

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

Pastor John Knoester

November 12, 2017

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

“Church of God, elect and glorious, holy nation, chosen race,”

Prelude: Marjo Rouw

Welcome and Announcements

* Call to Worship: I Peter 2: 4-6, 9

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone--rejected by men
but chosen by God and precious to him—

⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a
spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering
spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

⁶ For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one
who trusts in him will never be put to shame.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you
may declare the praises of him who called you out
of darkness into his wonderful light.

* Opening Hymn: LUYH #251:1-4 ***“The Church’s One Foundation”***

1. The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

2. Elect from every nation, yet one o’er all the earth;
her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

3. Though with a scornful wonder
the world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: “How long?”
and soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

4. Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore,
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Words: Samuel J. Stone, 1866, P.D.; Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1864, P.D.
CCLI #67895

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

* Opening Songs of Praise:

Read Psalm 67:1-3

- ¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us,
- ² that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.
- ³ May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you.

LUYH #529:1,2,4 ***"Gather Us in"***

1. Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.
4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Words and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc.,
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* Opening Prayer

"O Church Arise" vs. 1-4

1. O Church arise and put your armour on;
hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong,
in the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
we'll stand against the devil's lies;
an army bold whose battle cry is Love,
reaching out to those in darkness.

2. Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
but to rage against the captor;
and with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
we will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side,
we know the outcome is secure.
And Christ will have the prize for which He died,
an inheritance of nations.

3. Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
as the Son of God is stricken;
then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
for the Conqueror has risen.
And as the stone is rolled away
and Christ emerges from the grave,
this victory march continues till the day
every eye and heart shall see Him

4. So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride,
give grace for every hurdle;
that we may run with faith, to win the prize
of a servant, good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls, and hunger for the day
when, with Christ we stand in glory.

Words and Music by Keith Getty / Stuart Townend; © 2005 Thankyou Music.

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During the last verse the children are invited forward for the Children's Message.

“Called as God’s own special people,royal priests and heirs of grace;”

Children’s Message: Led by Marjo Rouw

*Following the Children’s Message children ages 3-1st grade
are excused to the Koinonia Room for Children and Worship.*

Offering: General Fund

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #252:1-4 ***“Church of God, Elect and Glorious”***

1. Church of God, elect and glorious,
holy nation, chosen race,
called as God’s own special people,
royal priests and heirs of grace;
know the purpose of your calling,
show to all his mighty deeds,
tell of love that knows no limits,
grace that meets all human needs.

2. God has called you out of darkness into his most marvelous light, brought his truth to life within you, turned your blindness into sight. Let your light so shine around you that God's name is glorified and all find fresh hope and purpose in Christ Jesus crucified.
3. Once you were an alien people, strangers to God's heart of love, but he brought you home in mercy, citizens of heaven above. Let his love flow out to others, let them feel the Father's care, that they too may know his welcome and his countless blessings share.
4. Church of God, elect and holy, be the people he intends, strong in faith and swift to answer each command your Master sends. Royal priests, fulfill your calling through your sacrifice and prayer; give your lives in joyful service, sing his praise, his love declare.

Words: based on 1 Peter 2:9-10, James E. Seddon © 1982
The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Company; CCLI #678905

“Know the purpose of your calling, show to all his mighty deeds,”

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 2:19-22 (pg. 1157) Read by Wiebe Van der Hoek

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“United in Christ”***

Time of Prayer

“Tell of love that knows no limits, grace that meets all human needs.”

* Song of Application: ***“Cornerstone”*** v. 1-2

1. My hope is built on nothing less,
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

Repeat Verse 1

Chorus

*Christ alone cornerstone.
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.*

2. When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.
My anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus

3. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
oh may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone.
Faultless stand before the throne.

Chorus (2x)

Words by Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, and Edward Mote;
Music by Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, and William Batchelder
Bradbury; © 2011 Hillsong Music Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG
Publishing); CCLI #678905

* Benediction

* Parting Hymn: LUYH #257:1-3, 5,6 ***“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”***

1. Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.
2. Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.
3. We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.
5. This glorious hope revives
our courage by the way;
while each in expectation lives
and waits to see the day.
6. From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin, we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.

Words: John Farrell, 1782, P.D.; Music: attr. Johann C. Nægeli, 1828, P.D.;
CCLI #678905

* Postlude

Welcome to the House of God. The Lord is always near to those who gather in his name. Let us eagerly call upon God and make a joyful noise with songs and prayers of praise. Glory be to God! 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 extend our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of **Grace Faber**. She passed away on Friday, November 10, due to heart complications. Keep the family in your prayers as decisions are made in the days to come and that they will experience God's presence with them.

