

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

Pastor John Knoester

October 1, 2017

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

“Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing”

Prelude: Marjo Rouw

Welcome and Announcements

*** Call to Worship: (Based on Rev. 7:9-10)**

Pastor: I looked, and there before me was a great multitude
that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people,
and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.
They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches
in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice, saying,

People: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

Pastor: Today our voices join this ongoing heavenly hymn of praise.
In Jesus’ name, let us worship God.

*** Opening Hymn: LUYH #590:1-4 *“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”***

1. Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer’s praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!
2. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.
3. The name of Jesus charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease;
’tis music in the sinner’s ears,
’tis life and health and peace.
4. He breaks the power of canceled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.

Words: English, Charles Wesley, 1739, alt., P.D.; Music: Carl G. Gläser, 1828,
and arr. Lowell Mason, 1939, P.D. CCLI #678905

*** God’s Greeting / We Greet Each Other**

*** Opening Hymns and Songs of Praise:**

Read Psalm 71:23

²³ My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you-
I, whom you have redeemed.

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” LUYH #581:1-3

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!
2. All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.
3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ, our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933), P.D.; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827, 1824, adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867, alt. P.D.; CCLI #678905

“I Will Sing of My Redeemer” LUYH #568:1-3

All Sing

1. I will sing of my Redeemer
and his wondrous love to me;
on the cruel cross he suffered,
from the curse to set me free.

Refrain

*Sing, oh, sing of my Redeemer,
with his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon,
paid the debt, and made me free.*

Women Only

2. I will tell the wondrous story,
how my lost estate to save,
in his boundless love and mercy
he the ransom freely gave.

All Sing Refrain

Men Only

3. I will praise my dear Redeemer,
his triumphant power I'll tell,
how the victory he giveth
over sin and death and hell.

All Sing Refrain

All Sing

4. I will sing of my Redeemer
and his heavenly love to me;
He from death to life has brought me,
Son of God, with him to be.

All Sing Refrain acapella

Words: Philip P. Bliss, 1878; Music: James McGranahan; P.D., CCLI #678905

*At the conclusion of this song children ages 3-1st grade
are dismissed to the Koinonia Room for Children and Worship.*

“My great Redeemer’s praise,”

Call to Confession:

“For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore,
and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery”

-Galatians 5:1

“But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like
an ever-flowing stream.”

-Amos 5:24

Safe Church Sunday: Time of Prayer - Led by Pastor John & Brooke

We pray for all those persons around the world
who are enslaved by human trafficking and child
exploitation, that they will be delivered from their captivity.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the vulnerable children, youth and adults who
are targets of abusers and human traffickers. We pray for
their protection.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the recovery of survivors, that they may be physically,
emotionally, and spiritually whole.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for traffickers, for those who facilitate trafficking,
and for those who buy their illicit services.

We pray for their redemption and healing.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the people throughout the world who fight against
human trafficking, including those who care for victims,
those who educate others, and those who draft and enforce laws
against trafficking. We pray for their safety and wellbeing.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the church, that we may become better informed
about human trafficking and child exploitation so that we might
respond compassionately and decisively on behalf of those in need.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of justice and mercy, look with compassion on the victims of human trafficking and child exploitation. Give us courage and wisdom to face this injustice so that we are not overwhelmed by the suffering in our midst, but assured of your presence in all we do to alleviate it. We ask this in the name of the One who knew suffering in his own body and spirit. Amen.

(Adapted from Faith Alliance Against Slavery and Trafficking)

Sung Prayer of Lament: LUYH #410:1-3 ***"How Long Will You Forget Me, Lord"***

1. How long will you forget me, Lord,
and hide your face away?
How long shall evils tear my heart
and troubles fill my day?
2. Look on my need, O Lord my God,
who grants my every breath;
give light that I may see your light,
nor sleep the sleep of death.
3. Look on their threats and hear my cry,
and answer when I call:
or they will claim the victory
who long to see me fall.

Words of Assurance: Psalm 145:13b-14

^{13b} The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.

¹⁴ The LORD upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH #410:4

"How Long Will You Forget Me, Lord"

4. Lord, in your mercy is my trust;
I shall be glad and free:
then shall I sing with all my heart
how you have dealt with me.

PSALM 13: Words: Christopher Idle © 1990 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Company; CCLI #678905

Music: Hugh Wilson, ca. 1800; adapt. Robert Smith, 1825, P.D.; arr. Nolan Williams Jr. (b. 1969) © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc. OneLicense.net License #A-711218

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 & Music: Bob Cull, ©1976 Maranatha! Music CCLI# 678905

"The glories of my God and King,"

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 1:3-12 (pg. 1156) Read by Bryan Van Beek

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“Safe in God’s Plan”***

Time of Prayer

“The triumphs of his grace!”

* Song of Application: LUYH #770:1-4 ***“In Christ Alone”***

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all,
here in the love of Christ I stand.
2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save.
‘Til on the cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev’ry sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.
3. There in the ground His body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain;
then, bursting forth in glorious day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin’s curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine,
bought with the precious blood of Christ.
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life’s first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow’r of hell, no human plan,
can ever pluck me from His hand;
‘til He returns or calls me home,
here in the pow’r of Christ I’ll stand!

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* Benediction

* Parting Praise: LUYH #590:5-8 ***“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”***

5. He speaks, and, listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
the humble poor believe.
6. Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

7. Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones,
 your loosened tongues employ;
 you blind, behold your Savior come;
 and leap, you lame, for joy!

8. To God all glory, praise, and love
 be now and ever given
 by saints below and saints above,
 the church in earth and heaven.

Words: English, Charles Wesley, 1739, alt., P.D.;
 Music: Carl G. Gläser, 1828, and arr. Lowell Mason, 1939, P.D. CCLI #678905

* Postlude

Welcome! Let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy." Those are the words of the psalmist in Psalm 5:11. Whoever you are, wherever you are from, we welcome you and we invite you to "be glad" with us about God's goodness and mercy. Let us "ever sing for joy" and praise God with profoundly grateful hearts. 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.

There will be **no Sunday School / Catechism** classes on October 8.

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

FAMILY VISITING: The following is the family visiting schedule for **August—September 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.

AUG-SEPT 2017 FAMILY VISITS	
Elder	Family
Dave V	Joe & Nellie Strong
Dave V	Bryan & Deanna Van Beek
Greg A	Agnes Bollema

Greg A	Brad DeKok
Greg B	Larry & Margaret Vander Pol
Greg B	Mary Koopmans
Henry H	John & