



This Sunday is Palm Sunday! Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem and marks the start of Holy Week. Pastor Betsy will continue the Lent sermon series "I Am – Jesus in the Present Tense" with a passage from John 14:6 where Jesus says "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

We have invited in-person worshipers from Communities # 1,2,3, and 4. We will follow the same procedures that were in place prior to the shutdown and stay-at-home order. Our services will continue with the registration process in order to make sure we do not exceed our capacity of 100 people. If your Community is scheduled for worship on a particular Sunday, look for an email with the Eventbrite link to sign up on Monday or Tuesday. If there are extra spaces by Friday, a link will be sent to the entire congregation with the bulletin to fill the extra spaces available for the Sunday service.

Our schedule for sign-up continues as follows:

April 2	Good Friday	The service will start at 10:00 am online for the congregation. The Pastor and Worship participants will be present in the sanctuary for the live stream.
April 4	Easter Sunday	An invitation will be sent to the entire congregation via email on Monday, March 29 until a maximum of 100 people are registered.
April 11	Communities	9,11,13,14

All attendees are required to wear a mask and maintain a 2-meter physical distancing both in the building and while outside.

***Amendment to COVID Policy Regarding Indoor Worship*** | Per Ontario's reopening guidelines, we recognize that "individuals who live alone, including seniors, may consider having exclusive, close contact with another household." If this is your situation, you may choose to sit with this other household on Sunday morning in worship. Please make every effort to enter the church and be seated at the same time. This amendment to our policy only applies to individuals who live alone; all others will continue to be seated with those in the same household.

## Lent Series | I AM: Jesus in the Present Tense

At the very center of our faith is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That makes Good Friday and Easter two of the most significant days in the Christian calendar. Lent is the 40-day period before Easter. It is a season of preparation and repentance as we look toward the events of Good Friday and Easter. Historically, Lent has been an occasion for Christians to deepen their faith and devotion by exploring and deepening a kind of spirituality that centers on our union with Christ.

Our worship series on the "I AM" statements of Jesus help us to see more clearly the one we are united to. These statements about Jesus' identity do not allow us to keep him safely in the past, as if they have turned into "I was" statements. Rather, they help us to see who Jesus is to us in the present tense. Lent is a journey to the cross, and this Lent we will journey with Jesus as our teacher and companion as we explore who Jesus was in his own words and who he still is to us and to the world.

**Calling Artists of All Ages and Abilities** | There is one "I Am" saying left in our sermon series! Get out the paintbrushes or pencils, we want to see your artwork! The final saying for Good Friday is "I am the Vine" (John 14: 1-17). Help us to illustrate this saying by creating artwork - drawings, paintings, even sculptures - and send a picture of your art to Rachel V so we can share it with the congregation in worship. You can submit your art between today and this Wednesday, March 31. Send a photo or scan of your art to [worship@ccrc.on.ca](mailto:worship@ccrc.on.ca).

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**Sunday, March 28, 2021 - 10:00am Worship Service**

**Worship Participants this week:**

**Preacher:** Pastor Betsy DeVries

### GATHERING AND GREETING

**Gathering Song**

"Hosanna"

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

*(Based on "Our World Belongs to God" st. 42-43, John 4:24)*

**Leader:** In a world estranged from God,  
where happiness and peace are offered in many names,  
we witness to the only one in whose name salvation is  
found: Jesus Christ

**All:** **In Jesus, God reconciles the world to himself.**

**Leader:** Jesus Christ rules over all.

**All:** **Let us worship Jesus Christ in the Spirit and in truth.**

**God's Greeting**

**Children Hosanna Video**

**Song of Praise**

"Hosanna Loud Hosanna"

### CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Song:**

"Come Thou Fount, Come Thou King"

## Children's Worship Story

Song: "He is Lord"

### PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading John 14: 1-14

Sermon "I am the way and the truth and the life"

Prayer of Application

### RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Song of Response "Hosanna (Praise is Rising)"

Prayers of the People

Offering Announcement Ministries of Community Christian Reformed Church  
Shalem Mental Health Network

God's Parting Blessing

Doxology "Go Now in Peace"

**This afternoon – Are you in Impact or been thinking about checking it out?** Come to the church this afternoon for a **Spring Celebration** at 5pm in the church parking lot!

COVID rules apply which means we can have a total of 25 people so sign up now so you don't miss out!

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### COMMUNITY CRC CHURCH FAMILY

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(The bracketed numbers indicate the Community to which these individuals belong)

Please keep **Herman J (8)** in your prayers as he will undergo hip replacement surgery on Tuesday, March 30, 2021.

