

# **Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!**

**Pastor John Knoester**

**March 12, 2017**

**10:30 A.M. Worship Service**

**\* Please stand if you are able.**

## ***"I am the Bread of Life"***

Prelude: Jill Klunder

Welcome and Announcements

**\* Call to Worship (Based on Matthew 11:28-30)**

**Pastor:** Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest."

**People:** **O Lord, we turn unfilled to you again.**

**Pastor:** Jesus says, "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

**People:** **Our souls are restless until we find our rest in you.**

**\* Opening Hymn: LUYH 823:1-3,5 *"O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts"***

1. O Jesus, joy of loving hearts,  
the fount of life, the light of all,  
from fullest bliss that earth imparts  
we turn unfilled to hear your call.
2. Your truth unchanged has ever stood;  
you save all those who on you call.  
To those who seek you, you are good;  
to those who find you, all in all.
3. We taste you, ever-living Bread,  
and long to feast upon you still;  
we drink of you, the fountainhead,  
our thirst to quench, our souls to fill.
5. O Jesus, ever with us stay;  
make all our moments calm and bright!  
Chase the dark night of sin away;  
shed o'er the world your holy light!

Words: Latin, 12th c.; tr. Ray Palmer, 1858, alt., P.D.  
Music: Henry baker, 1854, P.D.; CCLI #678905

**\* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other**

\* Opening Songs of Praise:

***"We are Called"*** LUYH #296:1-3

1. Come! Live in the light!  
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!  
We are called to be light for the kingdom,  
to live in the freedom of the city of God.

*Refrain*

We are called to act with justice,  
we are called to love tenderly;  
we are called to serve one another,  
to walk humbly with God.

2. Come! Open your heart!  
Show your mercy to all those in fear!  
We are called to be hope for the hopeless  
so hatred and blindness will be no more.

*Refrain*

3. Sing! Sing a new song!  
Sing of that great day when all will be one!  
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other  
as sisters and brothers united in love.

*Refrain*

Words and Music: David Haas (b. 1957) © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc.;  
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***"Just as I Am, Without One Plea"*** LUYH #627:1-4

1. Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
2. Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many\_a conflict, many\_a doubt,  
fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
3. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

***acapella***

4. Just as I am, thy love unknown  
has broken every barrier down;  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Words: Charlotte Elliott, 1836, P.D.; William B. Bradbury, 1849, P.D. CCLI #678905

***"They who come to me shall not hunger"***

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance: John 6:35

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

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Our Response of Gratitude:

God spoke all these words:

"I am the LORD your God.

You shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol,  
whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above,  
or that is on the earth beneath,  
or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

You shall not make wrongful use  
of the name of the LORD your God.

Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house;  
you shall not covet your neighbor's wife,  
or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

—from Exodus 20:1-17, NRSV

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Song of Assurance: LUYH 125:1-3

***"Jesus the Lord Said, I Am the Bread"***

1. Jesus the Lord said, "I am the bread;  
the bread of life for the world am I.  
The bread of life for the world am I;  
the bread of life for the world am I."  
Jesus the Lord said, "I am the bread;  
the bread of life for the world am I."
2. Jesus the Lord said, "I am the light;  
the one true light of the world am I.  
The one true light of the world am I;  
the one true light of the world am I."  
Jesus the Lord said, "I am the light;  
the one true light of the world am I."
3. Jesus the Lord said, "I am the door;  
the way and the door for the sheep am I.  
The way and the door for the sheep am I;  
the way and the door for the sheep am I."  
Jesus the Lord said, "I am the door;  
the way and the door for the sheep am I."

Words: st. 1-5 anonymous Urdu, tr. C. Dermott Monahan (1906-1957) © 1969

Christian Conference of Asia, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.; st. 6-7 Bert Polman (b. 1945);

based on "I Am" passages in the Gospel of John © 2001 Faith Alive Christian Resources;

OneLicense.net License #A-711218; Music: arr. Andrew Donaldson (b. 1951) 1997 Andrew Donaldson; Permission granted.

*During the singing of the last verse, children ages 3-first grade are dismissed to the Koinonia room for Children & Worship.*

Offering: General Fund

\* Song of Preparation: LUYH #899:1-3 ***“Seek Ye First”***

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
and his righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia.
2. Ask and it shall be given unto you;  
seek and you shall find;  
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia.
3. We do not live by bread alone,  
but by every word  
that proceeds from the mouth of God.  
Allelu, alleluia.

