

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

Pastor John Knoester

January 14, 2018

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

* Please stand if you are able.

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty the King of creation!”

Prelude: Joni Beezhold

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Worship: Psalm 150

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #575:1,2,4 ***“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”***

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul praise him, for he is your help and salvation!
Come, all who hear; brothers and sisters, draw near.
Join me in glad adoration!
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things
is wondrously reigning,
sheltering you under his wings, oh, so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath,
come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!

Words: Joachim Neander, 1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt., P.D.;
Music: (LOBE DEN HERREN): Ernewerten Gesangbuch, Stralsund, 1665;
desc. Craig S. Lang (1891-1971) © Novello and Co., Ltd. Admin. G. Schirmer, Inc.; CCLI #678905

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

* Opening Songs of Praise:

Read Psalm 95:1-2

* ***“Come, Now Is the Time to Worship”*** LUYH #526

Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are, to worship.
Come, just as you are, before your God. Come.

One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God,
One day ev'ry knee will bow.
Still, the greatest treasure remains for those
who gladly choose You now.

Repeat

Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are, to worship.
Come, just as you are, before your God. Come.

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* **"Mighty to Save"** LUYH #611:1-2

1. Everyone needs compassion, a love that's never failing;
let mercy fall on me.
Everyone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior,
the hope of nations.

Chorus

*Savior, He can move the mountains.
My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save.
Forever, Author of salvation.
He rose and conquered the grave.
Jesus conquered the grave.*

2. So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures;
fill my life again.
I give my life to follow, everything I believe in.
Now I surrender.

Chorus

Bridge

Shine your light, and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King. Jesus!
Shine your light, and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

Chorus

Words and Music by Reuben Morgan and Ben Fielding;
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*Following the singing of this song the children are invited to come
forward to help the worship team in singing the next song.*

"This Little Light of Mine"

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
2. Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
3. Don't let Satan (*blow*) it out. I'm gonna let it shine.
Don't let Satan (*blow*) it out. I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
4. Let it shine till Jesus comes. I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine till Jesus comes. Yes! I'm gonna let it shine
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

"This Little Light of Mine" Public Domain

Following the singing of this song children ages 3-1st
grade are dismissed for Children and Worship.

“O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Sung Prayer of Confession: LUYH #623:1-2 ***“God, Be Merciful to Me”***

1. God, be merciful to me;
on your grace I rest my plea.
My transgressions I confess;
grief and guilt my soul oppress.
Wash me, make me pure within;
cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.
2. Gracious God, my heart renew;
make my spirit right and true.
In your presence let me stay;
by your Spirit show the way.
Your salvation’s joy impart,
steadfast make my willing heart.

Psalm 51:1-2, 10-19; Words: Psalter, 1912, alt., P.D.;
Music: Richard Redhead, 1853, P.D.; CCLI #678905

Assurance of Pardon

God’s Will for Our Lives

Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #623:3,5 ***“God, Be Merciful to Me”***

3. So shall sinners be restored
and return to you, their Lord;
Savior, all my guilt remove,
and my tongue shall sing your love;
touch my silent lips, O Lord,
and my mouth shall praise accord.
5. Prosper Zion in your grace
and her broken walls replace:
then our righteous sacrifice
shall delight your holy eyes;
free-will offerings, gladly made,
on your altar shall be laid.

Psalm 51:1-2, 10-19; Words: Psalter, 1912, alt., P.D.;
Music: Richard Redhead, 1853, P.D.; CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

*Song of Preparation: ***“Thy Word”*** P.P. #143:1-2

Chorus:

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

1. When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
Still You're right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as You are near.
Please be near me to the end.

Chorus

2. I will not forget Your love for me,
and yet My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side,
And I will love You to the end.

Chorus

Amy Grant & Michael W. Smith ©1983 Bug and Bear Music/Meadowgreen Music CCLI#678905

“Come, all who hear; brothers and sisters, draw near,”

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:17-24 (pg. 1158) Read by Bryan Van Beek

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“Putting Off the Old and Putting on the New”***

Time of Prayer

“Join me in glad adoration!”

* We Profess our Faith Together: Our World Belongs to God – Articles 37,39,41,42– GH pg. 1030-1032

Article 37

Leader: In our world, bent under the weight of sin,
Christ gathers a new community.¹ Satan and
his evil forces seek whom they may confuse
and swallow;² but Jesus builds his church,³
his Spirit guides, and grace abounds.

