

**Sunday,  
Oct 19<sup>th</sup>,  
2025**

**Volga Christian Reformed Church**  
Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603  
**Sunday, Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Morning Worship 9:30 AM:** Worship Leader: Pastor Joshua Carpenter  
Organist: Marge Kleinjan  
Pianist: Joan Bjorklund

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 134

Silent Prayer of Preparation

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

**\*Song - LUYH 512 Now with Joyful Exultation**

\*God's Greeting

\*We Greet Each Other

Summary of God's Law by Jesus (Matthew 22:37-40)

**Song - PH 255 God, Be Merciful to Me (Verses 1-3)**

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Braunings & Budget

Children's Message

**\*Song - RB 177 Make Me a Blessing**

Scripture Lesson: **1 Peter 4:1-11**

Text: **1 Peter 4:7-11**

Message: **Spiritual Gifts: Serving**

Prayer

Lord's Supper (PH Pgs. 978-982)

*Passing of the Bread - **RB 558 Beneath the Cross of Jesus***

*Passing of the Juice - **PH 384 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross***

**\*Song - RB 114 Jesus Paid It All**

\*God's Blessing

**\*Doxology: PH 473 To God Be the Glory (Verse 1)**

Postlude

\* Please stand if you are able

**WELCOME**, members and visitors, to our worship service today. What a privilege it is to gather together to sing praises, offer prayers and gifts, and hear our Lord speak to us through the Word. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the foyer following this morning's service.

**Ushers for October:** Gerald Feikema, Zachary Post;  
**Elevator Attendant for October:** Henrietta Molengraaf

Alternate: Gene Volkers

**Calendar:**

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship  
10:45 AM Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Sing  
11:00 AM Sunday School & Catechism  
Wed: 5:30 PM Food & Fellowship  
7:00 PM Junior High Youth Group  
Thurs: 3:45 PM GEMS

**This morning, we are privileged to celebrate the Lord's Supper together.** All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him as Lord, are invited to come with gladness to the table of their Lord. There is a small dish of gluten free bread in the center of each tray.

**Prayer Concerns:**

- We want to extend our sincere Christian sympathies to the **Alden family** in the passing of **Cyndi's brother**. Please keep their whole family in your prayers. May the Lord's peace that passes all understanding rest upon them in this time.
- Please continue to keep **Gert Dykhouse** and the rest of her family in your prayers as she started home health care this past week. A meal train has been put together, so if you are interested in providing a meal for Gert and Ruth, please sign up at [hyperlink]. If you would like to visit with Gert, please reach out to either Kelly at 612-508-7678 or Linda at 605-690-3757 to set that up.

**Announcements:**

- **High school catechism** will meet today after worship in the parsonage around 11 AM.
- **Newsletter Info Deadline** - The deadline for information for the **November** edition of our church newsletter will be **Wednesday, October 22nd, at 12 PM**. Please send your information to Pastor Josh, Brenda Volkers, or Marge Kleinjan.
- **Food and Fellowship Wednesdays** - This week **Wednesday** is Food and Fellowship Wednesday! 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 also be available. September Menu: Scalloped Ham & Potatoes and Dessert.
- **Junior High Youth Group** will meet this week Wednesday at **First Reformed Church** at **7 PM**. Bring a friend!

**Looking Ahead:**

- **Reformation Day Combined Service - Volga Christian Reformed Church** invites you to worship with us for a special Reformation Day service **Oct. 26th at 6:30 PM**. We will have a time of fellowship and snacks to follow after the service.
- **The VCS Annual Harvest Festival** is scheduled for Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at Grapepoint Church in Brookings. There will be lunch, a live auction, a bake sale, and supervised activities for the kids. For questions or to make donations, please call the

school at 605-627-9286. All proceeds will benefit the general fund at Volga Christian School.

- **CALLED** - Full time ministry is an extraordinary calling and great privilege, and critical for the purposes of God in this world. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation. But “how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent?” If you have ever wondered if God is calling you to serve Him vocationally, whether as a pastor, missionary, chaplain, or something else; if you have questions about what ministry is like; if you wonder if it is worth it; if you don’t know the next steps or process – please join us at Dordt University on November 22 from 10-3 for ‘CALLED’. Stephen Terpstra, John Klompfen, and John Lee, along with missions and candidacy experts, will encourage you, talk with you, answer your questions, and explore if God is calling you. The event is free of charge and is for people of all ages, from high school to those nearing retirement, who are exploring full or part time ministry. For more information and to register, go to: <https://forms.gle/Sg6Zh4Jx6cbPDiE9A> or follow the QR code on the poster in your church or school. Questions? Email [pastor@firstcrcoc.org](mailto:pastor@firstcrcoc.org).

