

ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 25, 2008 10 AM

ENTER INTO HIS PRESENCE: GOD AWAITS US!

Prelude: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" Hopson
"Processional In C" Hopson

Minister The Lord be with You.

People: And also with You.

Opening Scripture Psalm 33: 1-4

Call to Worship
"Sing Alleluia" M. Byrd & S. Hindalong

*God's Greeting

*Greet One Another

*All Sing: "Let All things Now Living" Psalter 453
"Open Our Eyes, Lord" Sing! 80

HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE HIM:

GOD ACCEPTS US!

We Are An Unfaithful People Isaiah 6: 1-5
All Sing: "God, Be Merciful To Me" Psalter 255: 1, 2

We are Reconciled with God Isaiah 6: 6-8
Solo: "Refiner's Fire" Brian Doerksen

*All Sing: "My Heart is Firmly Fixed" Psalter 108: 1-4

Concerns of the Church
Congregational Prayer

OFFER OUR THANKSGIVING: GOD BLESSES US!

Offering: Ministry/Christian Education Funds
Offertory: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
Carter

OPENING HIS WORD: GOD SPEAKS TO US!

All Sing: "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil" Sing! 79

[Children ages 4 through grades 1 dismissed for
Children's Worship]

Scripture: Matthew 13: 1-23 (p. 1021)

Minister This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Seeds and Soils

Prayer

*All Sing: "Tree Song" Stanza 1, 3

**I saw a tree by the riverside one day as I walked
along, straight as an arrow and pointing to the
sky growing tall and strong. How do you grow
so tall and strong, I said to the riverside tree.
This is the song that my tree friend sang to me:**

Chorus:

***I've got roots growing down to the water, I've
got leaves growing up to the sunshine, and the
fruit that I bear is a sign of the life in me. I am
shade from the hot summer sundown, I am nest
for the birds of the heavens. I'm becoming what
the Lord of trees has meant me to be, a strong
young tree.***

**I saw a tree in the city streets where buildings
blocked the sun, green and lovely I could see it
gave joy to everyone. How do you grow in the
city streets, I said to the downtown tree, This is
the song that my tree friend sang to me:
(Chorus)**

GO BOLDLY AND SERVE: GOD IS ALWAYS

WITH US!

*God's Parting Blessing

People: Amen.

*All Sing: "Amen, We Praise Your Name, O God"
[sing twice] Sing! 287

*Postlude: "In Death's Strong Grasp the Savior Lay"
Bach

(*stand, if you are able)

Minister
Organist
Soloist
Pianist

Rev. Steve De Vries
Annelle Dekker
Gretchen Driesenga
Megan Bardolph

SERMON OUTLINE

Matthew 13:1-23

Seeds & Soils

Parables: What they are & why they're used

1. Seeds

- a. The word
- b. The Word
- c. The Word of the Kingdom

2. Soils

- a. The path
- b. The rocks
- c. The thorns
- d. The soil

Parables: Whoever has ears, let them hear

The church office will be closed Monday, May 26.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 25, 2008

WORSHIP

Welcome to Plymouth Heights Christian Reformed Church! This morning we're beginning a summer-long series on the Parables of Jesus. Pastor De Vries will preach on Matthew 13:1-23 as we continue to reflect on *Seeds & Soils*. Our evening service, the first of 4 joint services this summer, will be held at Shawnee Park CRC, at 5 PM.

Next week Sunday morning we'll continue our Parable Series by looking at Luke 11:5-8, *A Friend at Midnight*. We'll also install the new office bearers in the morning service. In the evening we'll begin the June TULIP series, Pastor De Vries will be leading both services.

TULIPs in June: We hope to extend the tulip season by an extra month during our 5 evening services in June. From June 1 to June 29 we'll spend an evening looking at each of famous letters of TULIP. Join us for a refresher course in what we believe! Some of the material for the series comes from Richard Mouw's *Calvinism in the Las Vegas Airport*, and we invite you to read that as well.

The City of Grand Rapids has informed us that Lotus between Griggs and Burton will be closed most of the summer for water main repair. What will be affected is the Lotus Street entrances will be closed and there will be no parking available on Lotus Street.

COUNCIL

TITHING OPPORTUNITIES

May 25, 2008 AM:	Ministry/Chr. Ed. and Special Mission Funds
May 25, 2008 PM:	GEMS
June 1, 2008 AM:	Ministry/Chr. Ed. Funds
June 1, 2008 PM:	GEMS

YOUTH & EDUCATION

High School Ministries:

Colorado Challenge: There are several forms in your box today that need to be filled out and returned to Gretchen before the trip. Also, make sure you sign up for a time slot for the garage sale. You will need to be here to help set up for a brief time on Thursday night and also need to work a time slot on Friday or Saturday. This will help reduce (maybe eliminate) any additional money you might owe for transportation.

