

Willowdale

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



Welcome to Willowdale Christian Reformed Church

April 21, 2024, 10:00 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of Easter

*In worship, God speaks to us through his Word,
and we respond with praise and prayer.*

About the service:

Worship spaces: In the church Sanctuary and on ZOOM

Worship minister and preacher: Pastor Greg Sinclair

Elder of service: Kamran M.

Song Leader: Leanne Grauds

Reader: Peter Grauds

Worship musician: Hye-jin Im (piano)

Simultaneous Translation: Sylvie Charliekaram

Sound/Zoom/Slides operators: Mary Martens, Elisa P.

Zoom host: Alana Yoneyama

Slides prepared by: Mary Martens

Greeter: Gerard Duiker

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

After the service:

After the service, please join us for coffee and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

Faith and Food conversations start today, mid-teenagers and young adults are welcome to participate. See The Weekly for more information.

If you would like to meet with Pastor Greg, please send an email to pastorgreg@willowdalecrc.com or call: 289-925-4390.

Reflection

In the Heidelberg Catechism we have a masterful picture of *the only comfort*.

– Fred Klooster

Prelude — *Chorale Prelude “Vater unser im Himmelreich”*

— Setting by J.S Bach

Our Father, Thou in heaven above,
Who biddest us to dwell in love,
As brethren of one family,
And cry for all we need to Thee;
Teach us to mean the words we say,
And from the inmost heart to pray.

Geistliche Lieder (Martin Luther Hymn) Tr. C. Winkworth

***Welcome and introduction**

***Call to worship** — Psalm 86:8-13 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

— Pastor Greg Sinclair

Leader: Lord, there is no one like You among the gods,
and there are no works like Yours.
All the nations You have made
will come and bow down before You, Lord,
and will honour Your name.
For You are great and perform wonders;
You alone are God.

All: Teach us Your way, Yahweh,
and we will live by Your truth.
Give us an undivided mind to fear Your name.
We will praise You with all our heart, Lord our God,
and will honour Your name forever.
For Your faithful love for us is great,
and You deliver our life from the depths of Sheol.

***Prayer of adoration** — Pastor Greg Sinclair

***God's greeting** — Pastor Greg Sinclair

***Song of praise** — LUYH 538 — *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty*

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert and art and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Words: Reginald Heber, 1827, alt., P.D.

Children's story — Ms. Betty and Sunday School children

I John 1:5-7

This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

***Song of dedication** — LUYH 743 — *O God, You Are My God (Step by Step)*
sing twice — Ms. Betty

Oh God, You are my God
And I will ever praise You
Oh God, You are my God
And I will ever praise You
I will seek You in the morning
And I will learn to walk in Your ways
And step by step You'll lead me
And I will follow You all of my days

Prayer for the children (Concluded by the Lord's Prayer)

Lord's prayer (in English and Farsi)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come; your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.

ای پدر ما که در آسمانی، نام تو مقدس باد، ملکوت تو بیاید، اراده تو چنانکه در آسمان است بر زمین نیز کرده شود. نان کفاف ما را امروز به ما بده و قرضهای ما را ببخش چنانکه ما نیز قرضداران خود را میبخشیم و ما را در آزمایش میاور بلکه از شریر ما را رهایی ده زیرا ملکوت و قوت و جلال تا ابدالابد از آن توست. آمین

Sunday School Dismissal

All children ages 4-12 are invited to join us for Bible stories, crafts and games.

Call to confession — Ezekiel 36:16-28; John 15:1-4, 7-12 (HCSB)

Ezekiel 36 ¹⁶The word of the LORD came to me [Ezekiel]: ¹⁷“Son of man, while the house of Israel lived in their land, they defiled it with their conduct and actions. ¹⁸So I poured out My wrath on them because of the blood they had shed on the land, and because they had defiled it with their idols. ¹⁹I dispersed them among the nations, and they were scattered among the countries. I judged them according to their conduct and actions.

²⁰ When they came to the nations where they went, they profaned My holy name, because it was said about them, ‘These are the people of Yahweh, yet they had to leave His land in exile.’ ²¹ Then I had concern for My holy name, which the house of Israel profaned among the nations where they went.

