Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church! Pastor John Knoester November 19, 2017

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

* Please stand if you are able.

"I love to tell the story of unseen things above,"

Prelude: Sylvia Van Zanten

Sung Call to Worship: "My Jesus I Love Thee" Kevin & Glenda Kok

Welcome and Announcements

* Call to Worship: LUYH #539

Pastor: O magnify the LORD with me.

People: Let us exalt God's name together!

Pastor: We will give thanks to you, O LORD, with our whole heart; we will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

People: We will be glad and exult in you; we will sing praise to your name, O Most High. Psalm 34:3; 9:1-2

Opening Hymn: LUYH #538:1-4 "Holy, Holy, Holy,! Lord God Almighty"

- Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee; Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty! God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!
- 2. Holy, Holy! All the saints adore Thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, who wert and art and evermore shalt be.
- Holy, Holy, Holy! Though the darkness hide Thee, though the eye made blind by sin Thy glory may not see, only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee, perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Sing Acapella

 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth and sky and sea; Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and Mighty! God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity! Words: Reginald Heber; Music: John B. Dykes; Descant: David McK. Williams; Public Domain; CCLI# 678905

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

* Opening Songs of Praise:

Read Ephesians 2:4-7

- ⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,
- ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved.
- ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,
- ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

"I Love to Tell the Story" LUYH #262:1-3

 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.

 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

 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

"I Love Your Church, O Lord" LUYH #247:1-3

- 1. I love your church, O Lord! Her saints before you stand, dear as the apple of your eye and graven on your hand.
- Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways, her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.
- I love your church, O God, the people you have called, the church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood. Words: Timothy Dwight, 1800, alt., P.D.; Music: Aaron Williams, 1770, P.D. CCLI #678905

During the last verse the Children's Bell Choir is invited forward.

"Of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love."

Children's Bell Choir: "Let All Things Now Living"

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: "Open Our Eyes, Lord" SNC #80

Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus, to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him. Open our ears, Lord; and help us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus. Text and Music: Bob Cull (b. 1949); arr. David Allen (B. 1941) ©1976 Maranatha Music, admin. The Copyright Company, CCLI# 678905

"I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true;"

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 3:1-13 (pg. 1157) Read by Josh Hammingh

Prayer of Illumination

Message: "A Foretaste of What Is to Come"

Time of Prayer

"It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do."

Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 15: 51-52, 55-57

⁵¹Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—

⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

⁵⁵ "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

⁵⁷ But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Hymn of Application: "When Peace Like a River" LUYH #451:1-4

 When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

Refrain

It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control: that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul.

Refrain

 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! my sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Refrain

4. O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend; even so, it is well with my soul. Words: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873, P.D.; Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1876, P.D. CCLI #678905

* Benediction

- * Parting Hymn: LUYH #489:1-3 "By the Sea of Crystal"
 - 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.
 - 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:
 - "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 to worship! Here let us seek to see God more clearly, love God more completely, and serve God more certainly. Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised! 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 *Thanksgiving Eve Service* will be held this Wednesday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m. Please join us as we give God thanks for all things.

Next Sunday, November 26, the Sunday School and Catechism classes will not meet. They will resume again on December 3.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

"Thank you from the **Youth Group** for your support in our chili and pumpkin contest fundraiser. Over \$900 was donated and we are grateful for your participation and support."

"The *Cadets* want to thank the congregation for donating over \$800 at the pancake dinner last week. We are looking forward to an awesome year and it's all possible because of your support. Thanks again, The Cadets"

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. *Next Sunday*, November 26, will be the last Sunday to bring your items. 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 – Ephesians2:1-10 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.

Cookies & Pies: After the New Earth Recovery Christmas Sing-along on November 28 at 7:00 p.m., 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.*

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

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 me know by Monday, November 27. Worship Teams practice on the Sunday morning they are scheduled to sing at 9:30 a.m.

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

Blood Draw: A blood draw will be held on Monday, November 27, from 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (closed from 2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.) at the First Christian Reformed Church. Come and help save a life.

The Elders & Deacons will meet on Monday, November 27 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, <u>701 West Blackburn Road, Mount Vernon</u>. 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 Haggen's cafe in Mount Vernon.

The *Men's Bible Study* will meet on Wednesday, December 29 at 6:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant in Burlington. We are studying the book of Revelation. You are welcome to join us.

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!

Our *Candle Light Service* will be held on Sunday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m.