Pray for strength and endurance for **Denise, Mike, Jenny, and Nate (11)** - as Denise has been moved to a Hamilton hospital where she is waiting for an upcoming surgery.

We join **Jane D (14)** in prayers of thanksgiving that her current cancer treatment is working as hoped in keeping the cancer at bay. Thanks be to God for this answered prayer! Jane also wishes to thank everyone for all the cards, calls, meals, and prayers in the past six months since Clarence passed away and Jane learned that her

cancer had returned. Your support and care have been a blessing during a difficult time.

We voted 83% in favour of extending a call to **Pastor Tom Bomhof** for the position of Pastor - Communities and Missions. Please pray for Pastor Tom as he and Jodie discern if God is calling them to Community CRC. If you would like to send a note, letter or card of encouragement to Pastor Tom. Please see the emailed copy of the bulletin for contact information

### Matters for Prayer |

- Continue to pray for those in long-term care homes where there has been so much illness and loss. May the Lord comfort and strengthen **Sandra K (9)** and **Frederika V (11)** and their families during this difficult time.

- Pray for our sister-church, The Journey, as they continue to discern a way forward in their own search process.
- Pray for those dealing with cancer, its treatment and effects.
- Pray for endurance and patience for stay at home parents of young children as the winter months have been long and challenging.
- Pray for those experiencing financial strain, unemployment or underemployment, and the stress this creates.
- Pray for Dive into Doctrine and all the participants as small groups continue to meet. Pray for wisdom, kindness and for technology to work.
- Pray for the ongoing nominations process as people are sought to serve in leadership positions at Community CRC
- Pray for **Anthony and Barbara P** with Daystar Ministries on Manitoulin Island, **Hank and Rosario S** volunteering in Guatemala, **Pastor Brian B** serving with Waterloo Campus Ministry and **Shannon C** serving as Chaplain at Forest Heights Long term care home.

Apr 18	10 am	Pastor Amanda Bakale
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**Upcoming Baptism Sundays** | Are you looking to be baptized or to have your child baptized? The next Baptism Sundays are scheduled for April 25 and May 23. If you are interested in one of these dates, please contact Pastor Amanda or Pastor Betsy.

**Holy Week Lord's Supper** | This year we are coming to the Table on Good Friday *and* Easter Sunday. On Good Friday we come to the Table remembering Jesus' crucifixion and death, then on Easter Sunday we come to the Table celebrating Jesus' resurrection and life. Holding these two themes together, we can experience the fullness of this abundant Table of God's grace.

**Faith at Home Practice** | For those preparing your bread and cup at home for these two services, consider how you set your table. For Good Friday, find a recipe for unleavened bread to connect with the Passover table of Jesus and his disciples. Then for Easter Sunday, reflect on what you put on your table for celebrations - for birthdays and special occasions. (It's probably not just saltines and tiny cups of juice.) What would it be like to eat a piece of lemon cake or a sweet bread on Easter morning along with a sweet juice or wine in your cup? We have just spent several weeks exploring all the tangible ways Jesus describes himself to help us understand his life and love for us, so let's come to the Table using all our senses in order to "taste and see that the Lord is good" (Ps 34:8).

The Council of Community CRC invites believers of all ages to the table, following an age and ability appropriate public profession of faith. If you desire to come to the table but have not made profession of faith, please let a pastor or elder know so we can begin the conversation.

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### STAFF NEWS

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**Pastor Amanda** is preaching at Bethel CRC in Acton this morning to fulfill a classical appointment.

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### UPCOMING SERVICES

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Apr 2	10 am	Good Friday Lord's Supper Pastor Amanda Bakale
Apr 4	10 am	Easter Sunday Lord's Supper Pastor Betsy DeVries
Apr 11	10 am	Rebecca Bokma Calvin Theological Student

## OFFERING SCHEDULE

**There are two offerings taken on a weekly basis at Community CRC. The first offering is for the Ministries of Community CRC and the second offering is for various causes that our church supports. For more details on how to donate to the church, please see the Resources section on the last page of the bulletin.**

**This week our offering is for Shalem Mental Health Network** | Shalem Mental Health Network is an organization that is run out of Hamilton that offers individual, couple and family counselling. It also equips and supports communities, including faith communities, to better embrace the needs of people who struggle with emotional distress and/or mental illness.” Programs that are run from this organization include “Hold Me Tight” - a weekend workshop for couples, “Clergy Care” - support for Pastors, and the “Congregational Assistance Plan” CAP - mental health support for churches and schools. While our CAP program costs are covered by our annual budget, the offering today is for the costs related to running of the Shalem Mental Health Network.

**The offering on Good Friday is for Ray of Hope.** Ray of Hope provides vital services to people in need in Waterloo Region. They demonstrate the love of Christ with those who are disadvantaged, or troubled, inspiring hope and changing lives.

