

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

Pastor John Knoester

November 5, 2017

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

***“God, the Father of Your People,
you have called us to be one;”***

Prelude: Joni Beezhold

Welcome and Announcements

* Call to Worship: Read Psalm 133:1-3

¹ How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!

² It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard,
running down on Aaron's beard, down upon the collar of his robes.

³ It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion.
For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

* Opening Hymn: LUYH #727:1-3 ***“Christian Hearts in Love United”***

1. Christian hearts in love united:
search to know God's holy will.
Let his love, in us ignited,
more and more our spirits fill.
Christ the head, and we his members—
we reflect the light he is.
Christ the master, we disciples—
he is ours, and we are his.

2. Grant, Lord, that with your direction,
“Love each other” we comply.
Help us live in true affection,
your love to exemplify.
Let our mutual love be glowing
brightly so that all may view
that we, as on one stem growing,
living branches are in you.

3. Come, then, living church of Jesus,
covenant with him anew.
Unto him who conquered for us
may we pledge our service true.
May our lives reflect the brightness
of God's love in Jesus shown.
To the world we then bear witness:
we belong to God alone.

Words: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1723, tr. composite, P.D.; Music: Moravian Chorale Book manuscript, Herrnhut, 1735, P.D.

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

* Opening Songs of Praise:

Read Colossians 3:12-14

- ¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved,
clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility,
gentleness and patience.
- ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances
you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord
forgave you.
- ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them
all together in perfect unity.

"They'll Know We Are Christians" LUYH #256:1-4

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Refrain

*And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

Refrain

3. We will work with each other, we will work side by side.
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.

Refrain

4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us all one.

Refrain

Words: Peter Scholtes (b. 1938) © 1966, 1967 F.E.L. Church Publications, Ltd.,
assigned 1991 to Lorenz Corporation; Music: Peter Scholtes; arr. Dennis Fitzpatrick © 1966,
1967 F.E.L. Church Publications, Ltd., assigned 1991 to Lorenz Corporation; CCLI # 678905

"All Are Welcome" LUYH #269:1-5

Verse 1: Worship Team Only

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

Refrain

3. Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine, and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

Refrain

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:

Refrain

5. Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

Words and Music: Marty Haugen (b. 1950) © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.;
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*During the last verse the children are invited
forward for the Children's Message.*

***“Grant us grace to walk together
in the joy of Christ, your Son.”***

Children's Message: Led by Marjo Rouw

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

Offering: General Fund

Offertory: Joni Beezhold

* Song of Preparation: LUYH #746:1-3 ***“Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God”***

1. Holy Spirit, living Breath of God,
breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord
to renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your Word to come alive in me;
give me faith for what I cannot see;
give me passion for your purity;
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.
2. Holy Spirit, come abide within,
may your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin,
in each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace;
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.
3. Holy Spirit, from creation’s birth,
giving life to all that God has made,
show your power once again on earth,
cause your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;
lead us on the road of sacrifice,
that in unity the face of Christ
may be clear for all the world to see.

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend; ©2006 Thankyou Music, CCLI# 678905

***“Challenged by your Word and Spirit,
blest with gifts from heaven above,”***

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 2:11-18 (pg. 1157) Read by Keith Rasmussen

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“Breaking the Dividing Wall”***

Time of Prayer

***“As one body we will serve you
and bear witness to your love.”***

* We Confess Our Faith Together: LUYH #259 ***“The Unity of the Body”***

Leader: We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,

People: the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

Leader: We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation
is made manifest in the church as the community of believers

People: who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

Leader: We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways:

People: in that we love one another;

Leader: that we experience, practice, and pursue community with one another;
that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another;

People: that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope.

Leader: That together we come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ;

People: together are built up to the stature of Christ,

Leader: to the new humanity;

People: together know and bear one another's burdens,

Leader: thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another;

People: that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.

Text: from the Belhar Confession

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #927:1-2 ***"God, the Father of Your People"***

1. God, the Father of your people,
you have called us to be one;
grant us grace to walk together
in the joy of Christ, your Son.
Challenged by your Word and Spirit,
blest with gifts from heaven above,
as one body we will serve you
and bear witness to your love.
2. May the grace of Christ, our Savior,
and the Father's boundless love,
with the Holy Spirit's favor,
rest upon us from above.
May we now remain in union
with each other and the Lord,
and possess, in sweet communion,
joys that earth cannot afford.

