SERMON NOTES



Rockford Reformed Church



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Custodians:

Lucy Layman & Chris Vance



Scan to view the online bulletin (RockfordRC.org/sundays/bulletin)



Prelude

Christ Arose

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Amazing Grace

Offering

Crown Him With Many Crowns

Prayer & Message

"The Remedy For Self-Regard" Philippians 2:1-11 (p.980) Tim VanderZwaag

Response

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross Doxology

Closing Blessing

KidLife Worship (3 years - 2nd grade, KidLife Room 246/247) and nursery (Room 241) are available.

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SINGLE LADIES' (AND MEN'S) LUNCH

Recognizing that single men enjoy good food and fellowship as much as we do, the Single Ladies invite their male counterparts to our annual Christmas dinner and game time. It will be held on December 6, 2025 at 1pm in the new downstairs fellowship hall. Please RSVP to Wilma Nelson by November 30. (616-690-4479)

FOCAL POINT NOTE

Pastor Tim still doesn't fully have his voice back, so his class won't be meeting tonight. However, if you are interested in playing pickleball, it will be set up in the gym!

SAVE THE DATE

- Annual Congregational Meeting December 7 following service
- Christmas Eve Service December 24 at 4pm

SPECIAL BENEVOLENCE OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY

As followers of Christ, we are called to reflect His love by caring for those in need. To that end, we will be taking a special offering on Sunday, November 23, designated for our Benevolence Fund. This fund helps meet the many needs within our church family during challenging times. Please prayerfully consider how you can contribute to support those in need. If you feel led to support this special offering, please use the "Special Offering" pink envelopes and/or note "Special Offering" on your check or on-line giving. Thank you for your generosity and care for one another. — RRC Deacons

NKC HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Christmas Tree with North Kent Connect tags is up and located in the Fellowship Lobby. Tags will have suggested items for each age group. Take some tags, purchase the items, and return them unwrapped to church by December 14. Thank you for helping NKC provide gifts for the children and teens of their clients this Christmas! If you prefer to shop online, look for the qr code by the tree, on our website, or in this morning's email.

DEVOTIONAL - ADVENT FOR EXILES

Copies of Caroline Cobb's book *Advent for Exiles* are available in the Fellowship Lobby with a suggested donation of \$10.

DISCOVERY CLASS

Pastor Tim is hosting a Discovery Class for anyone who would like to prepare for or simply explore what it means to become a member of our church family. The class involves two 2-hour sessions that outline Reformed faith essentials and our mission, organization, and vision. The first session will be in the Old Fellowship Hall (newly remodeled in the basement) on Tuesday, November 25, 6:30-8:30 pm. The second session will include dinner at our (Pastor Tim & Ruth) home on Sunday, November 30, 6-8 pm. Join us! But email us (connect@rockfordrc.org) to let us know that you are coming. You can also let Pastor Tim or Ruth know as well.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 16	November 17	November 18	November 19	November 20	November 21	November 22
worship service NKC items due youth group 4:30-7pm pickleball 5-7pm kidlife club 5-7pm	prayer partners 7pm via zoom	men's devotional bkf 7:30-8:30am women's bible study 9:30-11:15am, old fellowship hall pickleball 6:30-8pm, gym	women's bible study 6:15-7:15pm, room 250 YA bible study 7pm		REAL men 7-8am, fellowship lobby	YA @ Vergouwes' 6pm
November 23	November 24	November 25	November 26	November 27	November 28	November 29
worship service youth group 4:30-7pm focal point 5-7pm kidlife club 5-7pm	prayer partners 7pm via zoom	men's devotional bkf 7:30-8:30am ladies book club 6:30-8pm pickleball ,6:30-8pm discovery class 1 6:30-8:30pm		Thanksgiving		
November 30	December 1	December 2	December 3	December 4	December 5	December 6
worship service discovery class 2 6-8pm	prayer partners 7pm via zoom	men's devotional bkf 7:30-8:30am women's bible study 9:30-11:15am, old fellowship hall pickleball 6:30-8pm, gym	women's bible study 6:15-7:15pm, room 250		REAL men 7-8am, fellowship lobby	single ladies lunch 1pm, old fellowship hall

More information on these activities can be found in our weekly eBeacon (sent out Sunday mornings). If you haven't signed up to receive this weekly email, contact the front office at connect@rockfordrc.org and ask to be put on the list.



THE MINDFUL MARRIAGE CONFERENCE

This Biblically-based marriage event for couples is scheduled for May 1 & 2, 2026. This conference, presented by Ron & Nan Deal, is designed to inspire, educate, and encourage couples in all seasons of life (pre-marriage, marriage, and blended family marriage) toward greater intimacy and stability. Based on the

Amazon #1 bestselling book, *The Mindful Marriage: Create Your Best Relationship Through Understanding and Managing Yourself* by Ron and Nan, and Dr. Terry & Sharon Hargrave. Early bird pricing through January 4 is \$64.99 per couple. Scan qr code for more details and a link to register.

ABOUT TODAY'S HYMNS

"Christ Arose" by Robert Lowry, a Baptist minister, was written in 1874. He was inspired by Luke 24:6. The verses reflect Jesus in the tomb and contrast with His joyous resurrection.

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" by Martin Luther was written in 1527, the hymn is a paraphrase of Psalm 46. This hymn is also known as the "Battle Hymn of the Protestant Reformation".

"Amazing Grace" was written in 1772 by John Newton, an English clergyman and set to a tune by American composer William Walker in 1835. This hymn was sung during the Civil War, civil rights marches, and at Woodstock. It is considered the world's most popular hymn.

"Crown Him with Many Crowns", inspired by Revelation 19:12, was composed in 1851 by Matthew Bridges. The actual tune was composed by George Elvey.

"When I Survey The Wondrous Cross" was written in 1707. The composer, Isaac Watts (1674-1748), is considered the "Father of English Hymnody". Originally intended as a communion hymn, it is written in first-person perspective and deeply personal.