

ORDER OF WORSHIP

June 6, 2010 10 AM

ENTER INTO HIS PRESENCE: GOD AWAITS US!

Prelude: "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. Hayes  
"Soon and Very Soon" arr. Schrader

Leader The Lord be with You.

**People: And also with You.**

Opening Scripture Psalm 146: 1-2, 10

Prayer

\*All Sing: "The Steadfast Love of the Lord" Sing! 242  
(sing twice)

\*God's Greeting

\*Greet One Another

\*All Sing: "Praise the Lord! Sing Hallelujah!"

Psalter 146: 1-3  
"Soon and Very Soon" Sing! 106

HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE HIM:

GOD KEEPS COVENANT WITH US!

Baptism/Profession of Faith Sharon Berry, David Blain  
Julie Bradley, April Pierce  
Deb Rednour, Jack Ryder

\*All Sing: "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know" Psalter 571  
Concerns of the Church  
Congregational Prayer

OFFER OUR THANKSGIVING: GOD BLESSES US!

Offering: Ministry/Christian Education Funds  
Offertory: "The Solid Rock" arr. Broughton

OPENING HIS WORD: GOD SPEAKS TO US!

All Sing: "Children of the Heavenly Father"

Psalter 440: 1, 2, 4

Scripture: I Kings 17: 8-16 (p. 372)

Minister This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon A God of Astonishment

Prayer

\*All Sing: "Through It All" Sing! 189

GO BOLDLY AND SERVE:  
GOD IS ALWAYS WITH US!

Invitation

\*God's Parting Blessing

**People: Amen.**

\*All Sing: "My Friends, May You Grow In Grace"

Sing! 288

\*Postlude: "Postlude in G Major" Handel  
(\*stand, if you are able)

Minister Rev. Carolyn Wharton  
Liturgist Rev. Steve De Vries  
Organist Annelle Dekker  
Percussion William VanDenHeuvel  
Pianist Deb Feys

SERMON OUTLINE

A GOD OF ASTONISHMENT  
I KINGS 17:8-16

I INTRODUCTION

- A. Father and son, Jimmy, are at MacDonald's
- B. Father and Jimmy look at French fries differently.
- C. God is like that father.
  - 1. He wants a relationship with us.
  - 2. He wants to give us some extra blessings.

II BACKGROUND ON TEXT

- A. Israel was divided into two kingdoms: Northern and Southern.
  - 1. Northern kingdom was rebellious.
  - 2. King Ahab and Jezebel, his wife, were wicked.
- B. God sent Elijah to execute judgment on Northern Kingdom.
  - 1. There would be no rain for several years.
  - 2. The result would be no crops, no food, and great suffering.
- C. Elijah goes to village of Zaraphath and meets a poor widow.

- 1. He makes an astonishing request of her.
- 2. She makes an astonishing response.

III. APPLICATION OF THE TEXT

- A. If you had been that widow how would you have responded?
- B. To give when you are in need requires faith.
- C. How do we respond when we are asked to give of our time, talents and resources?
  - 1. Jesus gives a response in Matthew 25.
  - 2. Which servant represents us?
  - 3. Does fear cause us to hesitate when God asks us to give?
- D. Today we live in a world that places many demands on our time, talents, and resources.
  - 1. We are constantly bombarded with letters/phone calls with requests.
  - 2. If God does not get His share off the top there may be little left for Him.
- E. The widow gave beyond what was required: a third not just a tenth.
  - 1. Luke 6:38 gives us guidelines about giving.
  - 2. Malachi 3:10 assures us of the blessings which result from our giving.
  - 3. Are we willing to act in faith and give when He asks?

IV. CONCLUSION

- A. Today we have so many more promises from God than this widow could even imagine!

- B. God's promises and blessings always outweigh His requests.
- C. Remember: God love a cheerful giver (II Corinthians 9:7).

June 6, 2010 PM: CRC World Literature Ministries  
 June 13, 2010 AM: Ministry/Chr. Ed. Funds  
 June 13, 2010 PM: CRC Social Justice and Hunger Action

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Sunday June 6, 2010*

### WORSHIP

Good morning and welcome to Plymouth Heights Christian Reformed Church. Today we celebrate the baptisms of Sharon Berry, David Blain, Julie Bradley, April Pierce and Deb Rednour. Jack Ryder, who has already been baptized, is professing his faith. Pastor De Vries is leading liturgy and Pastor Wharton is preaching on 1 Kings 17:8-16, "A God of Astonishment." This afternoon Mr. Phillip Westra is leading the service and preaching on Galatians 1:11-24, "The Gospel: Not a Human Innovation."