Words: st. 1 Alfred E. Mulder, 1978, © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources; st. 2 John Newton, 1779, P.D.; Music: W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825; harm. Norman E. Johnson, ©1973 Covenant Publications; CCLI #678905

* Benediction

* Parting Hymn: LUYH 936:1-2 ***“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”***

1. Sent forth by God’s blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended.
Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ’s teaching,
receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
Your grace shall incite us,
your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.
2. With praise and thanksgiving
to God ever-living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face—
our faith ever sharing,
in love ever caring,
embracing God’s children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us,
with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

Words: Omer Westendorf (1916-1997), alt. © 1964 World Library Publications
Music: Welsh, P.D.; CCLI #678905

* Postlude: Jill Klunder

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

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!

OUR CHURCH EVENTS

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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

Today, following the morning service, you will have an opportunity to sign up for a casserole, or dessert to bring for the **Friendship House** this week. Servers are also needed. Any monetary donations to help with expenses will be accepted also. Please bring the food to the church kitchen on Wednesday, November 8 by 4:00 p.m. Have your casseroles cooked and hot.

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 **Worship Committee** will meet on Monday, November 6 at **6:30 p.m.** Note the time change.

The **Evangelism Committee** will meet on Monday, November 6 at **7:45 p.m.** Note the time change.

The **Cadets** will be sponsoring a **Pancake Dinner Night** on Wednesday, November 8 from 5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m. This is a free will offering fund-raiser. So come out and support the Cadets by enjoying some fellowship, pancakes and sausage patties.

Small Group Ministry Participants: The Acts study books are in your church mailbox. Please study chapter 1 in preparation for the first meeting. One group will be meeting at the home of the Knoester's on Friday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m. A second group will meet at the home of Greg & Beth Boon on Friday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m.

"I Am Jane Doe" (a documentary film) will be shown at the church on Saturday November 11 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. If anyone has any questions or would like to sign up to come watch it, please contact Brooke at 360-941-5921 or brookeanneknoester@hotmail.com

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

Each January **Human Life** sponsors a signature ad in the local newspaper containing the names of pro-life supporters in Skagit County. Next Sunday, November 12 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!**

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 A	Grace Faber
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

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

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.

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

On Tuesday, November 28 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a **Christmas Carol Celebration** at First Christian Reformed Church. This event benefits **New Earth Recovery**, a Christian ministry bringing healing to those struggling with drug and alcohol addiction in the Skagit Valley. A freewill offering will be received. Light refreshments will be served. Bring your loved ones to kick off the Christmas season with an old-fashioned carol sing! *If you are willing to help in the kitchen that evening please let Sylvia know.*

Ladies Night Out will be held on Wednesday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m. at Haggen'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

Today, you have opportunity again to bring your donations of canned and non-perishable items for the food drive for **"Neighbors in Need"**. Please bring your donations in and place them in the baskets located in the foyer and the Fellowship Hall.

God Cares and Provides: When times are tough and we're on our knees, yet nothing seems to change, it can leave us questioning God's promises and faithfulness. Join us in studying the stories of Elijah in 1 Kings 17 to remind ourselves just how far God's care and provision extend. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Change of Plans: In this brand new episode Lucille has great plans for the church's youth camp, but everything is put on hold with a hospital visit. Can Lucille's replacement Liz pull it off perfectly? 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

Free Advent Devotional: "Immanuel, Incarnate" is an email devotional series that features reflections from CRC ministries around the world during Advent 2017. World Renew and the CRC Office of Social Justice will explore the Incarnation of Christ and His presence in our lives as we prepare to celebrate His birth. Each devotion will be delivered to your email inbox every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, starting December 4, 2017, through Christmas Day. Go to crcna.org/advent to sign up today!

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN	11:45 am	Choir Practice
	6:30 pm	Evenin Service
	7:45 pm	Youth Group
MON	6:30 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
	7:45 pm	Evangelism Committee Meeting
TUES	7:00 pm	Vida Nueva
WED	4:00 pm	Friendship House
	5:00 pm	Cadet Pancake Dinner
FRI	7:00 pm	Small Group Ministry at Knoester's