**Advance:**

- **Dakota Sun Ministry for Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>:**
  - In charge: Doug Posts’ / Katie Hoogwerf (Musician)
  - To visit: Hoogwerf’s, Kevin & Tanya Triebwasser, Zach & Jacob Post

\*If you are unable to attend your assigned day, please find someone to go in your place
- **Ushers for November:** Dan Runia, Gene Volkers; Alternate: Jerry Runia
- **Elevator Attendant for November:** Cyndi Ulvestad

**Offering Schedule:**

- Oct 19<sup>th</sup>: Brauning’s & Budget
- Oct 26<sup>th</sup>: Building Project & Budget
- Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>: VCS & Budget
- Nov 9<sup>th</sup>: Navigators & Budget

**Nursery Schedule:**

- Oct 19<sup>th</sup>: Triebwasser Family
- Oct 26<sup>th</sup>: Post Family
- Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>: Davis Family
- Nov 9<sup>th</sup>: Van Norden Family

**Offerings received in September:**

General Fund.....	\$13,609.51	Building Project.....	\$945.00
Benevolence.....	\$431.00	Navigators.....	\$1,330.00
Volga Christian School.....	\$1,041.00		

**Our Council: Pastor Joshua Carpenter**

- Elders: Ashton Fey, Dale Algood, Doug Post, Larry Top
- Deacons: Connor Gross, Keith Tofte, Ryan Van Norden, Will Davis
- **e-mail address for council:** [volgacrcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:volgacrcouncil@gmail.com)

**This Week’s Unfading Truth:** You've been called out of the darkness and into His light. Constantly watch and pray so you don’t slip back into the darkness. Be reminded to do so each weekday as we read the Bible together at [UnfadingTruth.com](http://UnfadingTruth.com). Text JOIN to 833-273-2136 to sign up for a daily reminder.

**October 19, 2025 | Spiritual Gifts: Serving | 1 Peter 4:7-11**

**Theme: Being good stewards of the spiritual gifts God has graciously given us.**

**1. The \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_:**

**2. Our \_\_\_\_\_:**

**3. \_\_\_\_\_ One \_\_\_\_\_:**

**Weekly Reflection: Who is the Lord calling you to serve this week? May the Lord open our eyes to opportunities to serve one another, and open our hearts to humbly receive help and service too.**

## Sermon Resources Used For Further Study:

- *1 & 2 Peter and Jude - Sharing Christ's Sufferings* by David R. Helm
- *Commentary on the Catholic Epistles* by John Calvin
- *Hebrews thru Revelation* by Mark L. Strauss
- *1 Peter* by Daniel M. Doriani
- "Make Me a Servant" by Kelly Willard <https://wordtoworship.com/song/14482>

"Peter asserted that the end was near almost two thousand years ago, and he was right, because we have been brought into the final phase of God's plan of redemption by the resurrection of Jesus and the gift of the Spirit. Peter already noted that we are in the last times in 1:20, saying that Jesus "was revealed in these last times for your sake." When this age ends, Jesus will return to overthrow sin and establish his new order. That day is near in the sense that it could happen at any time (cf. Matt. 3:2; 4:17; 10:7; 24:44; Mark 1:15)." - Daniel Doriani

"First Peter 4:11 also mentions those who serve. They give to the poor and needy, feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, and visit the sick and the prisoner. Some of them do the work; others organize it. Servants are also stewards of grace. Our service has greatest effect when it is performed not with grim resolve but "with the strength God provides" (1 Peter 4:11). If servants know that their strength and resources come from God, they will not condescend or patronize. Whether we speak or act, we focus on God, who is the source of all strength and every accomplishment. Then "God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory" (1 Peter 4:11; cf. Phil. 4:13; Rev. 5:12; 7:12)." - Daniel Doriani

"The key with hospitality is to begin. It doesn't matter if you live in an apartment, a dorm, or a house. Once a week opening our home, baking a few cookies, saying "hello" in the elevator, checking up on an older neighbor, and borrowing sugar from the next apartment. Yes, the city is a place of isolation. But it may be that through our doors all kinds will come, one who is hungry, an intellectual questioning, a colleague in crisis, a student from a far-off land. It may be that God's new people from the nations will sit around our table. It may be that having shared a meal, and having tasted of Christ, their own table will be open for the gospel in a country we would never reach. Hospitality is not something we do overly pragmatically. We do not practice hospitality "to get conversions." We practice hospitality because it is right. We practice hospitality because we are God's people. We share God's goodness through our home because God has shown his goodness to us. His grace overflows the threshold of our homes."

- Jon Dennis