**Sunday,**

 **Apr 6th**

 **2025**

**Volga Christian Reformed Church**

Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603

**Sunday, April 6th 2025**

**Morning Worship 9:30 AM:** Worship Leader: Pastor Joshua Carpenter

 Organist: Katie Hoogwerf

 Pianist: Christy Van Heerde

 Praise Team

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 105:1-6

Silent Prayer of Preparation

**Song - PH 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord**

**\*Song - Build Your Kingdom Here (Screen)**

\*God’s Greeting

\*We Greet Each Other

God’s Law

**Song - Grace Like Rain (Screen)**

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Volga Christian School & Budget

Children’s Message

**\*Song - PH 276 Teach Me, O Lord, Your Way of Truth**

Scripture Lesson: **Luke 19:11-27**

Text: **Luke 19:11-27**

Message: **Faithful Gospel Stewards**

Prayer

**\*Song - RB 443 I’ll Tell the World**

\*Apostles’ Creed

\*God’s Blessing

\***Doxology: PH 630 Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God**

Postlude

 \*Please stand if you are able

**We warmly welcome** all who have come to our church to join us in the worship of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. May this day be a foretaste of the eternal Sabbath in which all believers will praise God forever and ever!

**Ushers for April:**  Zach Post, Clyde Ulvestad; Alternate: Jerry Runia

**Elevator Attendant for April:**  Marla Volkers

**Calendar:**

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship

 10:45 AM Preschool-5th Grade Sing

 11:00 AM Sunday School & Catechism

 11:00 AM Dakota Sun Ministry

 6:30 PM Lenten Service (FRC)

Wed: 5:30 PM Youth Group Fundraising Dinner

Thurs: 3:45 PM GEMS

**Dakota Sun Ministry today, April 6th:**

* In charge: Sunday School / Christy Van Heerde (Musician)
* To visit: Doug & Ginger Post, Larry & Jackie Top

\*If you are unable to attend your assigned day, please find someone to go in your place

**Prayer Concerns:**

* Please continue to keep **Betty Scott** as she recovers from another surgery this past week Wednesday.
* We want to rejoice with **Kees and Natalie Knevelbaard** in the birth of their daughter, **Willemina!**
* Please keep **Claudia’s sister, Carla**, in your prayers as she has been experiencing a lot of nerve pain after her recent surgery and is scheduled for another surgery coming up. Please pray for relief from pain, encouragement, and for the upcoming surgery.
* Please keep **Pastor Josh, Kayla, and Ezekiel** in your prayers as they travel down to Florida for a conference this week.

**Announcements:**

* **High school Catechism** will meet today after worship over in the parsonage around 11 AM.
* This **Wednesday** is the **Youth Group Fundraising Dinner** - **April 9th** the Youth Group will be putting on a fundraising taco supper from **5:30-7:30 PM** over at **First Reformed Church.** Come on out for a delicious meal and an opportunity to support the Youth Group!
* **2025 Lenten Services:** Our combined Lenten services with **Calvary OPC** and **First Reformed Church** continue tonight!  This year we’re exploring the **Seven “I Am’s” of Jesus** together throughout the Lenten season.  The services will begin at **6:30 PM**.  Please see the following schedule for service locations as well as times of coffee and cookie fellowship following some of the services:
	+ **April 6 -** First Reformed Church
	+ **April 13 -** Calvary OPC (Fellowship)