Welcome Baby Basket! Let's welcome little **Jameson Kuipers** to our church family! There is a tub in the annex ready to be filled. Any kind of baby/mommy item would be perfect; bibs, blankets, toys, books, burp clothes, diapers, baby food, lotions, clothes, cards, or gift cards. The gift does not have to be wrapped and it is up to you whether you choose to put your name on the gift or give anonymously. Have fun!

Sunday School Service Opportunity (and Adults!): For the month of November we are focusing on making care packages for our college age young adults and older. We want them to know that we care about them. Some ideas might be baked goodies, homemade gifts, letters/cards of encouragement, gift cards, etc. You may place your items in the labeled basket that will be on the table across from the kitchen December 3.

OUR CHURCH EVENTS

Dear Friends in Christ,

What is the Church? What is its purpose? Why does it exist? How is it supposed to function? These and many more are just a few of the questions Paul addresses in his letter to the church in Ephesus. In fact, we can almost call the book of Ephesians 'a miniature doctrine of the Church!'

Like every other book of the Bible – Paul's letter is not just for the recipients of his letter 2000 years ago, but also for us here today. The same struggles and issues the church in Ephesus faced are still prevalent in our world today. The following is a tentative schedule of our series for the weeks ahead. As always, you are encouraged to read and study the text beforehand.

May God continue to bless and build His Church!

In Christ,

Pastor John

September 24: Spiritual Blessings in Christ – Ephesians 1:1-8
October 1: Safe in God's Plan – Ephesians 1:8-11
October 8: God's Possession - Ephesians 1:11-16
October 15:(Communion) Living In Awe and Wonder– Ephesians 1:15-23
October 22: Alive With Christ – Ephesians 2:1-10
November 5: Breaking the Dividing Wall – Ephesians 2:11-18
November 12: Unity in Christ – Ephesians 2:19-22
November 19: A Foretaste of What is to Come – Ephesians 3:1-13
November 26: Rooted and Established in Love – Ephesians 3:14-21

Choir will meet for rehearsal after the morning service.

Youth Group will meet this evening at 7:45 p.m. This is for all high school students. They meet in the Youth Group room in the Education Wing.

The **Men's Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, November 15 at 6:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant in Burlington. We are studying the book of Revelation. You are welcome to join us.

Golden Hour will meet on Wednesday, November 15 at 1:30 p.m. We meet in the Koinonia Room and will study Micah 5:6-15.

GEMS will meet on Wednesday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m. for the Father/Daughter night. Girls in grades 2-8th are invited to attend.

Small Group Ministry Participants: The second group will meet at the home of Greg & Beth Boon on Friday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Cookies & Pies: After the New Earth Recovery Christmas Sing-along we are serving cookies and pies. We would appreciate it if you would be willing to bake for us. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. *Also, if you are willing to help serve and clean up, please let Sylvia know.*

Each January **Human Life** sponsors a signature ad in the local newspaper containing the names of pro-life supporters in Skagit County. **Today** you will be able to sign up for this at a table in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$5.00 per line, which may contain two or more names up to 32 spaces. A second line may be obtained for \$5.00. **Make a bold statement about your belief in the sanctity of all life!**

If you would like to receive the **"Today"** devotional in large print, please let Sylvia know at the church office by November 19.

In a few weeks a new **Worship Team** schedule will be put together for the months of January-April. If any children or adults would like to take part and be on a Worship Team, please let Sylvia or Henry know by Monday, November 27. Worship Teams practice at 9:30 a.m. on the Sunday morning they are scheduled to sing.

FAMILY VISITING: The following is the family visiting schedule for **October—December 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 Hammingh at 360-424-3019.

OCTOBER — DECEMBER 2017 FAMILY VISITS	
Elder	Family
Dave V	Minne & Trudy Van der Hoek
Dave V	Marinus & Jill Rouw
Greg A	Jeff & Monica Droog
Greg B	Hilsinger, Nick & Kristi
Greg B	Jerry & Marion Ekkelkamp
Henry H	Greg & Beth Boon
Henry H	Mardick & Jill Stevens
Darrel L	Randy & Juli Oostra
Darrel L	Henry & Sharon Kuipers
Pastor John	Jill Haagsma
Pastor John	Larry & Maxine Greidanus
Dennis D	Steve & Katie Jungquist
Dennis D	Chris Van Sweden

ADVANCED NOTICES

Our **Thanksgiving Eve Service** will be held on Wednesday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Bring your loved ones to an old-fashioned **Christmas Carol Sing-along** on Tuesday, November 28, at 7:00 p.m., graciously hosted by First Christian Reformed Church, 701 West Blackburn Road, Mount Vernon. This special event benefits New Earth Recovery, a local, Christian non-profit that brings healing to those in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction. We will celebrate the season with carols, desserts, and a freewill offering to support this important ministry.

