

**Morning Worship ~ 9:30 AM
November 16, 2025**

God Gathers Us into Worship

Prelude
*Call to Worship
*Opening Song: LUYH 500 vs. 1, 3, & 4
Lord, Our Lord, Your Glorious Name

*Prayer
*Mutual Greeting

We Lift Our Voices to God in Worship

*Songs of Praise: LUYH 157 *Meekness and Majesty*
CH 9 *Glorify Thy Name*
Reading of the Law/Christian Living

We Respond Through Prayer

Praises and Prayer Concerns
Congregational Prayer
Offering East Martin Christian School

God Speaks to Us through His Word

Scripture: **Romans 11:36** (P. 1763)
Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Message: **Soli Deo Gloria (To God be the Glory Alone) –
The Glory of God and the Happiness of Man**
*Song of Response: CH 147 vs. 1-3 *How Great Thou Art*

God Blesses Us as We Go Forth in Mission

*Parting Blessing
*Closing Song CH 147 v. 4 *How Great Thou Art*

*Please stand if able

**Evening Worship
6:00 PM**

God Gathers Us into Worship

Prelude
*Call to Worship
*Opening Prayer

We Lift Our Voices to God in Worship

*Opening Songs: LUYH 800 *What the Lord Has Done in Me*
LUYH 562 vs. 1, 2, & 4
We Will Extol You, Lord and King

*Apostles Creed

We Respond Through Prayer

*Song of Prayer CH 336 vs. 1-3 *There is a Fountain*
Praises and Prayer Concerns
Congregational Prayer
Offering Mel Trotter Mission

God Speaks to Us through His Word

Scripture: **Acts 2:39** (P. 1694)
Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Message: **For You and Your Children**
Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 27 (Page 34 back of the Psalter)
*Song of Response LUYH 802 vs. 1 & 3
Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

God Blesses Us as We Go Forth in Mission

*God's Parting Blessing
*Closing Song CH 308 vs. 2 & 3 *There Is a Redeemer*

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Dave Misner

Laura DeMaagd 269-998-0367

Kevin Bouman, Vern Klaasen,
Nancy Leep, Dave Mejeur,
Dean Wubben, Bruce Tiemeyer

WORSHIP

Harold Wykstra

Sara Denzel 210-608-0075

Libby Dendel, Ruth Katje,
Denise Leep, Julie Wubben
Scott Tuinstra

EDUCATION

Don Wubben

Laura Westendorp 616-293-8274

Dawn Anderson, Bob Katje

NURSERY

Jen DeYoung 269-672-7496

Laura DeMaagd
Jessica Tucker

EXECUTIVE

Dennis DeYoung

Wayne Leep
Cameron Tuinstra

JANITOR

Rozalyn Denzel 210-632-8588

FINANCE

Tim Westendorp 269-204-8729

Rebekah Westendorp,
Wayne Leep

SOUND

Harold Wykstra 269-217-6463

Bruce Tiemeyer, Don Wubben
Ryan Tucker, Ruth Katje

SR HIGH YOUTH

Libby Dendel 269-492-5006

GEMS

Amy Kalkman 269-838-9105

CADETS

Scott Tuinstra 269-225-9531

CHURCH SAFETY

Kevin Bouman

Kevin DeKoekkoek, Stan Leep,
Tim Westendorp, Dave Misner
Ron VandenBerg, Chase DeMaagd
Thomas Westendorp, Scott Tuinstra
Harold Wykstra

OUTREACH

Cameron Tuinstra
Glenn & Nancy Leep
Bruce Mejeur
Deb Smit
Scott & Jen Tuinstra



OUR VISION

Our purpose, having been called by Christ to a life of service, is to glorify God through Biblical worship, strengthening and enriching one another in the Christian life, and sharing Christ's love through word and deed in faithful witness, both within our congregation and outside our fellowship.

East Martin Christian Reformed Church

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269-672-5046

COUNCIL MEMBER PRAYER REQUEST

Please pray for God's guidance and direction for Dennis DeYoung this week.

OFFERINGS

Today AM: East Martin Christian School
PM: Mel Trotter Mission

Next Week AM: General Fund/Ministry Share
PM: Rehoboth Christian School

Thanksgiving Thanksgiving envelopes

GREETERS

Today AM: Dave & Jean Mejeur, Dennis DeYoung
PM: Henry & Nancy Tuinstra

Next Week AM: Tom Rook, Wayne Leep
PM: Dave & Karen Misner

Thanksgiving Don & Nancy Smith, Dave Misner

LIBRARY

Today Linda DeYoung

Next Week Ida Westendorp

NURSERY

Today Jessica Tucker

Next Week Rebekah Westendorp

USHERS

Today Toby Smith, Bruce Tiemeyer, Henry Tuinstra

Next Week Henry M Tuinstra, Scott Tuinstra, Luke Watson

Thanksgiving Dean VanderMeulen, Tom Westendorp, Bruce Aukema

LORD'S SUPPER: December 14

OUR WEEK

November 16, 2025

<u>Sunday</u>	8:00 AM	Prayer Group
	10:30 AM	Fellowship Coffee
		Sunday School
	7:30 PM	Her True North
<u>Monday</u>	7:00 PM	Building Committee
<u>Tuesday</u>	7:00 PM	Worship Committee
<u>Wednesday</u>	9:45 AM	Coffee Break
	6:00 PM	GEMS/Cadets
	7:00 PM	Men's Bible Study

Responsive Reading of the Law in the Light of God's Glory (Soli Deo Gloria) (Based on Matthew 22:37–40)

Leader: Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

People: To God alone be the glory, for He is worthy of all our love, all our worship, and all our devotion.