*Words and Music: Matthew 6:33, 7:7, 4:4; para. Karen Lafferty, 1972,  
© 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin Music Services; CCLI #678905*

***“No one can come to me unless the Father draws them”***

Scripture Reading: John 6:25-71 (pg. 1056) Read by Marinus & Jill Rouw

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“I Am – The Bread of Life”***

Time of Prayer

***“I will raise them up on the last day”***

\* Hymn of Application: LYUH #842:1,2,4 ***“I Am the Bread of Life”***

1. I am the Bread of life;  
they who come to me shall not hunger;  
they who believe in me shall not thirst.  
No one can come to me unless the Father draws them.

*Refrain*

*And I will raise them up,  
and I will raise them up,  
and I will raise them up on the last day.*

2. The Bread that I will give  
is my flesh for the life of the world,  
and they who eat of this bread,  
they shall live forever, they shall live forever.

*Refrain*

4. Yes, Lord, we believe  
that you are the Christ,  
the Son of God  
who has come into the world.

*Refrain*

Words & Music: Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927), based on John 6:35, 44; 11:25 © 1970 GIA Publications, Inc.; OneLicense.net License #A-711218

**We Confess Our Faith: Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended to heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

\* Benediction

\* Doxology: LYUH #489:1-3 *"By the Sea of Crystal"*

1. By the sea of crystal saints in glory stand,  
myriads in number, drawn from every land.  
Robed in white apparel, washed in Jesus' blood,  
they now reign in heaven with the Lamb of God.
2. Out of tribulation, death, and Satan's hand,  
they have been translated at the Lord's command.  
In their hands they're holding palms of victory.  
Hark! the jubilant chorus shouts triumphantly:
3. "Unto God Almighty, sitting on the throne,  
and the Lamb, victorious, be the praise alone."  
God has wrought salvation; he did wondrous things.  
Who shall not extol thee, holy King of kings!

*Revelation 4-5; Words: William Kuipers, 1933, based on Revelation 4-5,*

*© 1976 Faith Alive Christian Resources; Music: John Vanderhoven, 1933, © 1976 Faith Alive Christian Resources; CCLI #678905*

\* Postlude

**Welcome!** A hearty welcome to each of you! It is a genuine joy to have everyone here for worship, for fellowship, for learning more about the Christian way and for preparing for a new week of service. God has been good to us! Let us join together to praise the Lord. After the morning service all are invited to the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

## OUR CHURCH EVENTS

**Choir** will begin practicing this morning to sing during the Lent season. We will meet in the sanctuary following the morning service. If you love to sing, please join us.

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

The **Executive Committee** will meet on Monday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m.

**A FAMILY SKATING PARTY** is being sponsored by the GEMS and Cadet Clubs on Tuesday, March 14 from 6:30 - 8:30 P.M. at Skagit Skate in Burlington. Put it on your calendar and join the fun! Bring the whole family--even babies in strollers can be wheeled around the rink. Invite your friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome! Enjoy great fellowship, great exercise and great family fun. Come and help support our programs at the same time. (Cost: \$5 for skates; \$6 for inline skates.)

**Golden Hour** will meet on Thursday, March 30 at 1:30 p.m. Study James 5:13-20.

**Ladies Craft Night** will be held on Friday, March 17 at 6:30 p.m. Bring something to work on and come and go as you please.

**75th Anniversary:** If you have any historical photos of First CRC from its beginning in 1942 to the present day, the 75th Anniversary Committee would like to use them during our weekend of celebration on May 12-14, 2017. If you are willing to allow the use of or copies of your photos, please label them with your name and drop them off at the church office or put them mailbox #19 (Greg Boon) before April 1. Examples: Fellowship Hall (first place of worship); building of the church or education wing; society members; organ installation; parsonages, pastors, Bible study groups, church picnics, VBS, GEMS, Cadets, etc. If you know the dates of important events in the life of First CRC, please put that information in mailbox #19 or leave at the church office.