¹ I Pet. 5:8-11; ² I Cor.3:10-17; ³ Matt. 16:13-19

Article 39

**People: Our new life in Christ¹ is celebrated and nourished
in the fellowship of congregations² where God's name
is praised, his Word proclaimed,³ his way taught;
where sins are confessed,⁴ prayers and gifts are offered,⁵
and sacraments are celebrated.**

¹ Acts 2:41-47; ² Eph. 4;1-5;20; ³ Rom. 10; ⁴ Eph. 3:1-13;

⁵ Matt. 6:5-15

Article 41

Leader: The Spirit empowers each member¹ to take part in the ministry of all,
so that hurts are healed and all may rejoice² in the life and growth of the fellowship.

¹ I Cor. 12-13; ² I Cor. 1-1-9

Article 42

**People: The church is a gathering¹ of forgiven sinners, called to be holy,²
dedicated to service. Saved by the patient grace of God,³
we deal patiently with others. Knowing our own weakness and
failures, we bring good news to all sinners with understanding
of their condition, and with hope in God.**

¹ Eph. 2; ² I Pet. 1; ³ Matt. 5:43-48

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #262:1-3 ***"I Love to Tell the Story"***

1. I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain

*I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

2. I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

Refrain

3. I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.

Refrain

Words: A. Catherine Hankey, 1866, P.D.; Music: William G. Fisher, 1869, P.D.; CCLI #678905

* Benediction

* Parting Praise: P.P.# 259:1-3 ***"Shine, Jesus Shine"***

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth You now bring us,
shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus:

*Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, River, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light.*

2. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
from the shadows into Your radiance;
by the blood I may enter Your brightness,
search me, try me, consume all my darkness,
shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus

3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,
so our faces display Your likeness;
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirror'd here may our lives tell Your story,
shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus

Chorus acapella

I John 1:7 Graham Kendrick, ©1987 Make Way Music, Ltd. CCLI #678905

* Postlude

Welcome! The prophet Isaiah proclaimed: “With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation” (Isaiah 12:3). We welcome all who are present today, and invite everyone to drink of Christ’s “living water,” which can quench our spiritual thirstiness forever. After joining us in worship, join us in the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We express our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of **Betty Postma**. Betty passed away on January 7. May God comfort them in their time of sorrow.

OUR CHURCH EVENTS

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we begin this New Year we return to our study of Ephesians, which is essentially a miniature doctrine of the Church. Whereas the first half of Paul’s letter focuses on the *nature* of the Church and its *purpose* – the second half deals more with the practical ways in which God’s purpose is fulfilled in the Church. Unity, maturity, personal renewal etc. was not only important to the spiritual health of the early believers, but is just as important for us today. May God bless us as we continue our study in the weeks ahead.

In Christ,

Pastor John

January 7: Growing in Spiritual Maturity in Unity Together—Eph. 4:1-16

January 14: Putting Off the Old and Being Made New – Eph. 4:17-24

January 21: Characteristics of the Renewed Life— Eph. 4:25-32

February 4: Imitators of God – Eph. 5:1-7

February 11: Children of Light – Eph. 5:8-21

The **Youth Group** will meet today at 7:45 p.m. in the Education Wing.

The **Executive Committee** will meet on Monday, January 15 at 7:00 p.m.

GEMS will meet on Wednesday, January 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Small Group Ministry will meet on Friday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Henry & Pam Van Zanten's.

Library Information: Videos on the table outside the Library are free for you to take.

ADVANCED NOTICES

The **Men’s Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, January 24 at 6:30 a.m. at Shari’s Restaurant in Burlington. We are studying the book of Revelation. You are welcome to join us.

The **Cadets** will meet on Wednesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m.

The **Young at Heart** will meet for lunch on Thursday, January 25 at 1:30 p.m. at I-Hops in Mount Vernon.

Ladies Craft Night will be held on Friday, January 26 at 6:30 p.m. Come and sgo as you please.

Golden Hour will meet on Wednesday, **January 31** at 1:30 p.m. for their next meeting. We will study Jonah 1:4-16.

