aviation Ministries

As a Christian Reformed body of believers, we at 1st CRC in Sheldon stand united as followers of Christ, sharing in the spirit of the Reformation: **Only by scripture** – God's Word, The Bible, is our only standard, revealing God's way of salvation and his will for our lives. **Only by grace** – We are saved from our sin only by the sovereign grace of God and not by our own works. **Only by Christ** – Only by the merits of Christ are we declared right with God, and not by our own merit. **Only through faith** – We receive blessings of Christ only through faith in his work and his word. **Only for the glory of God** – As those saved by the mercy of God, we are called to do all things for his glory alone and not our own.

Anyone in need of spiritual counsel or desiring to affiliate with us is invited to speak to our pastor or any one of the elders.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Cor. 13:14

Pastor Brian Dunn
First Christian Reformed Church
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