

Questions:

- How has God shown you mercy in your life?
- How have you shown the mercy of God to your children, family members, neighbors, and those you disagree with?
- When has someone shown you mercy and grace in your life?

Sermon audio and notes are available online at
www.rockfordreformedchurch.org/sermons-2/

Prayer Fellowship

Recovery & Intercession:

~**Medical concerns of various Haiti individuals, especially Jorvens.**

~**Lucy Layman** is home and continues rehab.

~**Carol Riegling** is home and doing well.

~**Elaine Pierson** is in Hospice care at Raybrook Manor.

~**Dave Mundwiler** – tumor is stable, continues treatment.

~**Bill Boyd** continues dialysis and awaits a transplant.

~**Ray Dulyea** continued prayer his kidney “numbers” will not change.

~Be in prayer for **disaster victims**, and **people searching for jobs**.

~Pray for our military: **Emily Bowers, Nick Welch** and all military personnel.

Extended Family:

~**Judy Handanch** (Terri Katsma’s sister) Undergoing chemo & radiation.

~**Carrol Orton** (Sharon Dulyea’s sister) undergoing chemo treatments.

~**Nancy Kingma** (cousin of Pomrankas) undergoing chemo treatments.

~**Brandon Homrich** (Newkirk’s son-in-law) Pet scan 4/6. If cancer free will start stem cell transplant.

~**Kathy Lambers** (friend of Bergman’s) doing a clinical trial and having success.

~**Barry Lambers** (Kathy’s husband) experiencing more movement.

~**Helen Heemstra** (Terri Katsma’s mom) undergoing chemo treatments.

Praise & Thanksgiving:

~Congratulations to **Fred & Dawn (Balinski) VanderHaag** who were united in marriage on April 8.

~Congratulations to **Ricky & Michelle Hoyos** on the birth of their daughter, **Annabelle Rose**, on March 27. Grandparents are **Steve & Nancy Steenyk**.

Welcome!

We are glad you’re here! We want your experience to be a good one, so we have put together a bit of info to help you know what to expect while you are here.

Our worship service: Thanks for joining us today! We will begin the service with singing. Feel free to stand, sing, or just listen as we express our worship to God. If you don’t know the songs, don’t worry, just follow along with the words on the screen!

The message: This is a time of practical teaching from the Bible. Often, multi-media presentations are incorporated to supplement the message. There is space in the bulletin to take notes if you wish.

The offering: This is a time to share with the church how God has blessed us financially. If you are visiting, don’t feel you have to contribute. The only thing we’d like from you is your connections card (bulletin insert).

Prayer time: We will pray together a couple of times throughout the service.

Refreshments: Join us for coffee in the lobby after service! Visitors may pick up a complementary gift mug and welcome packet. If you have any questions, this is the place to find answers!

Childcare: Your children are welcome to remain with you throughout the service! We love that our church is a welcoming place for families. We do have a nursery for children ages 0-3 years if you would prefer to use that. We also have a parent-infant room near the back of the sanctuary for fussy children and nursing mothers. Children ages 3-7 are invited to participate in Children’s Worship, an age-appropriate worship and learning time. Children start service with their parents and will be dismissed part way through. If you are unfamiliar with this program, you are encouraged to accompany your kids the first time. They can be picked up after each service in Room 112 on the lower level. Children 8 and older are encouraged to remain in the service with their parents. Children’s bulletins are available.

Formality: We have no dress code. Whether you are in jeans or a tux, we’re just glad you’re here! You are also welcome to sip your coffee or read along with scripture passages on your mobile devices. We just ask that you silence your phones as a courtesy to others.

To learn more about our ministries and beliefs, be sure to pick up a welcome packet in the lobby or visit our website: rockfordreformedchurch.org.

Vision: To always be a living reflection of Christ’s hands, feet, and voice in the community.

Mission: To connect people to Jesus Christ and encourage them to grow in their relationship with Him through worship and fellowship, so they will reach out to serve and disciple others for the glory of God.

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Rockford Reformed Church
connecting • growing • serving

Sunday, April 9, 2017

Worship @ 8:45am & 11:00am



In Tenderness

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONGS OF WORSHIP

Hosanna (Praise is Rising), Hosanna, All Creatures

Children (ages 3 years - 3rd grade) are invited to KidLife Worship downstairs

OFFERING

PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 6:1-3 (p.893)

MESSAGE

“The Christian Family: Children of Mercy / Children of Judgement”

Pastor Tony Campbell

RESPONSE

Forever Reign

CLOSING BLESSING

Today’s Nursery Volunteers:

(8:45am) Polly Johnson, Madelyn McConnon (11:00am) Jaime Mueller, Emily Sansoterra

Today’s KidLife Worship Volunteers:

(8:45am) Beth Jennings (11:00am) Emily DeWitte, Becki Pilko, Avery Jennings



Next Sunday:

Resurrection Day Celebration

Pastor Paul Bradford

What's Going On?

Today:

8:20am: Prayer in Room #212 to pray over the services. All welcome!

April 9: Blood Pressure Screening after both services in Rm#211

10:00am: Sunday School for all ages:

NOTE: NO Sunday School classes on April 16 – Easter!

