

San Jose Christian Reformed Church

“God’s love to us, God’s love through us...”

May the Lord bless us all as we worship Him here today.

Pastor Brad Smith is preaching for us this morning.

We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors!

Sunday, March 2, 2008 - 9:30 AM

Morning Worship and Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

PRAISE AND PRAYER

Prelude: Our Time of Preparation for Worship

Welcome / Greetings / Announcements: Elder Tom B.

We Greet One Another

Call to Worship: Pastor Brad Smith

Songs of Praise: *“Blessed Be Your Name”*
 “Everlasting God”
 “Here I Am to Worship”

Congregational Prayer

(Children ages 3 through grade 6 leave for “Kid’s Life”)

OUR GIVING

Offering: Church Ministry Fund

Special Offering: Faith Promise

Deacon’s Prayer

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Reading: Luke 14:1, 12-24

Message: **“Please Excuse Me from the Table, Jesus”**

Prayer

Song of Response: *“As We Gather at Your Table”* verse 1

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

We Celebrate the Lord’s Supper

All Sing During The Lord’s Supper:

“You Are My King”
 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross/Oh the
 Wonderful Cross”

Prayer

Closing Song: *“As We Gather at Your Table”* verses 2-3

Blessing

Doxology: *“My Friends May You Grow in Grace”*

WELCOME!

If you are a first time visitor, please complete a “Communication Card” and stop by the welcome table in the back of the sanctuary for a gift and information packet. Please join us for coffee and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall following our morning worship service. Adult Sunday School classes meet. JJs (jr. high) and Sonlife (high school) meet at 11:00 am today.

Next Sunday at SJCRC

March 9, 9:30 AM: Morning Worship Service and Lent season continues with Pastor Brad Smith preaching for us. Special offering: Ministry Shares. Adult Sunday School meets today, March 9 at 11:00am in the Fireside Room. JJs and Sonlife meet at 11:00am.

Elder-Deacon Care Groupings

Elder/Deacon phone numbers are in the church directory. ***Please inform them directly*** of any need you might have.

<u>Last Name Beginning</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Deacon</u>
A-B	Doug P.	Scott V.
C-G	Jake B.	Bruce B.
H-L	Harvey V.	Dan M.
M-P	Steve B.	Bruce G.
R-T	Jacob V.	Doug B.
U-Z	Tom B.	Gert B.

Church Officers:

Harvey V., Council President Dan M., Deacon Chair
Jake B., Council Vice President Fred R., Treasurer
Randy M., Council Clerk

Opportunities for Service and Ministry

Family Shelter Breakfast: Urgent, five more volunteers are needed this Saturday, March 8. Also, look ahead at the following months to see when you can serve. The sign up sheet is located by the coffee window. Please consider serving on March 8, April 12 and May 10. This is a great ministry...we need some new volunteers. Thank you to all for your faithfulness for serving in the past.

Stephen Ministry- all meetings at 7 pm (contact Brenda L.):

-Peer Supervision: Wednesdays, March 12 and 26 at COTC

Church News and Announcements

Looking Ahead

March 9: All-Church family photo session

March 15: Bowling League

March 16: Palm Sunday, All-Church Potluck

March 21: Good Friday Service at 7:30pm

March 23: Easter Sunday Service “He is Risen”

March 30: All-Church family photo session

April 13: All-Church family photo session

April 19, Saturday: Senior Lunch hosted by GEMS/Cadets

Our Church Family

Please pray for these personal needs:

* **Charlie B., Irvin D., Rein G., Rich M., and Cobe R.:** Please pray for these members of our church family who have continuing health problems. Remember these friends with your cards and visits: they appreciate your thoughtfulness.

* **Andrew Z.** has mononucleosis and will not be able to play basketball with the team at Santa Clara University until this fall.

Diane H., Andrew’s fiancée, also has mono along with some in the household where she is a nanny.

Please pray for both Andrew and Diane that they will recover quickly from this contagious virus.

* **Bruce B.’s brother, Bill**, was hospitalized last Monday with bleeding in the brain. Bill lives in Massachusetts. Please pray that the source of bleeding will be determined and for complete healing for Bill.

* **Jerry R.:** Jerry is doing much better; His breathing has much improved and again walking around. Tina has had a bad cold and flu. Pray for strength for each day for Jerry and that Tina will recover fully from the flu.