**Next week, Easter Sunday, our offering is for Resonate Global Mission.** Resonate is an agency tasked with providing leadership to the Christian Reformed Church in sharing the Gospel until it reverberates through the whole world. Their mandate is not only to provide leadership to their partner missionaries, church planters, and campus ministers— it is also to provide leadership to the denomination. Resonate works by God’s power to amplify the

good news through churches, neighborhoods, and communities in the US, Canada, and around the world.

### **Give to God's Mission and Double Your Impact!**

Don’t miss out on an opportunity to double your gift to God’s mission! Your gift will be matched dollar for dollar when you give to our special campaign at

[www.resonateglobalmission.org/EasterGift](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/EasterGift).

Holidays like Easter are an important opportunity to reach people who may not otherwise come to church—you can help reach them through Resonate’s ministry!

### **Join Resonate Global Mission for Lunch**

Resonate is offering a special opportunity for you to get in touch with our leaders, hear the latest ministry updates, and ask your questions in a Q&A. Join us for a virtual lunch on Wednesday, March 31, from 12-1pm. You'll be able to talk with staff from all over the world! Reserve your spot today at [www.ResonateGlobalMission.org/Leadership-Lunch-Canada](http://www.ResonateGlobalMission.org/Leadership-Lunch-Canada).

### **Upcoming Offerings:**

Apr 2	Good Friday - Ray of Hope
Apr 4	Resonate Global Mission
Apr 11	World Renew – Refugee Sunday

### **Offerings Received as at March 21, 2021:**

March 21, 2021	\$	19,213
Year to Date	\$	153,674
Budgeted 2021 Total Contributions	\$	923,460
<b>Second Offerings</b>		
Laurentian Hills Christian School	\$	273
Missionary Support Fund	\$	150
Benevolence Fund	\$	125
World Renew – Cdn Foodgrains Bank	\$	50
Pastor Church Resources	\$	50

Woodland Christian High School	\$	50
Race Relations	\$	50
Cadets	\$	50
Monica Place	\$	50
Redeemer	\$	50
Beginnings	\$	50
Therefore Go Ministries	\$	50

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## COMMUNITY CRC NEWS

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### Administrative Council Meeting Highlights March 23, 2021

- Received and reviewed various staff and ministry reports and meeting minutes.
- Council discussed the ongoing pandemic and the implications.
- Council welcomed a member from The Journey who provided an update with their call process. The Journey requests continued prayers throughout this process.
- Council approved vacation for Pastor Amanda for April 19-25.
- It was noted the poor stream over the last two services were due to the antenna being moved. This issue has been addressed and anticipate streaming will be improved.
- Council would like to remind those who attend Sunday services in person to maintain physical distancing and ask that you do not linger in the foyer after the service.

**CCRC's Winter Challenge** | How did you do with the winter challenge? How did God lead you through your prayers for a neighbour? As we approach the beginning of spring it is time to gather stories of your experience with the winter challenge. The Mission Strategy Team will share the experiences of our congregation in the next mission newsletter scheduled for spring 2021. What has God has done through each of us as we prayed for our neighbours? How were you moved to reach out to your neighbour? Please send a brief summary (a

short paragraph) of your experience to: your pastoral elder; the church office; or a member of the Mission Strategy team. We are looking forward to hearing how God moves in our church, our Communities and in our local neighbourhoods.

**Knifty Knitters** | Members of the Knifty Knitters and some friends have donated the following items to Faith's Orphans: 86 blankets; 58 sweaters; 107 dresses; 54 dolls plus a few miscellaneous items. Thanks to all for your contributions!

**Annual spring church grounds cleanup** Calling able-bodied men and women! We need many hands and tools to help spruce up our flower beds, rake last year's leaves, clean up branches etc. Please contact Bernie D to indicate your willingness to help. The dates would be Saturday April 10 and 17 starting at 8:00 am till noon. Coffee and donuts supplied.

**Ushers Needed** | We need **one more usher** for Sunday morning worship. If you are interested in helping, please contact the church office at [office@ccrc.on.ca](mailto:office@ccrc.on.ca) or 519-743-9482.

**Safe Church Training** | If you have been a volunteer at Community CRC over the past number of years you are likely familiar with the Ministry Training Sessions that took place in the early fall and early spring. Due to COVID, these sessions were not held in 2020. Over this past year the Safe Church Team has adapted these sessions so that volunteer training and information is now available online at the following link: <https://training.crc.on.ca/>. As per our insurance company's provisions, all church employees, leaders and volunteers who work with youth and vulnerable people shall complete annual training and have an up-to-date Vulnerable Sector Check on file. If you are currently meeting and/or your ministry offers online aspects (i.e. zoom meetings,

Facebook/social media communications, etc), then the training needs to be completed as soon as possible as your ministry is already underway. **If anyone has questions or concerns, please contact Paula L.**

**Impact** | Join us this Wednesday evening for a fireside chat at the church from **7:00 – 8:15 pm** Prior to attending, please follow the link for the COVID screening form that can be found in the Instagram bio as well as the weekly email sent to the parents.