- **Ages 3 – DK** meet in Classroom #111
- **Grades K-5th grade** meet in Classroom #101
- **Middle School** (grades 6-8) Youth Room #153
- **High School** (grades 9-12) Classroom #246
- **Adults:** Thy Kingdom Come: Practical Applications of the Resurrection” led by Bren Shantz. Fireside Rm #253.

6:30pm: High School Youth Group. Meet in the Youth Room #153 **NO Meeting April 9 & 16 – Spring Break**

This Week:

Mondays, 6:30-7:30pm: Weekly Prayer Meeting. April 10 in the Fireside Rm#253.

Tuesdays, 7:00am: Men's Prayer Breakfast. Join us any time.

Tuesdays, 9:30-11am: Women's Bible Study – “The Ten Commandments,” led by Marcia Coleman and Jean Boyd in Rm #212.

Wednesday Night Activities:

6:30pm **April 12: Derby Car Race.** Hot Dogs & Chips for dinner.

6:30pm **Middle School Youth Group.** Meet in the Youth Room #153

6:45pm “Discovery Class” – **NO** meeting April 12. Fireside Rm #253

Last Thursday/month, 7:00-8:30pm: Ladies Book Club. Fireside Rm #253.

April Book: *Gardenias for Breakfast* by Robin Jones Gunn. Next meeting 4/27.

April 13 – Maundy Thursday Communion Service (7:00pm)

April 14 – Rockford Area Community Good Friday Service (7:00pm) at Bella Vista Church, 5100 Belding Rd. (Hosted by Rockford Area Ministerial Assn)

Sat, April 15, 9:30am: Easter Egg Hunt & Family Breakfast.

Announcements/Events - GENERAL:

Mail Folders and bulletin boards are in the church office hallway.

Communion: 1st Sunday of every month

2017 Church Directory: Pick up a copy on the table in the office hallway near the Family Mail Folders.

March 27-April 14: Lenten Prayer Walk (Self-guided) 8:30am-4:30pm, Mon-Fri. Check the website for additional times.

April 16 – Easter Sunday (8:45am & 11:00am)

Easter Baskets: We brought **145** Easter Baskets to North Kent Community Services. *Thank You Everyone!*

Sat, April 29, 8am-2pm: Garage Sale – Bergman Adoption Fundraiser at RRC. Drop off donations starting April 24.

Sun, May 7, 4:00pm: Hymn Sing at RRC (sanctuary) followed by an Ice Cream Social at the Cruttenden's Home, 7690 Honeysuckle Ln NE, Rockford. Ice Cream provided, bring your favorite toppings. Games in their backyard.

Sat, May 13: River Bank Run: Join the RRC Adoption Team (or sponsor a runner) to help raise funds for the Bergman's adoption. More info on our website.

On-line Giving: You can give directly from your phone or computer! There's a link to the form on the front page of our website www.RockfordReformedChurch.org



Announcements/Events - YOUTH:

Brian Ellis: brian@rockfordrc.org

Sunday School at 10:00am: **MS** (Youth Room #153), **HS** (Rm #246)

MS meets on Wednesdays @ 6:30pm, **HS** meets on Sundays @ 6:30pm

Announcements/Events - CHILDREN:

Children's Ministries – Beth Jennings, Director: beth@rockfordrc.org

KidLife Club – Laura Jolliffe, Director: laura@rockfordrc.org

KidLife Sunday School for ages 3 through 5th grade at 10:00am

KidLife Club (Club is done for the season – see you in the Fall)

Derby Car Race: 6:30pm, Wed, April 12. Hot Dogs & Chips for dinner.

VBS: June 25-28 (Sunday-Wednesday)

Attendance / Finance:

Last week's attendance: 167

Last week's Ministry & Missions offering: \$12,230.88

Last week's FLC Debt Reduction offering: \$2,110.00

Youth Garage Sale raised \$2,800.00 *Thank you to everyone who donated!*

Children of Mercy / Children of Judgement

5th in Series: The Christian Family

Text: Ephesians 6:1-3

Sunday: 4/9/2017

A) Children grow to become not what they hear but what they see.

Jesus followed to become like his father.
We follow Jesus to become like Jesus.
We follow Jesus to teach our children well.

B) His resurrection means victory over death.

The resurrection means we become children over mercy and grace.

God has shown us mercy - we are called to show mercy.

To be children of grace and to have victory in Christ, the scripture tells us that we need (2) things:

1) The Apostle Paul says that we are saved by grace thru faith, so we need faith.

2) We need to forgive:
Matthew 6: 14-15 Mark 11:26
Galatians 3:13 Ephesians 4:31-32
Matthew 18:21-22

C) Forgiveness is very important.

It frees us from prison of the past, prison of our own anger, and it teaches our child to be children of light. Palm Sunday is about a God who is willing to go to Jerusalem and death to show us his mercy. Because we all make mistakes, we all fail at times. Palm Sunday reminds us, and our children, that our failure is not fatal in Christ.

Our nations have become judgmental. Churches have become Judgmental. This leads us to a world, at best, where we cannot work together, and at worst, to a world where we are at war with our neighbor. Instead, God calls us to hold our convictions with humility and compassion. God calls us to be children of mercy and grace. He calls us to provide a better world for our children. To teach our children to become people of mercy, grace, and life.