²² “Therefore, say to the house of Israel: This is what the Lord GOD says: It is not for your sake that I will act, house of Israel, but for My holy name, which you profaned among the nations where you went. ²³ I will honour the holiness of My great name, which has been profaned among the nations—the name you have profaned among them. The nations will know that I am Yahweh”—the declaration of the Lord GOD—“when I demonstrate My holiness through you in their sight.

²⁴ “For I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries, and will bring you into your own land. ²⁵ I will also sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all your impurities and all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ I will place My Spirit within you and cause you to follow My statutes and carefully observe My ordinances. ²⁸ Then you will live in the land that I gave your fathers; you will be My people, and I will be your God.”

John 15 [Jesus says,] “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vineyard keeper. ² Every branch in Me that does not produce fruit He removes, and He prunes every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce more fruit. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in Me, and I in you. Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in Me.

⁷ “If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be My disciples.

⁹ “As the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you. Remain in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commands you will remain in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commands and remain in His love.

¹¹ “I have spoken these things to you so that My joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. ¹² This is My command: Love one another as I have loved you.

Song of confession — LUYH 761 — *I Will Hide Your Word Inside My Heart*

1. I will hide your word inside my heart
so that it may guide me.
Like a shining light, let it burn so bright;
I will follow you.
2. Come and pour your grace into my heart
so that it may fill me
with the precious things that your Spirit brings;
I will live in you.

Words: Paul Field © 2003 Daybreak Music

Prayer of confession & thanksgiving — Pastor Greg Sinclair

Assurance of forgiveness — Pastor Greg Sinclair

***Song of dedication** — LUYH 375 — *Your Name*

1. As morning dawns and evening fades,
you inspire songs of praise
that rise from earth to touch your heart
and glorify your name.

Refrain

Your name is a strong and mighty tower;
your name is a shelter like no other.
Your name, let the nations sing it louder,
'cause nothing has the power to save
but your name.

2. Jesus, in your name we pray,
come and fill our hearts today.
Lord, give us strength to live for you
and glorify your name.

Refrain

Words: Paul Baloche and Glenn Packiam © 2006 Integrity's Hosanna! Music
(ASCAP)/Vertical Worship Songs (ASCAP), admin. EMICMGPublishing.com

Prayer of illumination — Pastor Greg Sinclair

Scripture reading — Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV) — Pastor Greg Sinclair

⁹ “This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,

¹⁰ your kingdom come,
your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us today our daily bread.

¹² And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.’

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Catechism text — Heidelberg Catechism Lord’s Day 47 Q & A 122

Leader: What does the first petition mean?

All: “Hallowed be your name” means:
Help us to truly know you,
to honour, glorify, and praise you
for all your works
and for all that shines forth from them:
your almighty power, wisdom, kindness,
justice, mercy, and truth.
And it means,
Help us to direct all our living—
what we think, say, and do—
so that your name will never be blasphemed
because of us
but always honoured and praised.

Sermon — *Two Cries for Help* — Pastor Greg Sinclair

***Song of response — LUYH 911 — Abana in Heaven**

Abana in heaven, hallowed be your holy name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
in all the earth as in heaven.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
in all the earth as in heaven.
And give to us, give us this day
our daily bread, O Lord, we pray.
Forgive our sins as we forgive
those who have sinned against us.
And save us in time of trial.
Deliver us from evil.
Yours is the kingdom, yours the power,
Yours is the glory now and ever.
Abana in heaven. Amen.

ای پدر آسمانی نام پاکت مقدس باد.
پادشاهی تو آید بر زمین، چون آسمانها.
نان روزانه ی ما را امروز به ما عطا فرما.
آنان که بر ما بدکردند می بخشیم ما، تو هم ما را.
بخش خدا، بگذر ما، ما را مگذار در آموزشها.
نجات بده از بدیها،
چون پادشاهی و قدرت، شکوه و جلال و عظمت از آن توست تا ابد.
ای پدر آسمانی
آمین.