Movie Night: Friday, June 13, we're celebrating the end of the year by having a movie night at the parsonage. Come around 7PM for games, snacks and a movie. Friends are welcome to come.

Bible Study: This summer we will have a weekly Bible Study that high school students are invited to join. It will begin on Tuesday, June 17, at 10:00AM and meet most Tuesdays this summer.

Middle School Ministries (6th-8th grade):

Breakaway: Our next event is a pool party on Wednesday evening, June 18. Current 5th grade students are invited to join us for the first time at this event.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Thank you for all the prayers of the congregation, the cards and expressions of sympathy in the passing of my sister Trudy Tiesma. They were all truly appreciated. Many thanks again.
Henrietta Bergmans

Church Sale: We will be having a church garage sale on Friday, June 13, and Saturday, June 14, to raise money for our youth group trip to Colorado. Please consider donating items for us to sell. Drop off any donations in the Youth Room. Any unsold items will be donated to New-2-You. Also, if you could help set up or work the sale for a few hours, please contact Gretchen.

Graduates and Parents of Graduates: We would like to recognize the class of 2008. We would appreciate it if you would call the church office and share this information with us at 243-5638.

What a great volunteer response so far! SERVE sign-ups continue today and for a couple more weeks. Volunteer and be part of the fun! SERVE is happenin' July 12-19.

Empty Ink Cartridges? Please remember to drop them off in the box in front of the church office. The Christian Education Committee would like to thank all who have recycled their printer cartridges. Because of your help, the Christian Education Fund has earned \$194.00 since January 2008!

OUTREACH

Kids' Night Out, our end of summer community celebration, needs 3 - 4 people to help with planning this year's event. Those with creative energy or with a good handle on details are especially needed to provide direction for our games and promoting Kids'

Night Out in our community. If you are willing to help with coordinating this neighborhood outreach, talk with Pastor Chris by June 1.

Blood Drive: Our next blood drive is scheduled for Monday, June 16, from 2:00PM-7:00PM. If you'd like to reserve a donation time, please do so at the Welcome Center today!

OUTSIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Safe Haven Ministries needs your used cell phones! Please bring your used cell phones to church (there is a box at the Welcome Center) or to the Safe Haven offices to help the abused women and children that we serve. Shelter Alliance, the organization that pays us for used cell phones will give us an opportunity to receive an additional \$1,000 if we can collect 300 cell phones by June 31. After the memory is completely erased, some of these phones can be used as 911 access phones for victims, others are reused in worldwide markets and the rest are recycled. For more information about donating cell phones, please contact Sarah at Safe Haven Ministries at 452-6664.

Sunday May 25, 2008

10:00AM Morning Worship Service
Meet & Greet Team: Lory & Paul Bakker, Jackie Sikkema, Marge Wiersma

Ushers: Kevin Uitvlugt, Paul Bakker, Larry Tilma, Jeff Peterson, Tom Stuyfzand

Nursery: Sharla Seath, Marion VanDenHeuvel, Michael VanDenHeuvel, Christine Hekman

Children's Worship 1 (3, 4, and young 5):
Marcie Apple, Amber Gilman

Children's Worship 2 (Kindergarten – 1st grade):
Marie Sieplinga, Rachel Harkema

Coffee Fellowship: Paul & Janeen VanSwol

5:00PM Evening Worship Service will be held at Shawnee Park CRC

Monday

Memorial Day, Church office will be closed.

Wednesday

7:20PM Men's B Team (MSP) Ball game Diamond 2

Thursday

6:45AM Faith Builders
6:30PM Women's Ball game at the Christian Center on Diamond 7
6:30PM Men's A Team Ball game Diamond 6
7:20PM Men's B Team Ball game Diamond 1

Sunday June 1, 2008

10:00AM Morning Worship Service
Meet & Greet Team: Fran Karnemaat, Betsy and David VanZytveld, Marge Wiersma

Ushers: Paul VanSwol, Tom Stuyfzand, Kim Root

Nursery: Hennie Schoon, Linda Mulder, Michelle Holwerda, Carley VanSwol

Children's Worship 1 (3, 4, and young 5) and Children's Worship 2 (Kindergarten – 1st grade) are done for the season.

Coffee Fellowship: Tom & Laura Stuyfzand

5:00PM Evening Worship Service
Nursery: Betsy VanZytveld, William VanZytveld