Leader: "This is the first and greatest commandment."

People: To God alone be the glory, for from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

Leader: "And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

People: To God alone be the glory, for we love because He first loved us, and His love shines through us to others.

Leader: "On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

People: To God alone be the glory, for every act of obedience, mercy, and grace reflects His perfect righteousness.

Confession of Sin (Unison)

O God of Glory, You command us to love You above all and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Yet we confess that we have sought our own honor instead of Yours. Our love has been divided, our worship distracted, our hearts proud. Forgive us, Lord, for seeking our glory rather than living for Yours. Renew in us the joy of Your salvation, and teach us to love You wholly and to serve others humbly, that all we do may proclaim—to God alone be the glory. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Responsively)

Leader: Hear the good news: The glory of God has been revealed in Jesus Christ, who loved the Father perfectly and laid down His life for sinners. Through His cross, your sins are forgiven and your hearts made new.

People: Thanks be to God! Through Christ alone, we are redeemed. By grace alone, we are restored to love God and neighbor.

All: To God alone be the glory—forever and ever. Amen.

Today we celebrate the growing faith of two of our young people. We rejoice at the work the Lord is doing in their lives. May they continue growing closer to Him throughout their lives

Cecilia KayAnn Sutherland



Adult Baptism

Henry Michael Scott Tuinstra



Profession of Faith

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All articles for the *Echoes* are due today.

The Faith Promise giving sheets are in your mail boxes today. Please prayerfully consider what you feel God leading you to give for the coming year. The four missionaries are the ones our church has pledged to support. East Mart Ministries is money for short term mission trips for church members, or local mission projects, or sending GEMS or Cadets to SON-Life Camp, etc. Just fill out the bottom and drop it in the collection plate. Keep the top for your reminder. Any questions ask a deacon or an Outreach Committee member.

The GEMS would like to thank the congregation for your generous support of our GEMS program. Thank you for supporting our fundraiser dinner and silent auction last Sunday for GEMS Sunday.

In light of the SNAP benefits being slow, we are anticipating Martin Resource Center to have a greater need in the near future. We will be starting our Thanksgiving food drive early and delivering to Martin Resource as we get items. Some specific items they are in need of: noodles, rice, canned goods (including fruits, vegetables, meats and soups), spaghetti sauce, baking mixes, cereal, etc. If you would rather make a cash donation, please put Martin Resource Food Drive in the subject line or in a pew envelope. If you have any questions on specifics, please see one of the deacons or Linda DeYoung.

The youth group would like to invite you to Thanksgiving breakfast. They will be serving from 8:00-9:15 Thanksgiving morning prior to the Thanksgiving Day service.

It is time to update the Shaarda Correspondence list. If you would like to be on the list to send letters to the Shaarda's please sign-up in the narthex. You will be placed on a list that will rotate who will send the weekly correspondence and a stamped envelope will be provided in your mailbox that week.

There is a signup sheet in the narthex for those that would like to go on or get more information about the church spring break trip being planned for this coming springtime. Many details are yet to be determined but if God is leading you to be a servant to others in this way, sign the sheet to stay informed as details are confirmed.

Martin Reformed Church is another informational meeting on the mission trip planned for January. It is on Wednesday, November 19 at 7:00. If you have any questions please come or call Harvey Leep at 269-208-7036 or Arie Doctor at 626-745-1039.

East Martin Christian School invites you to Dine and Donate at Applebee's in Plainwell on Thursday, Nov. 20, from 4-9 p.m. EMCS will earn 20% of sales from dine-in, takeout, and pick-up orders when you mention East Martin Christian School. Bring your family, friends, and appetite to help support Christian education at EMCS!

The Happiness of Man in His Knowledge of God: Creator and Redeemer

John Calvin, the Glory of God, and the Happiness of Man (Summary)

John Calvin taught that real happiness is not found in success, comfort, or self-fulfillment, but in knowing God. When we know God as our Creator and Redeemer, our lives find true direction, peace, and joy. Calvin said, “Unless men establish their complete happiness in God, they will never give themselves truly and sincerely to Him.” In other words, we are only truly happy when we stop living for ourselves and start living for the God who made and saves us.

For Calvin, the Christian faith is not only about understanding the right doctrines but about living in a real relationship with God. In his Institutes of the Christian Religion, he called this “true piety,” which means loving and trusting God from the heart. Calvin said that real faith is not cold knowledge but “a living and loving knowledge.” It’s one thing to know about God; it’s another thing to know Him personally through Jesus Christ.