Faith Alive Christian Resources; tr. and adapt. Anne Emile Zaki, Emily R. Brink (b. 1940), Greg Scheer and Maged Dakouk © 2008, 2012 Faith Alive Christian Resources

Offering Plate

1st Offering, Church Ministries, by cheque to the church or by online banking at any one of the 5 big banks, DUCA and Tangerine.

2nd Offering, Diaconate, by cheque to the church.

You may drop your offering on the plate as you exit the Sanctuary after the service.

Prayers of God's People — Kamran M.

*Celebration of Lord's supper — Pastor Greg Sinclair

Apostles' Creed — in English and Farsi

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.

اعتقادنامه مسیحی

من ایمان دارم به خدای پدر قادر مطلق، خالق آسمان و زمین، و به پسر یگانه او خداوند ما عیسی مسیح که به واسطه روح القدس در رحم قرار گرفت و از مریم باکره متولد شد و در حکومت پنطیوس پیلاتس الم کشید و مصلوب شده بمرد و مدفون گردید، و به عالم ارواح نزول کرد و در روز سوم از مردگان برخاست، به آسمان صعود نموده و به دست راست خدای پدر قادر مطلق نشسته است و از آنجا خواهد آمد و زندگان و مردگان را داوری نماید و من ایمان دارم به روح القدس و به کلیسای مقدس جامع و به شرکت مقدسین و به آموزش گناهان و به قیامت ابدان و به حیات جاودان.

You are invited to come forward to receive the elements.

Bread wrapped in plastic is gluten free.

Communion song — LUYH 836 — *Bless the Lord, My Soul*

Bless the Lord, my soul,
and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life.

Words: Robert Batastini (b. 1942) and The Community of Taizé © 1991, 1998 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community, France, GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American agent

***Benediction** — Pastor Greg Sinclair

***Doxology** — LUYH 861— *In Our Lives, Lord, Be Glorified*

1. In our lives, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in our lives, Lord, be glorified today.
2. In our homes, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in our homes, Lord, be glorified today.
3. In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in your church, Lord, be glorified today.
4. In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in your world, Lord, be glorified today.

Words: Bob Kilpatrick (b. 1952) © 1978 Bob Kilpatrick Music, admin. Lorenz Publishing Company

Council Nominations:

Dear Willowdale CRC congregation, we would like to announce that the process of recruiting new elders and deacons has begun again. If the Spirit prompts you, please send suggestions for nomination to John Meiboom at john.meiboom@gmail.com by April 28, 2024. It is best to not first ask permission from the person before submitting their name. Not all names will be approached by council, since they will review the names based on who has the gifts that are needed at this time on council. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Praise Report:

Pastor Greg and Nelly are pleased to announce the safe arrival of their granddaughter. Mira Lynn was born on April 12. Mira Lynn's parents Alicia and Josiah were a great team and Alicia did really well after 24 hours of labour! Praise be to God!

Prayer Requests:

Please pray for **Cal Seerveld's daughter Anya**, as she continues the long journey of treatment for cancer.

Please pray for our **1st offering** for our **church ministries and expenses**, faithful giving is a blessing to our whole church family.

Please pray for our **2nd offering**, Diaconate. Our deacons use these funds to help those within and outside the congregation who are temporarily encountering difficulties for basic needs. The deacons also host some social functions for those who are elderly and alone. These funds are also used to sponsor the CAP (Congregational Assistance Plan), a program for any member of Willowdale needing professional counselling for any reason from Shalem Mental Health Network, see www.shalemnetwork.org

Food and Faith Conversation:

If you are between your mid-teens and early twenties, you are invited to join Pastor Greg for lunch after church today in the Council Room. We will begin a series on faith formation and conversation together. This will take place after church for approximately one hour. The series will run for 8 weeks with some intermittent breaks. Lunch will be provided. Mark your calendars for the remaining Food and Faith dates: April 28, May 12, 26, June 9, 16, 23.

Intercultural Gathering:

Dear WCRC Congregation, We are excited to remind you that our next Intercultural learning and fellowship event and potluck will be held on Sunday, April 28 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. At this session, we will continue to focus on four other provinces from Iran (Isfahan, Fars, Kerman and Yazd).