**Last Opportunity:** A few weeks ago our church was asked to participate in an important denominational survey. Please be assured that the information gathered from you will be kept strictly confidential. More information can be found by copying and pasting this address: [https://www.crcna.org/sites/default/files/crcna\\_survey\\_flyer.pdf](https://www.crcna.org/sites/default/files/crcna_survey_flyer.pdf). We encourage you to participate in this survey by copying and pasting to the following link: [crcna.org/survey/7861](http://crcna.org/survey/7861). So far, we have had 19 participants do the survey. They would like our church to have at 30. Please take the time and do the survey. Thank you so much in participating.

A **BOT Report** to Classis Pacific Northwest is available on the walkway shelf.

**FAMILY VISITING:** The following is the family visiting schedule for **March & April 2017**. If your family is included in the list, please expect a call from the listed Elder to arrange the day and time for the visit. If you have questions about the schedule please call the listed Elder or call Henry Hamming at 360-424-3019.

<b>MARCH - APRIL 2017 FAMILY VISITS</b>	
<b>Elder</b>	<b>Family</b>
Dave V	Jim & Michele Feddema
Dave V	Marge Eskes
Greg A	Keith & Jean Rasmussen
Greg A	Case Lanting
Greg B	Kevin & Glenda Kok
Greg B	Marjean De Groot
Henry H	Kermit & Julie Houck
Henry H	Hans & Aileen Meischke
Darrel L	Dave Visser

Darrel L	Hank & Anjean Vander Veen
Pastor John	Shirley Boonstra
Pastor John	Michelle De Kok
Dennis D	Jill Klunder
Dennis D	Sally Reehoorn

### **ADVANCED NOTICES**

The **Men's Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, March 22 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 annual **Pinewood Derby Race** will be held on Wednesday, March 22 (the normal Cadet meeting night). The races will be held at MVC Elementary Gym. Check in will begin at 6 pm. Cars will be weighed and checked in. Pizza will be delivered at 6:30 and races will begin at 7. Trophies will be awarded for speed and looks. An Open Class race (weights of cars not restricted to 5oz) will follow the Cadet division so bring your fastest and best looking cars to show the boys that the fun continues from generation to generation.

The **Young at Heart** will meet for their monthly lunch at Denny's in Mount Vernon on Thursday, March 23 at 12:30 p.m.

**Save the Date:** Our Good Friday Service will be held on April 14 at 7:00 p.m.

**HYMN SING: COMING SOON.** Sunday, April 30, at 4:00, our church will be hosting a "Hymnspiration". This will be an evening of singing Hymns for all ages. Plan to come for an evening of Praise and Worship with family and friends! Everyone is welcome!

**Save the Date:** Mariner's Game on June 23.

### **ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT**

**A New Family:** In his second word from the cross Jesus shows deep compassion for his mother. Join our Groundwork conversation on John 19:23-27 to discover what Jesus' great concern for his family shows us about his humanity, and uncover the profound theological implications that arise from this earthly concern. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Sinful Saturday:** We know when we sin. The problem is we do it anyway. On this week's KC one sin leads to another, and quickly these adventures turn to nightmares. As always, little sins grow. Subscribe for free at getkidscorner.com. As you and your family prepare for Easter, download the family Lent devotional available at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net).

**Available Free in the Digital Library** - "Through Tears to Joy" Devotions for Lent" is available free to all in the CRC through the Digital Library ([crcna.org/Library](http://crcna.org/Library)). This collection of devotions reflects on the meaning meaning of Jesus' suffering and the meaning of suffering in the world.

**Do you feel stuck in unhealthy behaviors you find difficult to give up?** Or love someone who's stuck? Join Alan and Amy Muia at Crossroads Covenant Church on Saturday March 25 for the Recovery for Everyone one-day seminar. Sponsored by New Earth Recovery. For more information visit [www.NERecovery.org](http://www.NERecovery.org)

**Mount Vernon Christian School Preschool & Kindergarten Night, Tuesday, March 21, 2017 6:30-8:00 PM.** Join us as we open our doors for a preview of our Preschool and Kindergarten programs. Prospective families are invited to see all that Mount Vernon Christian School has to offer. Please RSVP by Friday, March 17 by either calling the office at 360-424-9157 or emailing Beth at [bjones@mountvernonchristian.org](mailto:bjones@mountvernonchristian.org)

**Open House & Campus Tour, Wednesday, March 22, 2017 10:00-11:30 am or 1:00-2:30 pm.** Mount Vernon Christian School invites prospective families and students to tour our facilities on a regular school day to see firsthand all that

