

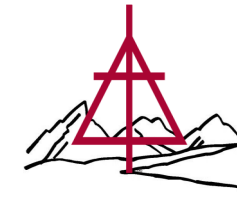
# Sermon Notes

sermon title:

today is:

key verses:

Notes



## FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

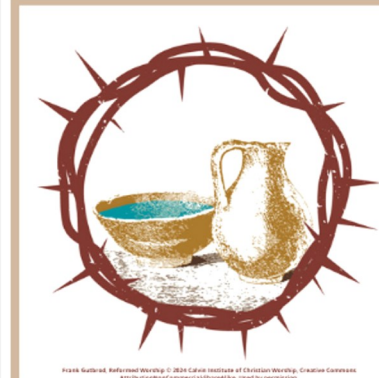
RR3 Site 4 Box 6, Rocky Mountain House, T4T 2A3 403.845.6067

Our **MISSION** is to worship God faithfully, nurture one another to grow in Christ, joyfully tell others about Jesus, develop our gifts to serve and pursue stewardship, justice and peace in every area of life.

Pastor Ken Douma – kgdouma@gmail.com 780.728.8148

Pastor Natasha Specht - pastornatasha@rockycrc.ca (Monday -Thursday)

Church Office: Tuesday — Friday 9:00am to 12:00pm office@rockycrc.ca



# March 29

Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

## Servant King

www.firstcrocky.ca  
@FirstCRC.Rocky Mtn House on Facebook

### Morning Worship Service

Welcome

♪ Meekness and Majesty

Call to Worship - Sunday School

♪ Hosanna, Hosanna

Sunday School ♪ Cloaks & Branches

God's Greeting/We Welcome One Another

♪ All Glory, Laud and Honor

Call to Confession & Prayer

♪ Oh to See the Dawn

Assurance of Pardon

♪ Grace Alone

Children's Message - Pastor Ken  
(Sunday School for Age 3 - Grade 5)

Announcements & Congregational Prayer  
Offering for Calvin Theological Seminary  
Offertory

Scripture - Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2,19-29  
Message - Servant King  
♪ The Servant Song

Blessing  
♪ Go Now in Peace

## Welcome to First CRC Rocky

If you are visiting we want to offer a warm welcome!  
We pray you will encounter God today as you worship and bring Him praise!

Nursery is available for infants & small children. Sunday School for age 3 through Grade 5 during the service.  
Join us for coffee in the fellowship hall following the service.

[www.firstcrocky.ca](http://www.firstcrocky.ca) or [FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse on Facebook](#)

## CHURCH FAMILY

*“For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”*  
*Ephesians 3:14-19*

† As a ministerial church, each church has been asked to pray for our brothers and sisters in our community, today we are praying for **Coyote Creek Chapel** (Sunchild Reserve).

† Birthday congratulations to **Gertie W.** celebrating on April 1!

† We pray for our members at the local care facilities: **Joan S.** and **Tonia T.** For those at home: **Sylvia D.** and **Joe V.**, and in the hospital: **Lena V.** We pray for all caregivers who are able to assist those who require a little extra help and care.

† Please keep **all missionaries** in God’s care, wherever they may be serving. Pray for Protection: *“Pray, too, that we will be rescued from wicked and evil people, for not everyone is a believer.” - 2 Thessalonians 3:2 (NLT)*  
In some cultures or contexts, missionaries may be exposed to the possibility of danger and personal harm. Opposition to the gospel may include hatred and violence. Pray ...

- That God will keep missionaries safe.
- That God will change the hearts of those who are resistant to His Word.
- For wisdom and discernment in challenging situations.

Check out the **Missions bulletin board**, in the social hall, for updates on the missionaries that we support.

If you know of anyone that we should be keeping in our prayers for various reasons,  
Council asks that you please call Pastor Ken, Pastor Natasha, an elder or a deacon.

Elders are: Brenda B., Sheldon B., Alan H., Karl H., Cody L., John M., Nancy O., Richard O., Ernie S., Joel S. and Gary V.  
Deacons are: Lorraine A., Ken B., Anneleen D., Jim D., Mark H. and Jacob L.

## The Ministry of Self-Giving

### Palm Sunday

#### How Shall We Respond this Week?

#### Fasting

- Instead of removing something from your life this week, add to it. Find a service opportunity this week. Is there a member from church who could use a meal or a phone call? Is a local pantry or donation center in need of volunteers? Would some shut-ins appreciate some fresh flowers in their room? Whatever you find to do, do it with the humility of Christ, the servant king.

