

**Sunday,
Mar 23rd
2025**

Volga Christian Reformed Church
Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603
Sunday, March 23rd, 2025

Morning Worship 9:30 AM: Worship Leader: Pastor Joshua Carpenter
Organist: Ellie Vanden Berg
Pianist: Marge Kleinjan

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 98:1-3

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Song - PH 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord

***Song - PH 483 How Great Thou Art**

*God's Greeting

*We Greet Each Other

God's Law

Song - PH 260 Not What My Hands Have Done

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Braunings & Budget

Children's Message

***Song - RB 303 Open My Eyes That I May See (Verse 1)**

Scripture Lesson: **Romans 3:9-20 (HC Lord's Day 2)**

Text: **Romans 3:9-20**

Message: **Our Sin and Misery Meets God's Grace**

Prayer

***Song - RB 108 Glory to His Name**

*Apostles' Creed

*God's Blessing

***Doxology: LUYH 543 Now Thank We All Our God (Verse 3)**

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

WELCOME: We rejoice in the presence of all who have come to worship the Lord. May God's grace rest upon us and prepare us for the week ahead. Everyone is invited to stay after the morning service for coffee and fellowship.

Ushers for March: Gene Volkers, Conner Gross;
Elevator Attendant for March: Henrietta Molengraaf

Alternate: Zach Post

Calendar:

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship
10:45 AM Preschool-5th Grade Sing
11:00 AM Sunday School & Catechism
6:30 PM Lenten Service (FRC - Fellowship)
Tues: 6:30 PM Prayer Day Service
Wed: 5:00 PM Food & Fellowship Evening
7:00 PM Junior High Youth Group
Thurs: 3:45 PM GEMS

Prayer Concerns:

- Please keep **Betty Scott** in your prayers as this past week she underwent surgery to have a stent put in. Please pray for strength, relief from any pain, and a speedy recovery.
- We want to extend our sincere Christian sympathies to **Fannie Janssen** and **Betty Scott** in the passing of their relative, **Albert**. May the Lord grant His peace and His comfort to them and the rest of the family throughout this time.
- May we keep the **Braunings** in our prayers in their service in the Dominican Republic.

Announcements:

- **High school Catechism** will meet today after worship over in the parsonage around 11 AM.
- **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:
 - **March 23** - First Reformed Church (Fellowship)
 - **March 30** - Volga CRC
 - **April 6** - First Reformed Church
 - **April 13** - Calvary OPC (Fellowship)
- **Prayer Day Service** - This **Tuesday, March 25th**, we'll have our annual prayer day service as we come together before the Lord in prayer over a variety of topics from ministry, personal growth in the Lord, our country, the farming season, etc. The service will begin at **6:30 PM**.
- **Food and Fellowship Wednesdays** - On the **fourth Wednesday** of each month, the Fellowship Committee would like to introduce an opportunity for fellowship and outreach to the community by way of Food and Fellowship Wednesdays. We'll provide and serve a meal to any and all who would like to attend. It will run from **5:30-7 PM**. Swing on by for some food and fellowship; bring a friend, a neighbor, someone we can share the light and love of Christ

with! Carry-out will be also available. March Menu: Baked Potato Bar and Dessert.

- **Junior High Youth Group** will meet this week Wednesday at **First Reformed Church** at **7 PM**. Bring a friend!
- **Pinewood Derby Races** - This **Saturday, March 29th**, the cadets will have pinewood derby races over at **Hamlin Reformed Church**.

Looking Ahead:

- **GEMS Daddy/Daughter Supper is Monday, March 31st.**
- **Volga Christian School** is hosting a **Spring Showcase on Friday, April 4th** at **1:30pm**. Refreshments will be served after Music, Wax Museum, and Art Show.
- **Youth Group Fundraising Dinner** - On **Wednesday, 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!
- **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**.

Advance:

- **Dakota Sun Ministry for 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
- **Ushers for April:** Zach Post, Clyde Ulvestad; Alternate: Jerry Runia
- **Elevator Attendant for April:** Marla Volkers

Offerings received in February:

General Fund.....	\$12,351.43	Building Project.....	\$13,456.00
Cadets.....	\$519.00	Misc (Ivy Center).....	\$600.00
Volga Christian School.....	\$724.00	Option 1.....	\$547.00

Offering Schedule:

- Mar 23rd: Braunings & Budget
- Mar 30th: Building Project & Budget
- Apr 6th: VCS & Budget
- Apr 13th: Local Missions & Budget

Nursery Schedule:

- Mar 23rd: Davis Family
- Mar 30th: Kauk Family
- Apr 6th: Van Norden Family
- Apr 13th: Runia 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

March 23, 2025 | Our Sin and Misery Meets God's Grace | Romans 3:9-20

Theme: Through the _____, God shows us our _____ and our _____ for _____.

Passage Notes:

Application Notes:

Weekly Reflection: May we take time to reflect on where God has saved and rescued us from. As we do, may it lead to a deeper appreciation for His amazing grace in Christ!

Sermon Resources Used For Further Study:

- *An Introduction to the New Testament* by D.A. Carson and Douglas Moo
- *Romans: Reformed Expository Commentary Series* by Daniel Doriani
- *NIV Application Commentary: Romans* by Douglas J. Moo
- *NICNT: The Letter to the Romans* by Douglas J. Moo
- *Romans, A Commentary Hermeneia series* by Robert Jewett

“This is Paul’s, and the Bible’s, analysis of the human predicament: People, by nature, are addicted to sin. They are imprisoned under it, unable to free themselves by anything they can do. Knowing this, then, God has sent to us not a teacher or a politician but a liberator - one who has the power to set us free from our sins.” - Douglas J. Moo

“The phrase ‘under the law’ is literally ‘in the law.’ To live ‘in the law’ is to dwell in a realm that God’s revelation governs. Whether one has Scripture or the light of nature, everyone knows enough to be accountable. Every mouth is ‘stopped’ or ‘silenced’ (Greek: phrasso). To be silenced is to have a hand over one’s mouth. In a courtroom, a silenced defendant speaks no more. To be silenced is to know our guilt.” - Daniel Doriani

On *Total Depravity* - “The term for this is *total depravity*. This doctrine does not hold that everyone is corrupt in every way, nor does it deny that unbelievers can act lawfully, It means that the whole of human nature is fallen, that sin corrupts every faculty, and that our best deeds are tainted by imperfect motives.” - Daniel Doriani