



*stories on
the way to
redemption*
a Lenten Journey

March 5 - April 9 - Sundays
9 & 10:30am Worship

April 14 - Good Friday
12:00pm Community
Worship Service

April 16 - Resurrection Sunday
7:00, 9:00 & 10:30am
Celebration Services

*The sanctuary is open for prayer and
reflection Monday through Friday,
noon to 1:00.*

*Please feel free to use one of the
hanging artworks as a focal point or
take a prayer card from the sound
booth.*

PILLARCHURCH.COM

Third Sunday of Lent
March 19, 2017



Approach to God

Welcome

Welcome to Pillar Church this morning. We're glad that you're here. If you've been worshipping here for a long time or you're entering the doors of a church for the first time today it is our hope that you'll experience a kind welcome, a sense of genuine community and the grace and truth of Jesus Christ that the Christian Church has celebrated for centuries.

Note on Communion

We celebrate Communion via intinction, that is, we dip the bread in the cup before partaking in the sacrament. During the 9:00 service there are three stations up front (with one gluten-free & vegan-friendly station by the timpani available at both services) During the 10:30, there are five stations in the front and one in the lobby. A communion server will be available to serve you if you are in need of assistance.

Note on Baptism

Today we have the wonderful gift to celebrate the baptism of Wilhelmina Ann Pearson, daughter of Jeremy and Libby Pearson. We give thanks to God for the visible sign of the water pointing to the invisible grace made available to us in Jesus Christ.

Liturgical Note

The new textile banner on the west wall behind the organ was created by Ruth Stravers. The banner is a wool appliqué of a fig tree with leaves and fruit. Ruth's inspiration comes from the *Theophilus* song "Take Everything," which we will be singing during communion. The lyrics are:

We hid alone and ashamed, the Father called us "Where are you?"

This is the question God asked when looking for Adam and Eve who hid themselves behind fig leaves.

During the season of Lent you are invited to use the sanctuary from 12-1 as a place for prayer and reflection. Use one of the banners as a focus for your reflection or you may use the Lenten prayer card found on the communion table.

Gathering Music

Welcome

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise

#175 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, vv. 1-4

Call to Lament

Prayer of Lament

*How long, O Lord? Will you forget me for ever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
How long must I bear pain* in my soul,
and have sorrow in my heart all day long?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?
Consider and answer me, O Lord my God!
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,
and my enemy will say, 'I have prevailed';
my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.
But I trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord,
because he has dealt bountifully with me.*

Assurance of Pardon

In Feast or Fallow



When the fields are dry and the win - ter is long
 When the earth be - neath me crum - bles and quakes
 bles - sed are the meek the hun - gry the poor
 not a spar - row falls nor a hair on my head
 when my soul is down - cast and my voice has no song
 with - out his hand to guide me my shield and my strength
 for mer - cy for com - fort I wait on the Lord
 in joy or in sor - row in life or in death
 In the har - vest feast or the fal - low ground my
 cer - tain hope is in Je - sus found my lot my cup my
 por - tion sure, what - e - ver comes we
 shall en - dure, what - ev - er comes we shall en - dure.

Peace

Children may leave for children's activities at this time.

Gloria Patri



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost,
 as it was in the be - gin - ning is now, and e - ver shall be,
 world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

Offering

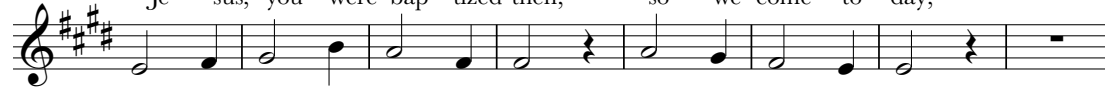
Baptism

Apostles' Creed

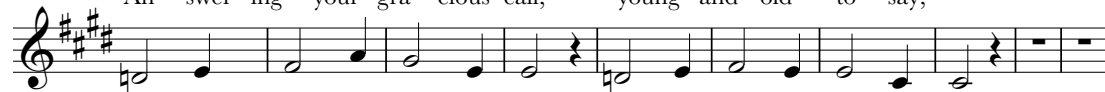
*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 Creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ,
 his only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
 and born of the virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died and was buried;
 he descended to hell.
 The third day he rose again from the dead.
 He ascended to heaven
 and is seated at the right hand
 of God the Father almighty.
 From there he will come
 to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body
 and the life everlasting. Amen.*



Ho - ly Spir - it, you have come, come and met us here;
Je - sus, you were bap - tized then, so we come to - day;



Mer - cy like a dove re - leased, we have none to fear;
An - swer - ing your gra - cious call, young and old to say;



You have claimed us as your own, your a - dop - ted fam - i - ly;
we will nur - ture teach, and pray as your bo - dy here on earth;



We, your sons and daugh - ters, now walk in trust and faith.
By your Spi - rit guide our lives, Fill us with your light.