#### Prayer

- Consider reading and praying through a gospel account of Holy Week this week. One structure that also provides optional prayers and artwork for reflection is the Revised Common Lectionary.

#### Around the Kitchen Table

- Set aside an empty chair to symbolize Christ's presence in your home and lives—a Christ chair. Drape your Christ chair in purple this week, the color of royalty. You can consider replacing the purple on Friday and Saturday with black, and then draping the chair in white on Easter morning. Discuss ways that Christ displayed his kingship in his last week. How did Christ continue to demonstrate humility and servanthood in this final week as well?

#### Ideas for Including Children

- You can easily make a set of resurrection eggs to tell the story of Holy Week with children. Each egg should contain a symbol of some part of the Holy Week story. Here is a blog post that describes some potential symbols (<https://www.faithward.org/diy-resurrection-eggs-for-holy-week/>). The eggs can function like an Advent calendar in so far as the children open a set number of eggs each day of the week and hear that part of the story leading up to Easter Sunday.

## Weekly Calendar of Events

March 29	March 30	March 31	April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4
10:00am Worship Service 1:15pm Clearwater Centre 2:30pm Westview Lodge 7:00pm Nehemiah Study No Youth	No Friendship Mtg.	Office: Cheri-Lynn No Coffeebreak 1:30pm Worship Prep. Mtg.	8:30am Prayer Meeting 10:00am Revelation Study 7:30pm Men's Bible Study	12:00pm Bulletin deadline 9:15am Crafting	7:00pm Good Friday Worship Service - Lord's Supper	
April 5	April 6	April 7	April 8	April 9	April 10	April 11
10:00am Worship Service No Nehemiah Study No Youth	No Friendship Mtg.	Office: Cheri-Lynn 9:30am Coffeebreak 7:30pm Deacons	8:30am Prayer Meeting 10:00am Revelation Study 7:00pm GEMS Cadets Catechism	12:00pm Bulletin deadline		

All bulletins can be found online [www.firstcrocky.ca](http://www.firstcrocky.ca)

Check out our Facebook page (@FirstCRC.RockyMtnHouse) or website ([firstcrocky.ca](http://firstcrocky.ca)) for links to sermons.

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Thank you, for all you do!	March 29 Pastor Ken	April 5 - Easter Sunday Pastor Ken	April 12 Pastor Ken
<b>Serving Elder</b>	Sheldon B.	Alan H.	Karl H.
<b>Serving Deacon</b>	Ken B.	Jim D.	Anneleen D.
<b>Music Team</b>	Lifted Hearts	Six Track	Mosaic
<b>Children's Message</b>	Pastor Ken	Elroy L.	Corinne S.
<b>Sunday School Helpers</b>	Reid D., Cadence B., Debbie S.	No Sunday School	Jamie D., Jace H., Ryan B.
<b>Nursery</b>	Amber B., Corinne V., Marlene D., Travis A.	No Nursery	Marisa P., Sara D., Rita B., Sophia K.
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Aaron & Colleen T.	Mark & Jessica H.	Jerry & Lena F.
<b>Greeters/Coffee Cleanup</b>	Jamie & Rhianna M. Justin & Courtney D.	Dick & Rose W. Don & Marion R.	John & Judy D. Rob & Fran D.

## Deacon's Corner ~ Lorraine A., Ken B., Anneleen D., Jim D., Mark H., Jacob L.

### Upcoming Offerings

#### March 29 - Calvin Theological Seminary

Calvin Theological Seminary serves the Christian Reformed Church in North America and wider constituencies by preparing individuals for biblically faithful and contextually effective ministry of the Word and by offering Reformed theological scholarship and counsel. Students and faculty are blessed to be included this month on the Special Sunday Offering schedule. The funds contributed to this offering today go towards specific projects or programs that contribute directly to the church.

Thank you for supporting the mission of Calvin Seminary.

#### April 5 - Resonate Global Mission

He has risen! Jesus overcame sin and death through the cross and resurrection. When we follow Jesus, we have an opportunity to live into that truth a little more every day. We also have a calling to work toward the kingdom transformation Jesus brought to earth. Resonate Global Mission, your CRC mission agency, walks alongside you and your church as you go out and proclaim that Christ, the Light of the world, has overcome the darkness.