Next week Sunday we will celebrate Irene Hayes' baptism and John Hayes' reaffirmation of faith. Pastor De Vries will lead liturgy for the last time before departing for his sabbatical and the congregation will send him with our blessing. Mr. Phillip Westra will be preaching on 1 Kings 21, "Prophetic Justice." Pastor Wharton will be preaching in the afternoon service on Galatians 2:17-22, "Crucified but Alive."

**There will be Prayer Servants available** to pray with anyone desiring prayer immediately following this morning's worship service. Please meet them in the front of the sanctuary.

### TITHING OPPORTUNITIES

June 6, 2010 AM: Ministry/Chr. Ed. Funds

## YOUTH & EDUCATION

### Children's Ministries

**Children's Worship 1:** Children ages 3, 4 and young 5 are invited to join in Children's Worship 1 during the morning service in the basement, room 102. We will meet each Sunday during the summer with the exception of July 4.

**Children's Worship 2:** We will not be meeting again until June 13.

### High School Ministries

**Colorado Challenge:** Reminder that your forms are due back to Gretchen as soon as possible.

**Golf Outing:** If you're interested in a round of golf on Wednesday afternoon, June 23, let Gretchen know by June 16!

### Middle School Ministries

**Canoe & Beach Day:** Saturday, June 26, we will meet at church at 9AM and head to Muskegon for canoeing and the beach! We will return to church at 5:00PM. Cost is \$15.

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

**Regarding Pastoral Care:** Someone on our pastoral staff is always available for emergencies or other unexpected circumstances that may require pastoral care. If such a pastoral need arises and the church office is closed, contact either Phillip (cell: 616-808-7685), Pastor Carolyn (cell: 616-560-3950), or your household elder.

**VBS:** Plymouth Heights will be partnering with Fifth Reformed to host a VBS this summer from July 12-16. We are looking for middle school, high school and adult helpers for the week. If you are interested, sign up at the Welcome Center and Gretchen will be in touch with the ways in which you can serve.

**Church Sale:** We are once again having a church sale to raise money for our high school summer trip. The dates of the sale are Friday, June 18, and Saturday, June 19. We will begin to collect donations in the Youth Room the week of June 6. Also, if you would be willing to volunteer your time or baked goods, please sign up at the Welcome Center.

## OUTREACH

**Blood Drive:** Save the date of Monday, June 21, 2:00PM-7:00PM. Michigan Blood will be coming for our Community Blood Drive. Please reserve your donation time on the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center today or on the website at [www.miblood.org](http://www.miblood.org). It's easy and quick to donate.

## OUTSIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please consider donating your time** for the upcoming World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) conference happening at Calvin College from June 18-25. We need Sunday hosts for June 20 (3) and many other volunteering opportunities are still needed. Please sign up after the morning service in the Community Room or call Bruce Gilman (455-5168), Hudson Nyenhuis (974-0605), Helene Bardolph (452-6354), or check out this web site: <http://reformedchurches.org> for more information.

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

**June 6, 2010**

**Sunday June 6, 2010**

10:00AM Morning Worship Service  
**Ushers:** Paul Van Swol, Tom Stuyfzand, Kim Root

**Prayer Servants:** Bruce Gilman, Steve Slotsema

**Children's Worship 1 (3, 4, and young 5):** Ryan & Rachael Diepstra

**Children's Worship 2 (Kingergarten-1<sup>st</sup> grade) will resume on June 13.**

**Nursery:** Kathy Sikkema, Lori Tilma, Eric VanSwol, Emma Tilma

**Coffee Fellowship:** Mike & Deb Feys, Tom & Pat VanderLaan

5:00PM Afternoon Worship Service

**Monday**

7:30PM Elder Meeting (Fellowship Rm)  
Deacon Meeting (Refl. Rm)

**Tuesday**

7:00PM Prayer Group (Library, all welcome)  
7:00PM Basketball

**Wednesday**

6:30PM Men's (40+) team softball at the Christian Recreation Center (Diamond 4)

**Thursday**

6:45AM Faith Builders  
6:30PM Men's A team softball at the Christian Recreation Center (Diamond 6)  
6:30PM Men's B team softball at the Christian Recreation Center (Diamond 1)

**Sunday June 13, 2010**

10:00AM Morning Worship Service  
**Ushers:** Steve Penning, Bill Kamstra, Mark VanAllsburg, Bruce Gilman

**Prayer Servants:** Hudson Nyenhuis, Mark Bardolph

**Children's Worship 1 (3, 4, and young 5):** Ryan & Rachael Diepstra

**Children's Worship 2 (Kingergarten-1<sup>st</sup> grade):** Audrey Slotsema, Carley VanSwol

**Nursery:** Kristi Slotsema, Kelly Buist, Elisabeth Hekman, Lucas Slotsema

**Coffee Fellowship:** Paul & Janeen VanSwol

5:00PM Afternoon Worship Service