Washed in the fount of love, a voice from hea - ven comes;



You are my daugh - ter, you are my son, my be - lov - ed one.

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Sermon Notes/Drawings:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sanctus

O, ho - ly are you, Lord, the earth pro - claims your glo - ry;

We join in to a - dore, O, you are ho - ly Lord;

Bles - sed is the one who comes in your good name;

Save us, Lord, we pray; Ho - san - na in the high - est

Most righteous God we remember in this meal...
Together we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

*Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.*

So, send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray...
Even so, come Lord Jesus!

Communion Prayers

Prayers of Meditation for Those Not Communing

If you are not coming forward to receive Communion, please feel free to use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayers for Those Searching for Truth

"Lord Jesus, you claimed to be the way, the truth, and the life. As I search for spiritual truth, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the life that you promise. Amen."

Prayer of Belief

"Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner. Trusting in God's love and in your death and resurrection on my behalf, I ask you to forgive me, most merciful Lord, and fill me with your Holy Spirit. Relying on your grace, I promise to confess you publicly before others, to serve you daily and to walk in your way. Amen."

Prayer of Commitment

"Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen."

Communion

Take Everything

We hid a - lone and a - shamed,
You sent your on - ly Son
You Ho - ly Spir - it desc - end,

the Fa - ther called us: "Where are you?"
who came to bear all our sor - row,
5 en - liv - en our hearts with - in us,

Lost in a des - ert of sand
We mocked and cru - ci - fied him,
We turn a - gain and a - gain,

9 You still pur - sue us; your peo - ple,
we are al - ways yours, Oh Fa - ther,

11 1. Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

16 2. Ghost. Take ev - - ery - thing,
Take all my sin and pain.
Take ev - - ery - thing, now I am new!

Song of Thanksgiving

There is a Redeemer

There is a Re - deem - er, Je - sus, God's own Son;
 pre-cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Ho - - ly One.
 Thank you O my Fa - ther, for giv-ing us your Son, and
 leav - ing your Spir - it till the work on earth is done.

Response to God

Benediction

Sending Song

Psalms 126 (refrain)

Re-store us, O Lord Re-store us, O Lord Although we are weep - ing,
 Lord help us keep sow - ing, the seeds of your king - dom, for the day you will
 reap them Your sheaves we will car - ry, Lord please do not
 tar - ry, all those who sow weep-ing will go out with songs of joy

Postlude

Worship Leaders Today

Preacher:
Liturgists:
Musicians:

Jon Brown
Jonathan Gabhart
Andy Bast, Anna Gabhart, Jonathan Gabhart, Rob
Housman and Angela Wagenfeld
Sheryl Beerens
Ben Oegema
Jayne Nienhuis

Organist:
Sound:
Communion Bread Baker:
Communion Servers:

9:00
10:30

Middle School Student Ministries
David Komline & Han-luen Kantzer Komline, Chad &
Mary Jo Creevy, Jaunine Hackmon, Steve & Corey
Veldheer, Jon Brown, Ryan, Kendra, Elaina, Ashlynn &
Amaya Laarman and Cathy Dreyer

Worship Leader on March 26

Preacher:

Jon Brown

Sources and Permissions

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“Take everything” words and music: Andy Bast, 2016; ©2016 Theophilus Music
“There is a redeemer” words and music: Melody Green ©1982 Birdwing Music
“Psalm 126” words and music by Isaac Wardell, 2011.

Ordination Invitation

You are invited on Sunday, March 26th at 3:00pm to celebrate in the ordination and installation of Jonathan Gabhart to the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament for his call to be the Pastor of Worship Arts at Pillar. Jonathan and Anna are so thankful for the support and encouragement over these past few years, and are eager to continue participating in what God is doing in this congregation and community. Please join us as we gather to worship God and mark this season of God's call on Jonathan and Anna's life.

Deacons' Announcements

Please include the following people in your prayers: for Caroline Kanis and her family, for Jodi Syens as she has completed her cancer treatments and for Greg Diekema as he undergoes treatment for metastatic melanoma.

March's special offering is designated for Audio Scripture Ministries. Friend of Pillar, JP Sundararajan, is the India-Asia director of this ministry which records and distributes audio Bibles across the world to ensure no one is barred from access to God's word. This offering will be received on Sunday, March 19, but at any time this month, feel free to give and mark your gift as "ASM." (There is no distribution offering this month.)

Adult Formation

Join a City Group! City Groups are an integral way Pillar Church can be "for the city." They are a place to belong, be discipled, and to serve together. If you would like to join a group, email jenna@pillarchurch.com!

Student Ministries

Middle School Student Ministries

- 1) City group next week at 9:15am in the Hope College admissions building.
- 2) Youth group tonight from 4:00-4:30pm at Pillar. Dress warm for outside activity.

High School Student Ministries

- 1) City group next week at 9:15am in the Hope College admissions building.
- 2) Youth group tonight from 6:00-7:30pm at Pillar. Dress warm for an outside activity.