We are having a **Safe Church Training** event for all church volunteers in our youth programs. Join us as we talk about guidelines for keeping our youth safe on Wednesday, January 31 at 7:00 p.m., here at church. Please sign-up in the Fellowship Hall during the next couple weeks. The nursery is available upon request if needed for the 31st Meeting. All are welcome, and those who volunteer with Children & Worship, GEMS, Cadets, Sunday School, Youth Group, and Nursery volunteers are strongly encouraged to attend. Jayne Hammingh and Dennis DeKok will provide more information for you as we get closer to the January 31 meeting. You are welcome to ask Jayne and Dennis questions in advance if you desire.

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

Beyond Jerusalem: True excitement about something that has changed our lives is hard to keep to ourselves. That's exactly how the first believers began spreading the gospel message. Join Groundwork as we study Acts 8 to discover how God's plan unfolds even as violence and oppression try to smother the message. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Horoscopes: Spike has Liz and Scooter following horoscopes and Scooter ends up on top of a water tower. Check out KC's "God is Faithful" Memory Jar Activity as you begin this New Year!

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN	6:30 pm	Evening Service
	7:45 pm	Youth Group
MON	7:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
TUES	7:00 pm	Vida Nueva
WED	6:30 pm	GEMS
FRI	7:00 pm	Small Group Ministry at Henry & Pam's

NURSERY

Today: AM Infants & Toddlers

Beth Boon, Rayahna Oostra, Jase Hilsinger

Next Week: AM Infants & Toddlers

Michelle Kuipers, Kaeli Houck, Nathan Van Beek

GREETERS

Today - AM Rovers: Dennis & Melba De Kok

AM: Clarence & Eleanor Klunder, Jeannette Folkertsma, Jill Klunder

Next Week - AM Rovers: Keith & Jean Rasmussen

AM: Kermit & Julie Houck, Rich Knight

USHERS

Today: Tim Van Hofwegen, Henry Hammingh, Tim Hibma

Next Week: Kendall Van Zanten, Darin Kuipers, Larry Greidanus

SOUND SYSTEM

Today AM: Tim Hibma

Next Week AM: Henry Van Zanten, Jr.

PROJECTION

Today AM: Josh Hammingh

Next Week AM: Kendall Van Zanten

VIDEO TAPING

Today AM: Carson Blom

Next Week: DJ Droog

CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Today AM:

Teacher: Pam Van Zanten

Assistants: Shanna Visser, Devin Van Zanten

Next Week AM:

Teacher: Michele Feddema

Assistants: Elly Cuperus, Carson Blom

COFFEE HOSTS

Today AM:

Rich & Elly Cuperus, Michelle De Kok, Wayne & Rhea Doss

Next Week AM:

Dennis & Melba De Kok, Alice De Vries, Les & Joy Faber

VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

Today: Devin Van Zanten, Sylvia Van Zanten

Next Week: None

TRANSPORTATION CARE TEAM

Next Week: Henry & Jayne Hammingh

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

Next Week: Marjean De Groot

Accompanist: Shirley Boonstra

OFFERING: January 21, 2018

AM: General Fund

PM: Skagit Valley Young Life

6:30 P.M. Worship Service

Pianist: Sylvia Van Zanten

Welcome/Announcements

Prayer for Worship

Opening Songs of Praise: Led by Dennis De Kok

"Beautiful Savior" LUYH #17:1,2,4

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" LUYH #521:1-3

"By the Sea of Crystal" LUYH #489:1-3

Catechism Reading: Lord's Day 44 Q&A 113-115

Q. 113 What is God's will for you in the tenth commandment?

A. That not even the slightest thought or desire contrary to any one of God's commandments should ever arise in my heart.

Rather, with all my heart I should always hate sin and take pleasure in whatever is right.¹

¹ Ps. 19:7-14; 139:23-24; Rom. 7:7-8

Q. 114 But can those converted to God obey these commandments perfectly?

A. No. In this life even the holiest have only a small beginning of this obedience.¹

Nevertheless, with all seriousness of purpose, they do begin to live according to all, not only some, of God's commandments.²

¹ Eccles. 7:20; Rom. 7:14-15; 1 Cor. 13:9; 1 John 1:8-10

² Ps. 1:1-2; Rom. 7:22-25; Phil. 3:12-16

Q. 115 No one in this life can obey the Ten Commandments perfectly: why then does God want them preached so pointedly?

A. First, so that the longer we live the more we may come to know our sinfulness and the more eagerly look to Christ for forgiveness of sins and righteousness.¹

