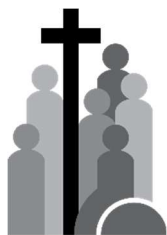


Neland Avenue

Christian Reformed Church

There's a place for you at Neland



MORNING WORSHIP

10 A.M.

November 17, 2024

*The Lord of all creation gathers us to worship today.
We praise his name and proclaim his mighty power over all the earth.
It gives us hope to know: He's got this whole world in his loving hands.
And he is more determined than Pharaoh: He will not let us go.*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude: "All Creatures of Our God and King" (arr. Porter)

"Crown Him with Many Crowns" (arr. Snell)

Welcome and Call to Worship

*Songs: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" 26:1,2,3,6

"My God Is So Great"⁺

My God is so great, so strong and so might!

There's nothing my God cannot do!

My God is so great, so strong and so might!

There's nothing my God cannot do!

**The mountains are his, the rivers are his,
the stars are his handiwork too.**

My God is so great, so strong and so might!

There's nothing my God cannot do!

*God's Greeting and Mutual Greeting

*Song: "Beautiful Savior" 17:1,2,4

CELEBRATING OUR NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession with "God, Be Merciful to Me" 622/623

*Assurance of Pardon

*Response of Gratitude: "Neither Death nor Life" 450

*God's Will for Our Lives

*Profession of Faith from the *Contemporary Testimony* (7,8) and
Belgic Confession (1,2)

**Our world belongs to God—
not to us or earthly powers,
not to demons, fate, or chance.**

**The earth is the Lord's.
In the beginning, God—
Father, Word, and Spirit—
called this world into being
out of nothing,
and gave it shape and order.**

Our world, fallen into sin, has lost its first goodness,
but God has not abandoned the work of his hands:
our Maker preserves this world,

**God holds this world with fierce love.
Keeping his promise, he sends Jesus into the world,
pours out the Holy Spirit, and announces the good news:
sinners who repent and believe in Jesus
live anew as members of the family of God—
the firstfruits of a new creation.**

And our good creator God wants us to *know* him.
The Belgic Confession asks us: how do we know God?

**We believe that we know God by two means:
First, by the creation, preservation, and government of the universe,
since that universe is before our eyes like a beautiful book
in which all creatures, great and small,
are as letters to make us ponder the invisible things of God:
God's eternal power and divinity.
All these things are enough to convict humans
and to leave them without excuse.
Second, God makes himself known to us more clearly
by his holy and divine Word, as much as we need in this life,
for God's glory and for our salvation.**

Children's Prayer and Blessing

Leader: What is our prayer for these children and their leaders?

Congregation: **The Lord be with you.**

Children: And also with you.

(Children ages 3 through pre-K may go to Church School, and K-1st may go to Children and Worship.)

Prayers of the People and Prayer for Illumination with "Don't Be Afraid"

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

The Story of the Plagues

with "When Israel Was in Egypt's Land" 42
and musical excerpts from "Exodus: A Biblical Sonata"⁺⁺

Scripture Reading: Exodus 7:8-13, 9:13-35 (p.95)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Message: *Lord of All Creation*

*Song of Response: "Let All Creation's Wonders" 555

WE RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE

Offering

Our weekly offering envelopes and financial gifts are for the General Fund, Christian Education Fund, and Mission Fund. They can be placed in the offering plate, mailed to the church office, or given electronically. This week we also offer special gifts for the Neland Benevolence Fund.

Musical Offering: "Beautiful Savior" (arr. Raabe)

*Doxology: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" 964

*Song: "Forever" 578

*God's Blessing

*Postlude: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" (arr. Curnow)

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

+Words and Music: Children's folk song

++"Exodus: A Biblical Sonata" was published by Larry Visser (2002), organist at LaGrave CRC, as a teaching tool about the organ for elementary students. This morning, we are using short excerpts from the larger sonata to help illustrate the story.

Participants: Dawn Hendriksen, service accompanist; Joel DeMoor, preacher

David Zwart, saxophone, Brian Koster, saxophone

Julie Wildschut, liturgist; Lindsey Lautenbach, prayers of the people

Micah DeMoor, Tim Hendriksen, Randy Hoekstra; AV team



Hearing Loop System available; switch hearing aid to T-coil.

Sanctuary Visuals:

"*The Egyptians made the Israelites' lives bitter with harsh labor in brick and mortar*" The brick wall symbolizes captivity and bondage - for the Israelites, and on so many levels, in our lives as well. The communion table and the banners – with pillar of cloud and pillar of fire – remind us that amidst the misery, sin, and bondage, God promises his presence and deliverance.

FALL SERIES 2024

We're continuing our series on the book of **Exodus**.

The last couple years we've walked through Genesis, with our series: *Bound to the Broken* and *Dreamweaver*.

But Exodus is powerful too. And we've picked another God-centered title for this series: ***Determined to Deliver***.



If Genesis showed us our Creator who promises, who stays bound to the broken, Exodus shows our Sustainer who saves, who is *determined to deliver* his people. God will *not* abandon the works of his hands; but “with a mighty hand, and outstretched arms,” he will raise us up – freeing us from all kinds of bondage, to worship and serve him in Christ.

And Exodus is fitting for us in this moment as well. The word means “exit.” And we’re feeling forced to exit

our old denominational home. It’s a book of *wilderness wanderings and wonderings*, where we’ll have to learn to *lean* on one another, and depend so much more on the Lord.

Photo: Ramses II – one of the pharaohs suggested in *Exodus*

Welcome to Neland

A warm welcome to all who worship with us today!

Neland’s Mission Statement

Believing that the grace of God, the sacrificial love of Jesus, and the powerful gift of the Holy Spirit are at work in the world, and also in us, Neland Church seeks to be a community of hope where all will experience and extend the deep welcome of Christ.