#### Gratefully Received March 15 & 22

Local Church Ministries \$6125      YWAM (Coletton & Ira G.) \$1467  
Kitchen Reno \$100      Sunday School \$245

### Upcoming Services

#### Today - Sunday, March 29

Worship services at Clearwater Centre (1:15pm) and Westview Lodge (2:30pm)  
Pastor Natasha is hosting a **light lunch** at her house for those helping with the Clearwater and Lodge services. If you are available to join her at these two services to help with singing and would like to join her for lunch, you are welcome to come over to the parsonage after church.

#### Friday, April 3

Good Friday Service & Lord's Supper (7:00pm)

#### Sunday, April 26

GEMS & Cadet Sunday

## Prayer Ministry

Would you like prayer, but are unsure how or who to ask?

In the pews there are Prayer Request envelopes.

On the outside of the envelope - you can select who you would like to pray for you

Inside - there is a card for more details and contact information if needed.

In the foyer is a prayer request box for submitting these prayer requests.

Whatever you are going through - times of beauty or ones of trouble - we would love to pray with you.

Visit [www.firstcrocky.ca](http://www.firstcrocky.ca) (via the CONTACT link or Prayer Ministries link) to submit a request online.

## From the Deacons & Treasurer

There are several ways to give to the church:

**Coupons** - Allow you to give to the weekly offerings, without having to use loose change. They come in \$2, \$5 and \$10 coupons. Coupons can be directly purchased from a Deacon, in the Council room, on Sunday's following the service.

**Cheque** - To "First Christian Reformed Church of RMH". If you wish to have your cheque allocated to a specific cause approved by the deacons or otherwise announced please indicate that cause on the memo line of your cheque.

**E-transfers** - Send to [treasurer@rockycrc.ca](mailto:treasurer@rockycrc.ca) On the memo please specify the cause you would like money allocated to.

**Pre-Authorized Bank Withdrawals** - Contact Marlene O. to sign up or get a form from the office.

## Highlights from the Full Council Meeting March 24

1. Our Classis delegates reported on some of the Classis business. They noted that our church is blessed in many ways. A refugee family from Syria (fled from Iran) were set to fly to Canada, but were delayed when the Iran/Israel-USA crisis erupted. Please pray for their immigration to proceed.
2. Pastor Ken reported on his work.
3. A First Aid course will be offered for church volunteers. Watch the bulletin for details.
4. A Youth Ministry Grant was given to the four youth of our church going to Belize with the Rocky Christian School mission trip.
5. A discussion on the ideas from the Thrive Workshop held in January was discussed.
6. The 2026 church campout will be held at the V. Ranch, August 21-22-23. Mark your calendar and watch for more details. The Sunday worship service will be held at the campout.
7. The Safe church Policy was amended to lower the minimum age of Sunday School helpers from 12 to 11 years.
8. **Online Church Survey is open until March 31.** Everyone is encouraged to complete the online survey.

Joel S., Clerk



"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;  
His mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is Your faithfulness."  
~ Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV ~

**IRAN:** Heightened Concerns for Christian Prisoners

Sources: Article18, BBC Persian

As political conflict continues in Iran, serious concerns have been raised about the safety of the country's prisoners of conscience, including at least 48 Christian captives. In June 2025, Evin Prison was struck by an Israeli missile, resulting in major damages to the facility which houses many religious and political prisoners. Those in custody were transferred to other locations of the country where they were imprisoned amid unsanitary and overcrowded conditions until the repairs were completed. Human rights advocates warn that the renewed instability raises the risk of similar incidents occurring.

According to reports by Amnesty International, detainees are frequently held in or near security facilities that have become targets of U.S. and Israeli attacks. In one recent example, the Greater Tehran Prison sustained damages when a nearby military garrison was struck. It remains unknown how many prisoners had been killed by guards who attempted to prevent the captives from escaping.

Some prisoners were transferred to undisclosed locations or areas near potential military targets, placing their lives in further danger. There have also been reports of "enforced disappearances," and situations in which many detainees are being denied access to adequate supplies of food and water. Despite the completion of repairs at Evin Prison, its administration is allegedly in "serious disarray," with lockdowns in certain wings that are preventing prisoners from accessing basic necessities.

While Iran's theocratic government has imposed severe restrictions on Christians for many years, the country's underground church has been referred to as 'the fastest growing in the world.'

- ***Pray for a just and peaceful resolution to the conflict; and, in the interim, for the protection of innocent civilians caught in its path.***
- ***Ask our Heavenly Father to strengthen, comfort and secure the release of Christian prisoners of conscience who are being detained because of their faith in Jesus.***
- ***May God's Spirit continue to move powerfully throughout Iran, leading many more to true deliverance and eternal hope in Him.***

## ReFrame Ministries

**Kids Corner Devotions:** Courageous Twists and Turns - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Courageous Twists and Turns," at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Feeling scared is okay, and being brave means trying even when your heart feels nervous. With God's help, you can face hard things and do what's right, just like Jesus did. Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), like KC's Lent and Easter Collection.