Kouroush M. has prepared the presentation slides and will present them in English. He will also collaborate with our next cultural group to prepare for our gathering on Sunday, Jun 23rd.

We hope you can join us and bring a cultural dish or dessert to share!

Sunday School Request:

The Sunday School Team is enjoying our time with the children in the church! And we are growing, which is a wonderful blessing. Currently, we have 2 teachers in the classroom each week and we are in need of a third pair of hands to help with the younger ones. We welcome any teenagers who would like to become involved to sign up for a few Sundays between now and mid-June.

Please approach us on any Sunday or you can email us as well!

Thank you!

Anita Kuipers - anitakuipers@rogers.com

Betty Carter - bettycarter316@gmail.com

Part-Time Bookkeeper:

Willowdale Christian Reformed Church (www.willowdalecrc.com) is looking for someone to fill the role of Bookkeeper on a part-time basis. The Bookkeeper plays an important role in ensuring regular invoice entry to support the timely payment of bills and recording in the accounting system (QuickBooks online) and supporting the Treasurer.

Duties include entry of all regular utility bills, supplier invoices, visiting minister entries and other bookkeeping items including expense reimbursements / reconciliation. Additional duties may include HST filings, second collection disbursements, etc.

This is a part-time role for 2 – 3 hours per week and will report to the Treasurer. This role offers the flexibility to work remotely or in-office, but is required to work on-site at least twice per month to coordinate necessary paperwork, cheques, etc. Pay range is \$25 - \$30 per hour but will depend on experience level.

Candidates are expected to have bookkeeping experience ideally within a non-profit / charity or church setting. If interested please contact Mark VanHelden, Treasurer, at 647-808-8264 or treasurer@willowdalecrc.com

Birthdays:

April 23 — Jacob C. *Happy 90th birthday Jacob!*

April 23 — Nicholas V. L.

April 26 — Lydia K-H.

ZOOM Host Schedule:

April 28 – John

May 5 - Peter

May 12 - Peter

May 19 - Asal

May 26 - Alana

Greeters Schedule:

April 28 – Ardi

May 5 – Rob

May 12 – Asal

May 19 – Kate & Joseph

May 26 – Suzanne

Coffee & Tea Serving Schedule:

April 21 - Lydia, Weria, Maryam, Nelly

April 28 - Ashkan, Kate & Joseph

May 5 - Toktam, Sylvie, Mahboubeh,

May 12 – Lydia, Sarah M., Suzanne, Cici Luy, Lin Lyu

May 19 - Alana, Ashkan, Hye-jin

May 26 - Potluck Sunday - Alana, Lydia

Home Missions – Bike Ministry:

Dear Toronto area friends: Greetings - we are ramping up for our bike program beginning the end of May. We have quite a few little kids' bikes, but very few of the teen/adult bikes which are in great demand for our refugee neighbours. If you have any you're not using, and would like to see them put to good use, we would be glad to pick them up the last week of May (or sooner by my friends if necessary). I am currently on a pre-"retirement" road trip, and will not be back until the last week of May. However, a couple of my good friends in the area are willing to work on and pick up bikes in the meantime if you absolutely need to get them out of your garage before that time. Please call me: 416 371 9660 if you have bikes to donate, and I will pass on the info to local friends. Thanks to all of you for the hundreds of bikes received in the past 20 plus years. In Christ - Steve Frieswick and friends.

From The Lighthouse:

The Lighthouse thanks everyone who supported The Lighthouse in the "Walk Anywhere" Walk-a-thon. We are thankful for those who walked and for those who supported the walkers by sponsoring the them. You can still sponsor any walker by sending your donation to The Lighthouse. **Once again we say a great big thank you to all who walk for The Lighthouse.**

Job opportunities at The Lighthouse: The Lighthouse is looking to hire two summers students to begin working June, 2024 for 8 to 10 weeks and is looking to hire someone to coordinate the foodbank full-time. Details of the job descriptions will be posted on The Lighthouse website at www.lighthousecentre.ca. To apply for either position you can send your resume along with a cover letter to info@lighthousecentre.ca. For more information, please contact Rob at 416-535-6262 or rob@lighthousecentre.ca.