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

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

God Listens and Whispers: When we feel overwhelmed or depressed or unjustly attacked and beaten down by the world, God is ready to listen to our complaints. Join Groundwork as we study 1 Kings 19 to discover our God who listens in our pain, then comforts and challenges us with a whisper. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Turkey Rocket: In this favorite episode, On Thanksgiving Day, all of Terrene comes out to help to celebrate being thankful, but Liz and the gang encounter some tough challenges and hard times. Can they be thankful regardless of the circumstances? 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

Advent Devotional Series: Looking for more meaning in the midst of a busy Christmas season? This Advent, ReFrame Media offers a special email devotional series just for you. With daily devotions and encouragements from Today, Family Fire, Groundwork, and the fun of Kids Corner, we designed it to help your whole family experience the true wonder of Christmas, the coming Christ. Subscribe at reframemedia.com/advent.

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	7:00 pm	Thanksgiving Eve Services

NURSERY

Today: AM Infants & Toddlers Juli Oostra, Hannah Van Hofwegen, Nathan Van Beek *Thanksgiving Eve:* Elly Cuperus, Rayahna Oostra *Next Week:* AM Infants & Toddlers Briana Vander Kooy, Josie Droog, Kayla Van Hofwegen

GREETERS

Today - AM Rovers: Dennis & Melba De Kok
AM: Mardick & Jill Stevens, Minne & Trudy Van der Hoek
Thanksgiving Eve: PM: Keith & Jean Rasmussen & Henry & Anjean Vander Veen
Next Week - AM Rovers: Larry & Margaret Vander Pol
AM: Daniel & Brian Vander Kooy, Bryan & Deanna van Beek

USHERS

Today: Darin Kuipers, Tim Hibma, Larry Greidanus *Thanksgiving Eve:* Darin Kuipers, Tim Hibma, Larry Greidanus *Next Week:* Henry Van Zanten, Jr, Wiebe Van der Hoek, Kermit Houck SOUND SYSTEM Today AM: Henry Van Zanten, Matt De Groot Thanksgiving Eve: Tim Hibma Next Week AM: Mardick Stevens

PROJECTION Today AM: Kendall Van Zanten Thanksgiving Eve: Nathan Van Beek Next Week AM: Tim Hibma

VIDEO TAPING Today AM: Brandon Speck Thanksgiving Eve: DJ Droog Next Week AM: Mike Hibma

CHILDREN & WORSHIP *Today* AM: Teacher: Pam Van Zanten Assistants: Shanna Visser, Kayla Van Hofwegen *Next Week* AM: Teacher: Michele Feddema Assistants: Elly Cuperus, Kera Boon

LIBRARY: *Today* AM: Jean Rasmussen *Next Week* AM: Michelle De Kok

COFFEE HOSTS *Today* **AM**: Henry & Sylvia Van Zanten, Alice De Vries, Wayne & Rhea Doss *Next Week* **AM**: Les & Joy Faber, Jeannette Folkertsma, John & Dena Klunder **Cookies:** Jill Stevens, Sylvia Van Zanten, Shirley Boonstra

VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE Today: Betty Postma, Jill Haagsma Next Week: Alice De Vries, Marjean De Groot

TRANSPORTATION CARE TEAM Next Week: Shirley Boonstra

MINISTRY OF PRAISE Next Week: Tim Van Hofwegen Accompanist: Melba De Kok

OFFERING: Thanksgiving Eve November 22, 2017 PM: Undesignated gifts go for Northwest Hispanic Ministry November 26, 2017 AM: General Fund PM: Classis Pacific Northwest Pianist: Shirley Boonstra

Welcome/Announcements

Prayer for Worship

Opening Songs of Praise: Led by Jayne Hammingh "Wonderful Words of Life" vs. 1 & 3

 Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of Life; let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of Life. Words of life and beauty, teach me faith and duty:

Chorus

Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of Life. Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

Chorus

 Sweetly echo the gospel call, wonderful words of Life; offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of Life. Jesus, only Savior, sanctify forever:

Chorus

Words & Music: Philip P. Bliss; Public Domain; CCLI# 678905

"My Hope Is in the Lord" vs.1,3,4

1. My hope is in the Lord who gave himself for me, and paid the price of all my sin at Calvary.

Refrain

For me he died, for me he lives, and everlasting life and light he freely gives.

3. And now for me he stands before the Father's throne. He shows his wounded hands, and names me as his own.

Refrain

4. His grace has planned it all, 'tis mine but to believe, And recognize his work of love and Christ receive.

Refrain

Words and Music: Norman J. Clayton, 1945; text and tune © renewed 1973 by Norman Clayton Publishing Co. (a division of WORD, INC). CCLI #678905

"Surely Goodness and Mercy" vs. 1-3

 A pilgrim was I, and a-wand'ring in the cold night of sin I did roam when Jesus the kind Shepherd found me and now I am on my way home.