Second, so that, while praying to God for the grace of the Holy Spirit, we may never stop striving, to be renewed more and more after God's image, until after this life we reach our goal: perfection.²

¹ Ps. 32:5; Rom. 3:19-26; 7:7, 24-25; 1 John 1:9

² 1 Cor. 9:24; Phil. 3:12-14; 1 John 3:1-3

Scripture Readings: Exodus 20:17, Psalm 19:7-11, Philippians 3:12-24, 4:10-13,

Message: **"True Contentment"**

Time of Prayer

Offering: Skagit Valley Young Life

Song of Application: LUYH #440:1,2,4 **"He Leadeth Me"**

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #965 *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*



People to be remembered with prayers, cards, letters & words of encouragement. Call the church office at (336-2405) or e-mail: secretary@firstcrcmv.com by Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

NEW CONCERN:

Larry Greidanus will be having a cardio ablation procedure done at Skagit Valley Hospital on February 7. Pray for Larry and Maxine as they wait the weeks before the procedure takes place.

We express our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of **Betty Postma**, who passed away January 7. Keep them in your prayers in the days and months ahead.

SHUT INS:

Nell Annema at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley, **Marge Eskes** at home in Mount Vernon; **Mary Koopmans** at Where the Heart Is in Burlington; **Wilma Paul** at Mountain Glen Retirement Center in Mount Vernon; **Adrianna Swanson** at Creekside in Burlington; **Bev Van Slageren** at family in Grandview, WA; **Duane Van Dyke** at Where the Heart Is in Burlington; **Chris Van Sweden** at Country Meadows in Sedro-Woolley, and **Rena Wester** at the Lynden Manor.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Pray for **Annette LeClair** as she continues with treatments. Please continue to keep Annette and her entire family in your prayers.

PRAISES:

Congratulations to **Minne & Trudy Van der Hoek** who will be celebrating their 53rd wedding anniversary on January 15. May God bless you with many more years together.

OTHER CONCERNS:

Emily Curry will begin radiation treatments on January 15. She will be having 17 treatments. Pray for healing for Emily and that the mass in her chest will be gone.

Resonate Global Mission: Discovery Church, Bowmanville, Ont. - Resonate is partnering with Discovery Church as it transitions into a multisite congregation. Pray for a smooth transition and for wisdom for Pastor Martin Spoelstra and other members of the leadership team in their decision-making. Ask God to work through this new site to develop a mission-minded congregation of believers.

Chaplaincy and Care Ministry: Chaplains - Over 148 CRC chaplains bring the presence of God into institutions and places where it is often least felt or recognized, providing pastoral care through times of crisis, illness, and life questions. To do this with respect and skill requires grace and wisdom. Thousands of lives are influenced weekly by these interactions. Ask God's Spirit to guide these chaplains with wisdom and to motivate them with the love of Christ.

Safe Church Ministry: Growth - Pray for expansion of the Safe Church classis coordinator position in 2018. May this new strategy lead to better-functioning safe church teams and more fruitful and effective ministry. Pray that our congregations will be safer places for everyone and better equipped to stand against abuse.

Back to God Ministries International: Dominican Republic - Juan listens to our Spanish broadcasts and says, "I am learning about Christian values, and this has had a profound impact in my life. Your series on 'Family Principles' has taught me a lot about how to improve my own family life." Pray for Juan as he navigates the joys and challenges of family relationships.

Resonate Global Mission: Nigeria - Mark Wiersma, a Resonate missionary serving in Nigeria, led three groups of teachers in Educational Care training over the Christmas school break. Give thanks for the collaboration among teachers from various backgrounds and their willingness to learn. Ask God to use this training to improve their ability to share the gospel in the classroom.

World Renew: South Africa - World Renew's Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) works with individuals who aim to better manage, save, and invest their cash flow. VSLA members report, "I've been able to start a business," and, "Before, if I had money, I would spend it; now I save it." We thank God for blessing impoverished South African communities with financial resources and education.

Centre for Public Dialogue: Newness - As snow blankets the countryside amid the short days of winter, we remember God's promises that he is making all things new. Creator God, in your wisdom you have set a time for death and a time for birth. With trees and plants resting under the snow, we trust in the hope of new life—for all of creation.