Ladies Night Out will be held on Wednesday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m. at Hagen's cafe in Mount Vernon.

Potluck & Caroling: Our next church potluck will be held at **5:45 p.m.** on Sunday, **December 3.** Following the potluck we will go Christmas caroling at Heather Village and then come back and enjoy hot chocolate and goodies. We hope to see you there!

Christmas Day Service will be held on Monday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m.

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

Choose the One, True God: GOD - Every day we encounter challenges from culture and other religions that force us to define and explain God. Join Groundwork as we study 1 Kings 18 to see how God answers these challenges and challenges us to stop compromising and choose the one, true God. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

A Very Good Day: In this brand new episode Grandpa and Liz follow treasure hunt clues left behind by a childhood friend of Grandpa. What's the next clue? What's the treasure hidden somewhere in Terrene? Check out KC's Gifts of Kindness Advent Calendar and Devotional and invite your whole family to join you in giving daily gifts of kindness. www.kidscorner.net

Position Opening: Pacific NW Regional Organizer - The CRC Office of Social Justice is seeking a regional organizer in the Pacific Northwest area who is interested in the work of the Office of Social Justice and eager to help expand engagement on the topic of immigration with area congregations. The organizer will mobilize congregations to engage on through education, worship, advocacy, and local connections. This position will run through June 30, 2018. The organizer will receive a \$1,500 stipend within this period, receiving checks for \$750 each on February 28, 2018 and June 30, 2018. For details or to apply before November 27, please visit www.crcna.org/jobs

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN	11:45 am	Choir Practice
	6:30 pm	Evening Service
	7:45 pm	Youth Group
TUES	7:00 pm	Vida Nueva
WED	6:30 am	Men's Bible Study
	1:30 pm	Golden Hour
	6:30 pm	GEMS Father/Daughter Night
FRI	7:00 pm	Small Group Ministry at Greg & Beth Boon's

NURSERY

Today: AM Infants & Toddlers

Sue Blom, Kaeli Houck, Kendall Van Zanten

Next Week: AM Infants & Toddlers

Briana Vander Kooy, Hannah Van Hofwegen, Nathan Van Beek

GREETERS

Today - AM Rovers: Rich & Elly Cuperus

AM: Bob & Andy Pippel, Sally Reehoorn, Randy & Juli Oostra

Next Week - AM Rovers: Dennis & Melba De Kok

AM: Mardick & Jill Stevens, Minne & Trudy Van der Hoek

USHERS

Today: Kendall Van Zanten, Wiebe Van der Hoek, Henry Hammingh

Next Week: Darin Kuipers, Tim Hibma, Larry Greidanus

SOUND SYSTEM

Today AM: Tim Hibma

Next Week AM: Henry Van Zanten, Matt De Groot

PROJECTION

Today AM: Devin Van Zanten

Next Week AM: Kendall Van Zanten

VIDEO TAPING

Today AM: Mike Hibma

Next Week AM: Brandon Speck

CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Today AM:

Teacher: Michele Feddema

Assistants: Monica Droog, Josh Hammingh

Next Week AM:

Teacher: Pam Van Zanten

Assistants: Shanna Visser, Kayla Van Hofwegen

LIBRARY:

Today AM: Joy Faber

Next Week AM: Jean Rasmussen

COFFEE HOSTS

Today AM: Greg & Tish Ackermann, Denis & Melba De Kok, Michelle De Kok

Next Week AM: Henry & Sylvia Van Zanten, Alice De Vries, Wayne & Rhea Doss

VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

Today: Jayne Hammingh, Sunee Lagerwey

Next Week: Betty Postma, Jill Haagsma

TRANSPORTATION CARE TEAM

Next Week: Betty Postma

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

Next Week: Jayne Hammingh

Accompanist: Shirley Boonstra

OFFERING: November 19 , 2017

AM: General Fund

PM: Classis Pacific Northwest

Thanksgiving Eve:

November 22, 2017

PM: Undesignated gifts go for Northwest Hispanic Ministry

6:30 P.M. Worship Service

Pianist: Marjo Rouw

Welcome/Announcements

Prayer for Worship

Opening Songs of Praise: Led by Henry Kuipers

"O Praise the Lord, for It Is Good" LUYH #549:1, 3

"The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear" LUYH #594:1, 4

"Nearer, Still Nearer " LUYH #659:1, 3

Catechism Reading: Lord's Day 40 Q&A 105-107

Q. 105 What is God's will for you in the sixth commandment?

**A. I am not to belittle, insult, hate, or kill my neighbor—
not by my thoughts, my words, my look or gesture,
and certainly not by actual deeds—
and I am not to be party to this in others;¹
rather, I am to put away all desire for revenge.²**