MVC has to offer. You will the opportunity to meet students and teachers, ask questions and grow in your understanding of MVCS. Please RSVP by either calling the office at 360-424-9157 or emailing Beth at [bjones@mountvernonchristian.org](mailto:bjones@mountvernonchristian.org)

**Family Promise** is opening a transitional housing unit and are in need of the following items. We are only looking for items that are in good shape and have life left in them. Lamps x 7; Area rugs; pictures; dressers x 4; dinner tables and chairs x 2; coffee pot; toaster; vacuums x 2; TVs x 6; Bunk beds (size twin) x 3; Trundle beds (size twin or full) x 3; Twin and Full Mattresses and some box springs; Sheets and blankets; Lawn mower; Weed eater; Cooking supplies like: spices, flour, sugar, ect.; Food; Laundry detergent. If you don't see the item on here that you would like to donate, we may still need it. Feel free to contact me about items. We are able to do some moving of items if you are not able to bring the item to the day center. We are hoping to start taking guests as of March 15th.

Tony Latham, Executive Director

Family Promise of Skagit Valley

Email: [familypromiseskagit@gmail.com](mailto:familypromiseskagit@gmail.com)

Office #: 360-854-0743 Cell #: 509-951-0619

### **CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

SUN	11:45 am	Choir Practice
	4:00 pm	Vida Nueva
	7:45 pm	Youth Group
MON	7:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
TUES	6:30 pm	Family Skating Party
	7:00 pm	Vida Nueva
THURS	1:30 am	Golden Hour
FRI	6:30 pm	Ladies Craft Night

#### **NURSERY:**

##### **Today: Infants & Toddlers**

Jeannette Folkertsma, Cody Hilsinger, Lexi Blom

##### **Next Week: Infants & Toddlers**

Julie Houck, Emma Droog, Kaeli Houck

#### **GREETERS:**

##### **Today:**

**Rovers:** Greg & Tish Ackermann

**AM:** Kermit & Julie Houck, Martha Haarsma, Katie Jungquist

##### **Next Week:**

**Rovers:** Rich & Elly Cuperus

**AM:** Clarence & Eleanor Klunder, John & Dena Klunder

#### **USHERS**

**Today:** Kendall Van Zanten, Tim Hibma, Henry Van Zanten, Jr.

**Next Week:** Darin Kuipers, Wiebe Van der Hoek, Larry Greidanus

#### **SOUND SYSTEM**

**Today:** Henry Van Zanten, Jr.

**Next Week:** Tim Hibma

#### **PROJECTION**

**Today:** Josh Hammingh

**Next Week:** Kendall Van Zanten



**VIDEO TAPING**

**Today:** Mike Hibma

**Next Week:** DJ Droog

**CHILDREN & WORSHIP**

**Today:**

Teacher: Julie Houck

Assistants: Briana Vander Kooy, Kera Boon

**Next Week:**

Teacher: Marjo Rouw

Assistants: Brooke Knoester, Cody Hilsinger

**LIBRARY:**

**Today:** Joy Faber

**Next Week:** Jean Rasmussen

**COFFEE HOSTS**

**Today:** Agnes Bollema, Randy & Peggy Burr, Rich & Elly Cuperus

**Next Week:** Greg & Tish Ackermann, Dennis & Melba De Kok, Michelle De Kok

**VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE**

**Today:** Danielle Van Zanten, Sylvia Van Zanten

**Next Week:** Betty Postma & Jill Haagsma

**MINISTRY OF PRAISE**

**Next Week:** Greg Boon

**Accompanist:** Danielle Van Zanten

**OFFERING: March 19, 2017**

**AM:** General Fund

**PM:** Tierra Nueva

## 6:30 P.M. Worship Service

Pianist: Sylvia Van Zanten

Welcome / Announcements

Prayer for Worship

Opening Songs of Praise: Led by Hank Van Zanten

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

**"Come, Thou Almighty King"** LUYH #492:1,3,4

**"Lord, Our Lord, Your Glorious Name"** LUYH #500:1,2,4

Catechism Reading: Lord's Day 19 Q&A 50-51

Q. 50 Why the next words: "and is seated at the right hand of God"?

A. Because Christ ascended to heaven  
to show there that he is head of his church,<sup>1</sup>  
the one through whom the Father rules all things.<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup> [Eph. 1:20-23](#); [Col. 1:18](#); <sup>2</sup> [Matt. 28:18](#); [John 5:22-23](#)