Children's announcements

Today in Children's Ministry—Pillar Kids Together!

This alternative Sunday morning programming at 9 am is a time when we gather Pillar kids aged 4 years -5th grade and our High School Students together for combined creative teaching, fellowship, art and play!

Sunday School begins at 9:15 am for children aged 4 - 5th grade. Please sign your children in downstairs at the table before you drop them off in their classroom and pick them up immediately following the end of the worship service.

Children and Worship (for kids 4 years to 2nd grade) will meet today during the 10:30 am service. Please bring your child to the back of the narthex during the passing of the peace where they will be greeted by a children's ministry volunteer. Please pick your children up on the lower level immediately following the worship service.

Little Lambs (2-3 year olds) meets today during the 10:30 am service today. You may sign your children in prior to attending church.

Children's announcements continued

The P3 play group meets Fridays at 10am at the Activity Center (200 E. 14th St). Contact Amy Deur, amy.deur@gmail.com, for more information. All moms/dads with young kids are welcome!

Looking Ahead—(Revised programming please note!)

March 26-9:15am Sunday School will meet/10:30am Children in Worship and Little Lambs

April 2- 9:15am Sunday School will meet/10:30am Children and Worship and Little Lambs

April 9 Palm Sunday-All of Pillar children are invited to play a special role in Palm Sunday Worship Service. There will not be Sunday School or Children in Worship. Be on the lookout for more exciting details to come!

General Announcements

Are you interested in officially joining Pillar church in the ministry of reconciling divisions, renewing the church, raising up leaders and redeeming the city, or do you have questions? There is an information class TODAY after the 10:30 service on the lower level. Lunch will be provided. If you decide to join, you will be welcomed and received in both services next Sunday.

Refugee Care: Our dear friend, Josephine (16) passed driver's ed and now has her driving permit. She needs some help getting her practice hours in with someone over the age of 21. Contact Kat Schulte if you are interested: kat@pillarchurch.com.

Pillar is looking to hire a full-time Ministries Coordinator. If you are interested in learning more about this position, you can find a link on the home page of www.pillarchurch.com Please join our last *Around the Table* of the winter. All women of Pillar and friends enjoy a delicious meal and Bible Study. No preparation necessary. Come meet new faces and bond over God's Word. We will be offering this Tuesday and Wednesday, March 21 and 22 (*please note the change of date*) from 6pm- 8 pm. Please let us know what will work for you. E-mail us at office@pillarchurch.com or sign up in the lobby. All women are invited!

Building Update

We are excited to proceed to the next phase of the proposed Pillar Church Expansion Project. Design development (DD) services take the initial design documents from the schematic phase and move them one step further along. This phase begins to lay out additional details with regard to architectural, structural, and systems details. This work is done in order to give us a better idea of how the project can be developed, provides an opportunity for more specific cost estimates, and ultimately results in another level of approval. The next phase to follow, then, would be the actual preparation of construction documents.

A new committee has been put together to continue our work with Cornerstone Architects and Tom Nemitz in this process: Al Bomers, Abby deRoo, Sue Bakker, Chad Nienhuis, Mark DeHaan, Jim Hoekstra, Jodi Syens and Pastor Jon Brown. We look forward to the new opportunities that will present themselves as we continue to work through the many details that will be addressed, and to keeping you informed of our progress.

About Pillar Church: The Four R's

Reconciling Divisions

Pillar Church is a dual-affiliation congregation of the Reformed Church in America (RCA) and the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRC). This was the first church established by those who settled the city of Holland in 1847. It was originally established as an RCA congregation by Reverend Albertus Van Raalte, but in 1884, after significant tension and a painful split, became a CRC church. After 130 years of division, in the fall of 2012, Pillar Church re-established itself around a vision of reconciliation. The church where two denominations once divided is now a symbol of unity.

Raising Up Leaders

We are blessed to be on the corner of 9th Street and College, essentially on the campus of Hope College and three blocks from Western Theological Seminary. We consider it a gift and take seriously the opportunity to join the Hope and Western communities in raising up students for leadership in the world. We are excited by the numbers of students who worship with us each Sunday, join us for Bible Study on Wednesday nights, serve in ministry with us and participate in the prayer partner program. Raising up young men and women for leadership in the church is of highest importance to us.

Redeeming the City

Holland is another gift to us. It is our heart's desire and hope that as a church strategically located at the center of our downtown area, we will share in the continued work of restoration in our community so: that those who are hungry might receive food, those who are thirsty might be given something to drink, those who aren't ready for school may be helped and those who don't believe in Jesus Christ would meet him. Collaboratively working towards redeeming the city is a constant focus.

Renewing the Church

With the above things urging us forward, we are excited to experience renewal as a church. We believe God has chosen the Church to carry out his purposes for the world, so the health and vibrancy of the local church is not a selfish endeavor, but God's desire for us. Worship of Father, Son and Spirit is central, a commitment to the Word is foundational and a longing to grow all things into Christ is our objective.



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