**Looking Ahead:**

* **Easter Morning Breakfast** - We’ll be hosting another breakfast on **Easter morning**.  Breakfast will begin at **8 AM** and will run to about **9 AM.**  Come and enjoy some food and fellowship before we gather upstairs to worship our risen Lord and Savior together!
* **Easter Walk-Up Choir -** On **Easter Sunday morning**, as a part of our worship service, we’ll have a walk-up choir singing **Christ the Lord is Risen Today (RB 563).** If you are interested, please come up when invited on Easter Sunday.
* **GEMS Sunday -** On **Sunday, May 4th**, we will celebrate GEMS Sunday as a congregation.
* **Power Connection -** This July, the Junior High Youth Group has an opportunity to go to Power Connection once again! If you are interested, please reach out to Pastor Josh or Pastor Gary. The cost for students will be **$100**.
* **MIK+ Young Adult Ministry** (19-30 year old singles). We would like to invite you to the April gatherings:
	+ **Saturday April 19 at 6pm** in Sioux Center Iowa Bridge of Hope Youth Building (43 2nd Street NE). We will be eating a meal together and studying the book of Numbers. Please RSVP by April 16 to Lee De Groot at 712 470 4244. Invite a friend.
* **The 15TH Annual Minnikota Youth Jr. High Retreat** (6th-8th grade) is fast approaching. It will be held at **Inspiration Hills** on **April 25, 26, and 27**. The deadline for registering is the first week of April. If you or your Jr Higher have not had a chance to fill out a registration form, contact Lee at 712-470-4244 or degrootlee@gmail.com to get a form or print it off the Minnikota Youth Facebook page.

**Offering Schedule:**

* Apr 6th: VCS & Budget
* Apr 13th: Local Missions & Budget
* Apr 20th: Option 1 & Budget
* Apr 27th: Building Project & Budget

**Nursery Schedule:**

* Apr 6th: Van Norden Family
* Apr 13th: Runia Family
* Apr 20th: Fey Family
* Apr 27th: Top Family

**Our Council: Pastor Joshua Carpenter**

* Elders: Ron Gross, Ashton Fey, Doug Post, Dale Algood
* Deacons: Will Davis, Logan Triebwasser, Dan Runia, Keith Tofte
* **e-mail address for council:** volgacrccouncil@gmail.com

**Kids’ Corner: Lent: God's Will Be Done** - Check out this week’s kids’ devotion “Lent: God’s Will Be Done” at www.kidscorner.net. What do you do when it’s hard to obey God? Discover how Jesus prayed for strength and trusted God’s plan in tough times. Learn how to follow his example and seek God’s help when obedience feels hard! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC’s Lent and Easter Collection.

**Groundwork: What Jesus Taught in His Final Days** - As Jesus’ time on earth brought him closer to the cross, he wanted his disciples, and now us, to understand some important lessons. Join Groundwork as we explore Mark 9:30-37, Mark 10:13-40, Luke 12:35-40, Matthew 24:36-51, and Matthew 25:31-45 to learn what it means to be a watchful servant as we wait for the day when Jesus will return. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**April 6, 2025 | Faithful Gospel Stewards | Luke 19:11-27**

**Theme: Being \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Passage Notes:**

**Application Notes:**

**Weekly Reflection: “The question for us, of course, is what we are doing with what we have. The Master has been gone a long time, but one day soon he will come again, in royal triumph. Are you working hard for his kingdom? Are you making wise investments with your time and money that will strengthen your spiritual portfolio? What are you doing with the gospel?” - Philip Ryken**

**Sermon Resources Used For Further Study:**

* *Reformed Expository Commentary: Luke Vol. 1 & 2* by Philip G. Ryken
* *Calvin’s Commentary* by John Calvin
* *Preaching the Word Commentary: Luke Vol. 2* by Kent R. Hughes
* *Luke & John* by Robert Deffinbaugh & Stephen Leston
* *NIV Application Commentary: Luke* by Darrell L. Bock
* *An Introduction to the New Testament* by D.A. Carson & Douglas J. Moo

"Sadly, many citizens would reject his royal authority. Some of them would put him to death; others would refuse to believe in his resurrection, or acknowledge his ascension to the royal throne. Lodging their protest in the courts of heaven, they would say of Jesus, ‘We do not want this man to reign over us’” - Philip Ryken

“The kingdom had come, but it had not yet come in the fullness of its final glory. Jesus still needed to suffer and die on the cross. He still needed to rise from the dead and ascend to heaven. Perhaps most importantly, he still needed to do his gospel work among the nations through the church. The kingdom had come, in one sense, but in another sense it would not come until Jesus came again” - Philip Ryken

“Both agree in this, that till the last day of the resurrection Christ, in some respects, goes to a distance from his people, but yet that it would be highly improper for them to sit down in idleness and do no good; for each has a certain office enjoined him, in which he ought to be employed, and, therefore, they ought to be diligent in trading, that they may be careful to increase their Lord’s property” - John Calvin

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