* **Linda H.** (mother of Jennifer C.): Linda continues treatment for her cancer; pray that the treatment will be effective in killing the cancer and also strength for each day.

* **Pastor Don Hammond’s wife, Norma**, began new treatment recently to continue the battle against Multiple Myeloma. They appreciate our ongoing prayers and concerns.

* **Please pray for those who are searching for employment.** May doors of opportunity open up for them.

Guest Worship Leader, March 2: Welcome Aaron I. today as he leads our praise time and singing. Aaron is a candidate for our worship leader position. He and his wife Christine and two sons, Jonathan and A.J. recently moved to the Bay Area from Idaho. Aaron has led worship in several other churches as well as owning his own recording studio where he both writes and records music

Singers needed for Sunday morning worship team! If you have ever considered joining our Sunday morning worship team, now is the time. We need singers every Sunday morning, and we are happy to schedule you on the Sundays that work best for you.

We practice on Thursday evening (beginning at 7:30pm) for the next Sunday’s worship service. We are in the process of interviewing and choosing a new worship leader, so this is an exciting time to join us! Please contact Grace M.

Adult Sunday School 11:00am – Class will meet today. What does it mean to do justice? What does it mean to live as a follower of Christ in this hurting world? Using materials from the Christian Reformed Church in North America Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action and the Public Justice Resource Center, Gert B. continues to lead the classes that will help us together to wrestle with issues around social justice. **Come join the class!**

2008 Church Directory: The office is currently working on publishing a new church directory. Please edit and initial if no changes are necessary regarding your address in the directory sheets located in the church entry. Today is the final Sunday to edit your address information.

Photos for Directory, March 9, Smile!: Photos for a new updated on-line SJCRC church photo directory will be taken after our service on Sunday, March 9. The directory format will be similar to the current on-line directory, listing first names and last initial only. So bring your smiles next Sunday and have your picture taken! Photos will also be taken on March 30 and April 13. Any questions, contact Mark M.

Church News and Announcements, continued

Palm Sunday branches needed! Do you have a palm plant or another plant with branches suitable for our children to use during a processional on Palm Sunday morning? The Worship Team would like to have the children waving palm branches as they enter the sanctuary while we have opening praise time on Sunday, March 16. Please contact Grace M. if you have anything that might work for this purpose. Thank you!

All-Church Potluck – Palm Sunday – Join us for lunch and fellowship after the Sunday School classes. The Worship and Arts Committee is hosting this wonderful event! **There is a potluck sign up sheet in the social hall-- please sign up.** Any questions contact Mavis M. or Estella.

Elder and Deacon candidates: Congregation, please prayerfully consider names of candidates for Elder and Deacon positions for the next term. Names may be submitted to current Elders and Deacons.

SJCRC Missions Team: Beautiful Day coming! We are holding another “Beautiful Day” in the spring. Inform Willie K., SJCRC Missions Team Chairperson, if you know of any projects in your neighborhood, work or school that can benefit from our volunteer services that will be performed on this “Beautiful Day.”

SJCRC Volunteer Schedules for March and April are in the “Mail Folders.” Please be sure to pick up your copy today.

Prayer Guides & Devotionals: The March Prayer Guides and the March/April/May “*Our Daily Bread*” and the March & April “*Today*” devotionals are available in the information racks. Please pick up your copies.

Church Bulletin Announcements: Please submit all announcements and information for the Sunday bulletin by **Wednesday evening or earlier** to Estella B. via email address Estella@sjcrc.org or by calling into the church office. Estella works: Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday and Friday all day.

Additional Church News and Announcements

Interested in joining our prayer chain? It’s easy to join our Google Prayer List: Email or call Mavis M. If you do not have internet access, please have a contact person who does to stay informed.

Thank you from San Jose Christian School: Thank you to the leadership and members of San Jose CRC for your loyal support of San Jose Christian School through our Fall Financial Drive. Gifts and pledges received to date total \$70,000 with a significant portion given by members of SJCRC. Sincere thanks to everyone for financial as well as prayer support. Financial needs seem ever with us. Donations throughout the year in support of SJCS are needed and deeply appreciated.