I am not to harm or recklessly endanger myself either.³

Prevention of murder is also why government is armed with the sword.⁴

¹ Gen. 9:6; Lev. 19:17-18; Matt. 5:21-22; 26:52

² Prov. 25:21-22; Matt. 18:35; Rom. 12:19; Eph. 4:26

³ Matt. 4:7; 26:52; Rom. 13:11-14

⁴ Gen. 9:6; Ex. 21:14; Rom. 13:4

Q. 106 Does this commandment refer only to murder?

**A. By forbidding murder God teaches us
that he hates the root of murder:
envy, hatred, anger, vindictiveness.¹**

In God's sight all such are murder.²

¹ Prov. 14:30; Rom. 1:29; 12:19; Gal. 5:19-21;

1 John 2:9-11; ² 1 John 3:15

Q. 107 Is it enough then that we do not murder our
neighbor in any such way?

**A. No. By condemning envy, hatred, and anger
God tells us to love our neighbors as ourselves,¹
to be patient, peace-loving, gentle,
merciful, and friendly toward them,²
to protect them from harm as much as we can,
and to do good even to our enemies.³**

¹ Matt. 7:12; 22:39; Rom. 12:10

² Matt. 5:3-12; Luke 6:36; Rom. 12:10, 18; Gal. 6:1-2; Eph. 4:2; Col. 3:12; 1 Pet. 3:8

³ Ex. 23:4-5; Matt. 5:44-45; Rom. 12:20-21

(Prov. 25:21-22)

Scripture Readings: Exodus 20:13, Matthew 5:21-26

Message: **"Loving Our Neighbor"**

Time of Prayer

Offering: Classis Pacific Northwest

Song of Application: LUYH #256:1-4

"They'll Know We Are Christians"

* 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@firstcrmv.com by Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

NEW CONCERNS:

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of **Grace Faber**. She passed away on Friday, November 10, due to heart complications. Keep the family in your prayers as decisions are made in the days to come and that they will experience God's presence with them.

Hans Meischke will have surgery for colon cancer on November 13. Pray for the doctors as they perform the surgery. Pray for healing for Hans and strength for Aileen and the family at this time.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

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

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 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:

Pray for Jill Haagsma's son, **Harvey**. He is currently having a lot of pain in his abdominal area. Please pray for wisdom for the doctors pray for relief from the pain itself as he waits to see a doctor.

Pray for **Debby Wiersma**, Joni Beezhold's sister, as she has dialysis three times a week. Pray that God will give her strength and energy for each day.

Continue to keep **Emily Curry** and her family in yours prayers. On Monday Emily will finish her 3rd round of chemo. Pray for strength for each day.

Back to God Ministries International: Brazil - Robson, a Portuguese radio listener living in Belo Horizonte, has strayed from Jesus and asks for prayers in his faith walk. "I have felt a great anguish, and I feel no peace, because I know the Word, but I lack the strength to return to that first love." Pray that Robson may encounter Jesus again and feel renewed peace within.

Resonate Global Mission: Lincoln, Neb. - One way that members of F Street Neighborhood Church serve their community is by offering art, cooking, and other classes to local youth. Pray that through this ministry, youth group members will gain new skills while also discovering more about the Christian faith.

Centre for Public Dialogue: Unity and grace - Abba, we live in polarized times, when families and communities are divided by differing political opinions and newsfeeds. We know that government policies can mean life or death for many, so we pray for strength and wisdom to advocate. We know too that you desire unity in your church, so we pray for grace. Help us to recognize our idols.

Disability Concerns: Adjustment - Some people are adjusting to disability as a result of injuries sustained in recent natural disasters, acts of violence, accidents, and illness. Ask God to give grace and strength as these individuals and their loved ones adjust to a different way of life. Ask God to help all of us make room in our churches and lives for people with disabilities.

Back to God Ministries International: Puerto Rico - Pray for our Spanish volunteer team and listeners in Puerto Rico. This season's hurricanes have left many without power or clean water. Pray that relief agencies can respond efficiently and bring desperately needed aid. Pray that as people grieve their many losses, they will remain strong in faith and health.

Resonate Global Mission: Mexico - Praise God for a woman who attended a Bible study and a marriage class at the New Life Church being planted in Mexico. At a recent women's breakfast conference, she testified that God used these ministries to open her eyes to ways to improve her marriage. Pray that she and her husband may continue to develop a Christ-centered marriage.

Safe Church: Trauma healing - Pray that congregations can become places of healing for people who have experienced trauma. A Bible-based trauma-healing equipping event will take place in Ontario Nov. 15-17, cosponsored by Safe Church Ministry and World Renew. Pray that many will take advantage of this learning opportunity and use it to help bring about healing from the heart wounds of trauma.