

**Sunday,
May 4th
2025**

Volga Christian Reformed Church
Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603
Sunday, May 4th, 2025

Morning Worship 9:30 AM: Worship Leader: Pastor Joshua Carpenter
Organist: Katie Hoogwerf
Pianist: Christy Van Heerde

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 33:1-5

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Song - PH 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord

***Song - Forever (Screen)**

*God's Greeting

*We Greet Each Other

GEMS Presentation & Litany

Song - The Wonderful Cross (Screen)

Congregational Prayer

Offering: GEMS & Budget

Children's Message

***Song - RB 363 Wonderful Words of Life (Verses 1 & 3)**

Scripture Lesson: **Micah 6:1-8 (Romans 12:1-2)**

Text: **Micah 6:6-8**

Message: **Lives of Living Sacrifice**

Prayer

***Song - PH 548 When We Walk with the Lord (Trust and Obey)**

*Apostles' Creed

*God's Blessing

***Doxology: PH 638 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

WELCOME: As we open our hearts to God, may we extend our hands in friendship to one another. May all who have come to worship know that they're sincerely welcomed in this house of God. Coffee will be served in the fellowship hall following the morning service.

Ushers for May: Gerald Feikema, Jerry Runia;
Elevator Attendant for May: Cyndi Ulvestad

Alternate: Conner Gross

Calendar:

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship
10: 45 AM Preschool-5th Grade Sing
11:00 AM Sunday School & Catechism
Wed: 2:00 PM Women's Bible Study
7:00 PM Senior High Youth Group

Dakota Sun Ministry today, May 4th:

- In charge: Youth Groups & Pastor Josh / Vonda Bjorklund (Musician)
- To visit: Tofte's, Kayla Carpenter, Arlan TeKrony

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

Prayer Concerns:

1. Please keep **Betty Scott** in your prayers as she will be beginning chemo treatments in the upcoming weeks.
2. May we keep **Ellie Vanden Berg** in our prayers as she recovers from shoulder surgery this past week.
3. Even now, please pray for the delegates, work, and deliberations of **Synod 2025** for the Christian Reformed Church, which will take place in mid-June. Please pray that the truth of God's Word will continue to be upheld and that His will ultimately be done through it all.

Announcements:

- Today is GEMS Sunday. GEMS, **G**irls **E**verywhere **M**eeting the **S**avior, is a Christian girls' club with a mission of bringing girls into a relationship with Jesus. GEMS Clubs number nearly 600 throughout the US, Canada, and 14 additional countries. The Volga GEMS Club has 17 girls and 5 counselors. This year the girls were equipped to live *transformed* instead of copying the patterns of the world. May God use the many seeds planted in the lives of His girls at GEMS this year to continue to transform each one from the inside out. We appreciate your support of the GEMS ministry. This morning the girls will serve as greeters, help receive the offering, and partake in a litany.
- **Senior High Youth Group** will meet this week for its final meeting, Wednesday at **First Reformed Church** at **7 PM**. Bring a friend!
- **Women's Bible Study** meets this week **Wednesday** at 2 PM in the church basement. Pastor Josh will lead the next lesson, Lesson 9: The Lord's Prayer. Come and enjoy spending time in God's Word and food and fellowship afterward.
- **Classis Newsletter** - There are copies of Classis Minnkota's newsletter available by the mailboxes if you are interested in a summary of what was covered at our Spring classis meeting.
- The **Volga Christian School** is once again selling **Medary Acres** gift certificates as a fundraiser. When you purchase the certificate, you get the full value and

Medary Acres gives the school a discount when they purchase the certificates. Brenda and Jenn Volkens will have certificates to purchase through the first of June.

Looking Ahead:

- **Baccalaureate** - The Volga Ministerial would like to invite you to the **2025 Sioux Valley Baccalaureate** service to be held in the **PAC at 7 p.m. on May 14**. This service will have music, prayers and blessings for the graduates and an inspirational message to the graduates from Pastor Chris Duncan from the Preston Christian Church.
- June 1 we will be having our annual golf scramble. This event is for all ages and all skills levels. Tee times will start about 4:00. Please let Dan or Vonda know if you wish to participate so they can make teams and schedule tee times. There will be hot dogs and a bonfire that evening at the Carpenter's at 6:00.

Offering Schedule:

- May 4th: GEMS
- May 11th: VCS & Budget
- May 18th: Navigators & Budget
- May 25th: Building Project & Budget

Nursery Schedule:

- May 4th: Triebwasser Family
- May 11th: Post Family
- May 18th: Davis Family
- May 25th: Kauk 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

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Teacher Appreciation Week - Ephesians 4 says that Christ himself gave us leaders, including teachers, "to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up" (4:11, NIV). At a mealtime with family members this week, share a story of a teacher who had a big impact on your life. How did God use them to help guide and encourage you?

This Week's Unfading Truth: Since we could not satisfy God's perfect justice by ourselves, He sent His Son to make full satisfaction in our place. Be reminded of this truth each weekday as we read the Bible together at UnfadingTruth.com. Text JOIN to 833-273-2136 for a daily reminder.

May 4, 2025 | Lives of Living Sacrifice | Micah 6:6-8

Theme: God desiring us to _____ to Him out of _____ for what He has done for us by _____ Him and our _____.

Passage Notes:

Application Notes:

Weekly Reflection: What are some ways God is calling you to offer yourself to Him as a living sacrifice in your family? Your workplace? The church?

Sermon Resources Used For Further Study:

- Mark F. Rooker, *The World and the Word*
- Richard D. Phillips, *Reformed Expository Series: Jonah & Micah*
- Leslie C. Allen, *NICOT Commentary on Micah*
- Gary V. Smith, *NIV Application Commentary on Micah*
- Delbert R. Hillers, *Hermeneia commentary on Micah*
- John Calvin's Commentary

“If one forgets about the past, there is no debt of gratitude, no sense of obligation, and no feeling of closeness because the intimate bond between the receiving and giving partners is broken. If the past is not remembered, a new generation of people might conclude that God has not done anything special for them. People who forget God’s grace may be tempted to blame God for his lack of concern for them when difficult times come. But the past is reality; it can neither be erased nor denied.” - Gary Smith

“God does not want us to give ourselves to him in elaborate shows of rituals and sacrifices, but in the daily way we live, walking humbly with him and showing justice and kindness to our fellow man.” - Richard Phillips