Wills & Estate Planning: How will your assets be used when you're gone? For over 30 years, Barnabas Foundation has helped Christians like you meet their family financial needs while supporting the causes that are close to their hearts. Confidential estate planning expertise is available to our church membership at no charge - thanks to their 200 Christian member organizations, including San Jose Christian School. Bob Zeilenga from Barnabas Foundation will be in the area March 3-5, 2008. For more information or to arrange an appointment with Bob, please contact Barnabas Foundation at 1-888-448-3040 or www.barnabasfoundation.com

Denominational News

TRUE ACTION: In the chaos of life it’s often easy to follow the crowd. But what if the crowd is going the wrong way? How can we go the right way? The March 9 *Back to God Hour* program shows how we can stand on the truth that Christ provides. Go to www.BacktoGod.net for local stations and times.

DO NOT COVET: Have you ever wished you had someone else’s parents? When Liz stays with Spike’s family, he discovers something amazing. Check it out on this week’s *Kids Corner*. Then email *Kids Corner* at kids@kids-corner.org for your very own Bible study.

Letter from Council

The Council of SJCRC met on Tuesday, February 12, for its regular monthly meeting.

After opening with prayer the Council began a new devotional with the book “The Present Future: Six Tough Questions for the Church” by Reggie McNeal. The discussion was about the introduction and the first chapter ‘New Reality Number One: The Collapse of the Church Culture. At our next meeting we will be discussing the next section “New Reality Number Two: The Shift from Church Growth to Kingdom Growth”. As with the past book, this one promises to raise many questions about SJCRC’s role in our lives as well as our community.

Next on the agenda was our accountability round table, where the members of Council voiced highlights and concerns. Topics included:

- Small groups launch: underway
- Youth programs: a high priority
- Status of giving: January fell behind the monthly goal
- Deacons benevolence activity: responding to a request by council
- Accepting God’s blessings, whatever they may be
- Appreciation of Pastor Brad’s ministry, especially his series on Revelation

The next topic was our church visioning with discussions on:

- Church committees revising their goals based on our vision
- Our visioning relative to our worship to be discussed at the town hall meeting (held Sunday February 17).

Additional discussions were held on:

- The Councils’ priorities and use of time (meetings vs. personal interaction/visitation)
- Consecration Sunday planning
- Preparation for electing new Elders and Deacons: please begin to consider and pass along recommendations.

We encourage everyone in our congregation to contact any Council member with your questions or comments. Thank you for your prayers.

San Jose Christian Reformed Church
5150 Camden Avenue, San Jose, CA 95124
Pastor Brad Smith: 408-410-2581 (cell)
Business Office: 408-266-4412
Website: www.sjcrc.org

Helping This Sunday, March 2

Greeters: Mark M., Claudio H.

Ushers: Tom & Diana B.

Hospitality: Tom & Diana B.

Audio/Visual: Wendell K., Mavis M.

Coffee: Case & Leigh V., Bruce & Robin B., Willie K.

Nursery: Lucille H., Sarah G.

Kids’ Life: Tiffany B., Arlene D., Betsy (Diana – aide)

Helping Next Sunday, March 9

Greeters: Evelyn S., Pat Vriend

Ushers: Norman B.

Hospitality: Steve & Sally B.

Audio/Visual: Mike K., Josef C.

Coffee: Tom & Diana B., Doug & Tiffany B., Estella B.

Nursery: Liz H., Trevor P.

Kids’ Life: Patty K., Willie K., Judy (Bruce – aide)

Schedule of Events: March 2 – March 9, 2008

Today:

9:30 am - Worship Service, Communion, & Fellowship Time, 4th Sunday of Lent

11:00 am - Adult Sunday School meets in Fireside Room

JJs and Sonlife meet

Tuesday:

7:00 pm - Executive Board Meeting with Finance & Facilities Team

Wednesday:

10:00 am - Coffee Break Women’s Bible Study

7:00 pm - GEMS & Cadets

Thursday:

7:30 pm - Praise Team

Saturday:

6:30 am - Family Shelter Breakfast

Next Sunday:

9:30 am - Worship Service, Fellowship Time, 5th Sunday of Lent

11:00 am - Adult Sunday School meets in Fireside Room

JJs and Sonlife meet

11:00 am – Photos for Directory - All Church