#### **Friday Night Dinner | Delivery Edition - April 9**

Hey YA folks - while you can't meet in Pastor Amanda's house, we can still bring a delicious dinner to you! Brian is whipping up a batch of butter chicken (along with chana masala, naan, and dessert) and we're going to package it up and deliver it to your doorstep on Friday afternoon. There'll be an optional Zoom drop-in dinner time from 7-8pm, if you want to eat and chat with others. Email or message Pastor Amanda (see the emailed bulletin for contact info) by Wednesday, April 7 to place your order and share your address!

#### **Looking to return church library material?**

Books can be returned on Sundays to the blue bin on the information desk, or throughout the week to the church office. The church library will remain closed on Sundays.

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### **DENOMINATIONAL NEWS**

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**Have you been heard?** Our congregation has a once-in-five-year opportunity to participate in the 2021 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 answer the questionnaire reflecting this past year with all the difficulties that includes. Please check the emailed bulletin

for the link to answer the survey questions **by March 31**. P.S. The survey and promotional tools are also available in Korean and Spanish.

**Groundwork: Father, Into Your Hands** | In the finality of Jesus Christ's dying words we discover hope. Join our Groundwork conversation on Luke 23:26-31, 44-49 to understand Jesus' experience and see how he teaches us about our relationship with God and life after death in one simple dying sentence. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Jesus Is My Lifeline** | As we prepare for Easter, check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Jesus knew that saving us meant he had to die on the cross. But he did it. He loved you so much that he even gave his own life in order to save you. Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for all the new content.

**On the Road to Witness** | Are you ready to reimagine evangelism and discipleship in a world changed by COVID? Do you feel the need to reignite your congregation's passion for mission? Are you passionate about sharing your faith? Then Resonate Global Mission's "Glocal" Mission Summit is for you! Join us Thursday, May 13, 2021 through Saturday, May 15, 2021 for this VIRTUAL conference. It's free to attend. Learn more and register at [www.ResonateGlobalMission.org/Glocal](http://www.ResonateGlobalMission.org/Glocal)

**Canada-Wide Online Women's Retreat - April 16 & 17, 2021.** | Ladies, you're invited to a weekend retreat from the comfort of your home. Many of us have struggled in this year of living through a pandemic. Our theme is Blessed is the one whose Hope is in the Lord. - Jer. 17:7-8 Join us for a weekend of three keynote sessions, and a great variety of breakouts! Register this week to be sure to get your Retreat

Gift Box in the mail in time. Or feel free to register without the gift box option. To register and find all the details, go to [www.inspirationalwomen.ca](http://www.inspirationalwomen.ca). Sponsored by Global Coffee Break and Resonate Global Mission.

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## MISCELLANEOUS

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**Accommodations Needed** | Greg L is looking to rent an apartment/room in the area. If you have one please send details about cost, availability and amenities (e.g., parking, furnishings, etc.) to his email address found in the Bridge App.

**Laurentian Hills Christian School's Online Spring Auction Catalogue is finally ready to preview!** Please register at: [www.lhcs.net/auction](http://www.lhcs.net/auction) and browse the catalogue and get ready to start bidding on April 10th at 12:00pm. Please share the news with your friends, families and co-workers.

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## RESOURCES

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**Instructions for giving to Community CRC** | The following donation methods are in place:

1. PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) – monthly pre-authorized payment. Fill out form, along with a blank void cheque by email to [treasurer@ccrc.on.ca](mailto:treasurer@ccrc.on.ca)
2. You can mail your donations to the Church. Please do NOT mail cash. The mailbox is checked regularly.
3. You can drop off your donation in our drop-off mailslot located on the outside of the kitchen door at the church. This is a secured locked box that safely receives your envelope within the building. No cash, please
4. you can now donate using the Bridge App (or this link):  
<https://crc.etadvance.com/churches/community-crc-kitchener/donate>

You can self-direct your donations using your credit card (note there is a 3% admin fee taken by the processing company) or direct to your bank account (no admin fee). At this time, we offer opportunity to donate to the Church Budget, our Capital Fund, or the work of the Deacons locally (benevolence).

Note: if you use the link, the only payment option is credit card. The Bank account option is only available through the Bridge App.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy W.