**Groundwork:** Jesus on the Cross - Jesus' journey to the cross was done. But even as he hung dying on the cross, he showed compassion and mercy when he offered words of salvation to a crucified thief and established a new kind of family. Join Groundwork as we study Luke 23:39-43 and John 19:25-27 to experience the eleventh and twelfth Stations of the Cross and discuss how God continues to offer us that same mercy and belonging today. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

## Thrive

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - Today is Palm Sunday, which marks the beginning of Holy Week, a time when we remember the final days of Jesus' life and we reflect on the events that led to his crucifixion. Download God's Big Easter Story: A Holy Week Journey for Families ([DwellCurriculum.org/Home](http://DwellCurriculum.org/Home)) for a meaningful way to walk with Jesus in the last moments of his life and to experience the miracle of his resurrection. This simple devotional guide helps people of all ages grow in faith as they reflect on Jesus' journey to the cross—and beyond. Brought to you by Thrive: [crcna.org/Thrive](http://crcna.org/Thrive)

## Resonate Global Mission

**Wisdom in the Age of AI Conference** - Calvin University will host Wisdom in the Age of AI, **October 8–10**, a conference exploring how Christian faith can guide the wise and faithful use of artificial intelligence. With dynamic keynote speakers and a dedicated AI and Church track, the conference offers thoughtful conversation for pastors and lay leaders alike. The conference will be held in person at the Prince Conference Center on Calvin University's campus, with *livestream available for people unable to attend in person*. Learn more at [calvin.edu/faith-and-technology](http://calvin.edu/faith-and-technology)

## Church Announcements

**Old Testament Bible study on Nehemiah**, Sunday evenings at **7:00 pm** here at First CRC. If you are interested in joining us, please feel free to speak with Pastor Natasha or John M.

If anyone is interested in being part of a **New Members Class** this Spring, please talk to Pastor Ken or Pastor Natasha.

**Men's Bible Study** - All men are invited to come to the church every other Wednesday evening at **7:30pm** (the next one is April 1st) for a study based on the book, "*How to Pray - A Simple Guide for Normal People.*"

**Sonrise Camps** (July 5 -10 and July 12-17) and **Vacation Bible Camp (VBC)** (July 20 -23) - The planning has begun and there are several opportunities to serve: Cooks, cook helpers, counselors, worship band, games person, craft person, bus drivers and laundry. If you are interested (sign up sheet on the bulletin board) or want if you want more information please talk to Marie A., Zachary B., Lydia B., Sheldon B., Alberta V., Kelly B. or Cody L.

Hello Church Family, Easter Sunday (April 5) after the service, we will be gathering signatures for a **Pro-Life petition**. In November the National Post ran a story that late term abortions (after 20 weeks) are occurring frequently in Canada, which is paid for by your tax dollars. The petition is asking Parliament to pass legislation to ban late term abortion. I would encourage you all to take some time to sign the petition which will be set up in the foyer after the service on Easter Sunday. *Thank you, Ken B.*

Church Campout - after a great turnout last year, we are going to plan another campout this summer for the weekend of **August 21-23rd**. The V. amily has graciously offered to host us out at the ranch once again. More details to follow. Any questions, talk to Lydia B. or Cailyn B.

Have you been heard? Our congregation has a once-in-five-year opportunity to participate in the **2026 CRC denominational survey**. This survey helps denominational leadership understand the concerns and needs of local congregations like ours. It is crucial that as many people from our congregation as possible participate. Please **visit [cncna.org/survey/396](http://cncna.org/survey/396)** to answer the survey questions by March 31.

There are moments when Jesus invites us to step deeper into His healing work—and this spring is one of those moments. **Dunamis Fellowship Canada** is hosting Dunamis Essentials #4: The Healing Ministry of Jesus, April 16–18 at Bethel Community Church (14204 25 St NW, Edmonton). This three-day gathering is designed to help believers understand and participate in the healing ministry that Jesus modeled and entrusted to His disciples. Across the weekend, we'll explore: how Scripture frames healing ministry, how Jesus brings healing to inner life and relationships, how healing ministry can flourish in the local church and how to cooperate with the Holy Spirit in practical, grounded ways. Cost: \$100. See the poster on the bulletin board for more information or contact Joanne T.