Q. 51 How does this glory of Christ our head benefit us?

A. First, through his Holy Spirit he pours out gifts from  
heaven upon us his members.<sup>1</sup>

Second, by his power he defends us and keeps us safe  
from all enemies.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [Acts 2:33](#); [Eph. 4:7-12](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Ps. 110:1-2](#); [John 10:27-30](#); [Rev. 19:11-16](#)

Scripture Readings: Various Texts

Message: **"Christ's Kingdom"**

Time of Prayer

Offering: Tierra Nueva

Song of Application: LUYH #219:1-5 **"Jesus Shall Reign"**

\* 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](mailto:secretary@firstcrcmv.com) by Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

#### **CONTINUING CONCERNS:**

**Annette LeClair** has been diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer. She will be meeting with her local oncologist in the near future to work out a treatment plan that will likely include chemotherapy. Please pray for the entire family as they will have many important decisions to make throughout the time ahead.

**Betty Postma** has been diagnosed with lymphoma and is still awaiting a few more test results before she meets with her doctor again to devise a treatment plan. Praise God for the healing that has already taken place and pray for more to come.

**Hank Haagsma** spent the week at Skagit Valley Hospital with an infection in his leg. Please pray for both Hank and Jill as they meet with the doctors to determine the next course of treatment.

**Helena Kuiper** is still recovering at Mira Vista, but hopes to return soon to Creekside. Pray that the transition back to Creekside goes well and that she can adjust to the lesser care received at Creekside compared to a place such as Mira Vista.

#### **SHUT INS:**

**Nell Annema** at Creekside in Burlington, **Grace Faber** at home in Mount Vernon; **Helena Kuiper** at Mira Vista in Mount Vernon; **Mary Koopmans** at home in Mount Vernon; **Adrianna Swanson** at Creekside in Burlington; **Bev Van Slageren** at home in Clear Lake, **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.

#### **OTHER CONCERNS:**

Continue to pray for **Marlene De Groot** as she continues to be in the hospital fighting her aggressive cancer. Pray that Marlene and family members experience God's presence close beside them.

**Calvin Theological Seminary: Learning and discerning** - Pray for senior students who are taking their oral comprehensive exams this month and discerning God's leading beyond graduation. Pray also for students participating in a Rhythm of Life retreat, that they will be renewed and refreshed for their journey through seminary.

**Christian Reformed World Missions: Nigeria** - Missionaries in Nigeria have been working with leaders in the CRC-Nigeria (CRC-N) to develop a new catechism book. Pray that this new tool, now published, will serve well as it teaches new Christians and prepares them for baptism and profession of faith.

**World Renew: Syria** - The war in Syria is causing unimaginable suffering for families. World Renew is helping to provide 2,500 people in Aleppo with food boxes for three months and a winterization kit to help make it through the cold Syrian winter. Please continue to keep the people of Syria in your prayers.

**Back to God Ministries International: India** - Singh is a young man from Saraj who heard the name of Jesus for the first time through our radio program in India. Though he was the first person in his community to give his life to Christ, others are now coming to faith as they listen to our broadcasts. Pray that they also come to know Jesus as Savior.

**Faith Formation Ministries: Faith storytelling** - The Scriptures are filled with marvelous testimonies of God's grace and faithfulness in times of both joy and sorrow. In our own lives, we sometimes struggle to share such testimonies, so Faith Formation Ministries has created an online Faith Storytelling Toolkit. Pray with us that throughout our denomination

testimonies of all kinds will flow more naturally and freely across the generations and into the neighborhoods we serve.

***Christian Reformed Home Missions: Jesus on Colfax Ministries, Denver, Colo.*** -Pray for Pastor Shawn Sikkema and his wife, Diane, as they live in a local motel among the people they are serving and ministering to on East Colfax Ave., bringing the love of Christ into one of the roughest neighborhoods in the Denver area.

**Christian Reformed World Missions: Dominican Republic** - As a response to domestic violence and poverty in her community, Veronica leads an after-school program for children. She has also been working with CRWM's ministry network to gain new leadership skills and meet other ministry leaders. Pray that Veronica will continue to find ways to help the children in her community and to assist local leaders in their ministries.