Chorus

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days, all the days of my life; Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days, all the days of my life.

 He restoreth my soul when I'm weary; He giveth me strength day by day. He leads me beside the still waters; He guards me each step of the way.

Chorus

 When I walk thro' the dark lonesome valley, my Savior will walk with me there; and safely His great hand will lead me to the mansions He's gone to prepare.

Chorus

Bridge

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever, ad I will feast at the table spread for me.

Ending

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days, all the days of my life, all the days, all the days of my life Text: Alfred B. Smith & John W. Peterson; based on Psalm 23; © 19548 by Singspiration Music. All rights reserved. Used by permission. <u>CCLI #678905</u>

Catechism Reading: Lord's Day 41 Q&A 108-109

Q. 108 What is God's will for us in the seventh commandment?

- A. God condemns all unchastity.¹ We should therefore thoroughly detest it² and, married or single,³live decent and chaste lives.
 ¹ Lev. 18:30; Eph. 5:3-5
 ² Jude 22-23
 ³ 1 Cor. 7:1-9; 1 Thess. 4:3-8; Heb. 13:4
- Q. 109 Does God, in this commandment, forbid only such scandalous sins as adultery?
- We are temples of the Holy Spirit, body and soul, and God wants both to be kept clean and holy. That is why He forbids everything which incites unchastity¹, whether it be actions, looks, talk, thoughts, or desires.²
 ¹ Matt. 5:27-29; 1 Cor. 6:18-20; Eph. 5:3-4
 ² 1 Cor. 15:33; Eph. 5:18

Scripture Readings: Gen. 2:18-25, Ex. 20:14, Matt. 5:27-30, I Cor. 6:18-20

Message: "God's Fence Around Our Marriages"

Time of Prayer Offering: Classis Pacific Northwest Song of Application: LUYH #312:1-4 *"In Our Households, Heavenly Father"*

- * 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 CONCERNS:

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of *Grace Faber*, who recently passed away. May the presence of Jesus be with them in this time of loss.

We extend our sympathies **to Dennis & Melba De Kok and Family** in the sudden passing away of Dennis' older brother Norman . May God give them peace in this time of sorrow.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Hans & Aileen both spent the week in the hospital. Hans' surgery went well and Aileen is recovering from a fall which resulted in a broken arm. They plan to come home soon. Pray for healing for both of them.

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:

Continue to pray for Jill Haagsma's son, *Harvey*. He is currently having a lot of pain in his abdominal area. He will be seeing a doctor at the end of month.

Continue to keep *Emily Curry* and her family in yours prayers. She finished her 3rd round of chemo this past week. She is experiencing quite a bit of pain, but is still attending school as much as she can. Pray for strength for each day.

Chaplaincy and Care Ministry: Emergency relief - When events like the mass shooting in Las Vegas and recent hurricanes in the southern United States affect the lives of large groups of individuals, active and retired chaplains from across the nation are often called upon to provide emergency support, critical incident debriefing, and spiritual care. Please pray for these chaplains and the many people they serve.

Reformed Leadership Initiative: Leadership - The Congregational Leadership Networks at our six locations in the U.S. and Canada are busy finalizing the two-and-a-half year Reformed Leadership Initiative project. Pray that pastors and congregational leaders may experience God's grace in implementing new, helpful processes for developing leaders and devoted followers of Jesus. May they be renewed and bear much fruit.

Cadets: Counselors - Over 4,500 men across Canada and the U.S. spend time with Cadets during club meetings, as well as in planning and preparing. Training events occur in many regions, meeting the needs of our many counselors, helping them better fulfill God's calling through the Cadet ministry. Pray for effective training events this season in South Dakota, Michigan, and Ontario.

World Renew: Bangladesh - In the past month, Bangladesh has accepted nearly 500,000 Rohingya refugees. After violence broke out against the Rohingya community in Myanmar, victims fled their homes, leaving everything behind. The exhausting trek from Myanmar to Bangladesh has left refugees feeling overwhelmed with uncertainty, emotion, and deprivation. Please ask God to provide healing and resources for the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.

Resonate Global Mission: More Mission Workers - Missionaries around the world ask you to pray for more missionaries on the field. Pray that more people will answer God's call to serve in their communities, in their own country, or even in a foreign place. Pray that God will make his will known to them and that those who are considering mission work will take their next step of faith.