NURSERY

Today: AM Infants & Toddlers

Michele Feddema, Jordan Feddema, Jase Hilsinger

Next Week: AM Infants & Toddlers

Sue Blom, Kaeli Houck, Kendall Van Zanten

GREETERS

Today - AM Rovers: Greg & Tish Ackermann

AM: Aileen Meischke, Betty Postma, Marinus & Jill Rouw

Next Week - AM Rovers: Rich & Elly Cuperus

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

USHERS

Today: Kermit Houck, Henry Van Zanten, Jr., Tim Van Hofwegen

Next Week: Kendall Van Zanten, Wiebe Van der Hoek, Henry Hammingh

SOUND SYSTEM

Today AM: Kendall Van Zanten

Next Week AM: Tim Hibma

PROJECTION

Today AM: Josh Hammingh

Next Week AM: Devin Van Zanten

VIDEO TAPING

Today AM: Tim Hibma, Carson Blom

Next Week AM: Mike Hibma

CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Today AM:

Teacher: Heather Van Hofwegen

Assistants: Beth Boon, Josie Droog

Next Week AM:

Teacher: Pam Van Zanten

Assistants: Monica Droog, Josh Hammingh

LIBRARY:

Today AM: Melba De Kok

Next Week AM: Joy Faber

COFFEE HOSTS

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

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

VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

Today: Devin Van Zanten, Sylvia Van Zanten

Next Week: Jayne Hammingh, Sunee Lagerwey

TRANSPORTATION CARE TEAM

Next Week: Tim & Heather Van Hofwegen

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

Next Week: Henry Kuipers

Accompanist: Marjo Rouw

OFFERING: November 12, 2017

AM: General Fund

PM: Classis Pacific Northwest

6:30 P.M. Worship Service

Pianist: Sylvia Van Zanten

Welcome/Announcements

Prayer for Worship

Opening Songs of Praise: Led by Melba De Kok

Catechism Reading: Lord's Day 39 Q&A 104

Q. 104 What is God's will for you in the fifth commandment?

A. That I honor, love, and be loyal to my father and mother and all those in authority over me; that I submit myself with proper obedience to all their good teaching and discipline;¹ and also that I be patient with their failings—²for through them God chooses to rule us.³

¹ Ex. 21:17; Prov. 1:8; 4:1; Rom. 13:1-2; Eph. 5:21-22; 6:1-9; Col. 3:18-4:1

² Prov. 20:20; 23:22; 1 Pet. 2:18

³ Matt. 22:21; Rom. 13:1-8; Eph. 6:1-9; Col. 3:18-21

Scripture Readings: Exodus 20:12, Leviticus 19:1-3, Romans 13:1-7, I Timothy 5:1-8

Message: ***"Honoring Those In Authority Over Us"***

Time of Prayer

Offering: Classis Pacific Northwest

Song of Application: LUYH #720:1-4 ***"How Shall the Young Direct Their Way"***

* 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.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Hans Meischke will have surgery for colon cancer on November 13. Pray for Hans and Aileen at this time and may they experience God's peace at this time.

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, **Grace Faber** 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. Emily is very tired but has been trying to attend school as much as possible. She will start her 3rd round of chemo on November 6. Pray that the treatments are shrinking the mass in her chest.

Calvin Theological Seminary: Diversity - About 38 percent of our student body is from outside North America, representing 30 different countries. It is a blessing to hear stories of the church from around the world as we learn together. Give thanks and pray for the beautiful diversity of our seminary community.

Resonate Global Mission: Nicaragua - Yamilet is a dental surgeon who took part in Kingdom Business training at the Nehemiah Center in Nicaragua. The training helped her think about her role as a Christian in the workplace. "I know there are eyes being placed on me, and it's God's grace that helps me influence those people." Pray that through Yamilet and her interactions in the workplace, others will come to faith in Christ.

Back to God Ministries International: North America - Pray for the hundreds of people we hear from whose family relationships are struggling. Eric, a Family Fire follower, writes, "Please pray for reunification for my family; I miss my children." Pray for restored relationships as so many parents, spouses, and children seek God's will in their lives.

World Renew: Disaster Response Services (DRS) - Hurricane Maria made landfall in Puerto Rico on Sept. 20, causing extensive damage to buildings and infrastructure across the island. World Renew DRS has been in contact with partners in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to assess how to aid those in need. Please ask God to provide a strong support system to all who are suffering from the storm.

Resonate Global Mission: Reformation - Martin Luther posted his 95 theses and started something new in the church 500 years ago today. Let's celebrate our identity in Christ, which we share with our brothers and sisters from the year 1517, along with the church everywhere. Pray that each of us may continue to answer Christ's calling on our lives so that the worldwide church may be built up.

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Back to God Ministries International: Japan - Pray for two young boys who heard the name of Jesus on our Japanese radio program after the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake and became faithful listeners. They began attending the Kumamoto Reformed Church and enjoyed our summer ministry camp. May these boys commit their lives to the Lord and continue to grow in faith.