Calvin believed that when we see who God is, we also see ourselves clearly. God’s greatness shows us our weakness, and His holiness reveals our sin. This humbles us and leads us to depend completely on His mercy. For Calvin, self-denial, surrendering our pride and our plans, is the path to joy. When we live for God’s glory instead of our own, we find freedom, peace, and lasting happiness.

In creation, Calvin saw the beauty of God’s glory everywhere. The world, he said, is like a “most beautiful theater” showing God’s power and wisdom. But sin turned people away from the Creator to worship created things instead. Our hearts became restless and blind. Yet in Jesus Christ, God restores what was lost. Jesus is “the image of the invisible God,” the perfect reflection of who God is. Through Him, we are forgiven, renewed, and brought back into a right relationship with our Creator. In Christ, God’s glory and our happiness come together again.

Calvin also spoke of God as our Redeemer. He said that all of salvation is part of God’s covenant of grace, a promise that He will be our God and we will be His people. This promise runs through the whole Bible, from Abraham to the church today, and it is fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Our happiness is not something we earn; it’s a gift of grace. Christ came as our Prophet, Priest, and King. As Prophet, He reveals who God is. As Priest, He reconciles us to God by His sacrifice on the cross. As King, He rules and protects us, leading us toward eternal life. Everything Christ does brings glory to God and joy to His people.

To follow Christ, Calvin said, is to live a life of self-denial and obedience. “We are not our own,” he wrote, “we belong to God.” The happiest life, then, is not about doing whatever we want; it is about belonging completely to God. We find joy when we live in His presence and for His purposes. This is what Calvin meant by living *coram Deo*, before the face of God, in every part of life.

Calvin also reminded believers that this kind of joy is the work of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit opens our eyes to see the truth of the gospel and gives us faith to believe. The Spirit helps us love God’s Word, changes our hearts, and enables us to live in obedience. Without the Spirit, even the best teaching cannot make us truly happy in God. But when the Spirit fills us, we begin to delight in God’s will and to love others with the love He has shown us.

This happiness is not private; it belongs to the family of faith. Calvin called the church “the mother of believers” because it is through the preaching of the Word and the sacraments that God nourishes our faith. Baptism and the Lord’s Supper remind us of God’s promises and point us again to Jesus Christ. In worship, prayer, and fellowship, believers grow together in the joy of the Lord.

Finally, Calvin looked forward to the perfect happiness that awaits believers in heaven. In this life, our joy is real but incomplete. We experience suffering, weakness, and sin. Yet through it all, we fix our eyes on the glory to come, the day when we will see God face to face and be fully restored. Calvin encouraged Christians to live with hope, using the blessings of this world with gratitude while longing for the world to come. Our happiness, he said, “belongs to the heavenly life,” and all our earthly joys are just a taste of what God has prepared for those who love Him.

In the end, Calvin’s message is simple: the glory of God and the happiness of man are not opposites; they belong together. When God is most glorified, we are most satisfied. To live for His glory is to live in His joy. Our greatest happiness is not found in having more, but in belonging to the One who made us for Himself. The Christian life is a daily journey of trusting and obeying the Lord, resting in His grace, and rejoicing in His goodness.

Calvin’s teaching reminds us that every part of life, work, worship, family, and service, is meant to be lived before the face of God and for His glory. When we do that, our hearts find the peace and happiness they were created for. True happiness, then, is not about us; it’s about God. And the more we love Him, the more we will echo the cry of the Reformation: *Soli Deo Gloria* – To God alone be the glory.

Sermon Series: The Heidelberg Catechism

Recap of Lord's Day 26 Sermon: Remember Your Baptism, this sermon illustrates baptism as God's covenant sign of grace, drawing from Israel's crossing of the Jordan as a picture of passing from death to life. Just as the ark went before the people, Christ entered the flood of judgment so believers could safely enter God's promise. Baptism is a reminder and seal of that grace—God's visible assurance that we belong to Him. It calls believers to live as people of the promise, walking daily in gratitude and obedience. When doubts and trials arise, Christians are urged to "remember their baptism," resting in the assurance that the God who brought them through will also bring them home. peace: "I am righteous in Christ before God, and an heir of eternal life."

Sermon Title: The Promise is for You and Your Children

Sermon Text: Acts 2:39

Heidelberg Catechism: Lord's Day 27

1. The Promise of God's Covenant Grace

2. The Sign of God's Covenant Grace

Sermon Series: Reformation Month: Courageous For the Faith

Sermon Title: Soli Deo Gloria (To God be the Glory Alone) – The Glory of God and the Happiness of Man

Sermon Text: Romans 11:36

1. The Glory of God

2. The Happiness of Man

Reformer: John Calvin (1509-1564)

John Calvin, a leading Reformer, devoted his life and writings to the glory of God in all things. In his Institutes of the Christian Religion, he taught that every part of salvation, from election to sanctification, flows from God's sovereign grace and exists for His glory. For Calvin, life itself is lived Coram Deo, before the face of God, so that every thought, word, and deed might proclaim, Soli Deo Gloria—to God alone be the glory.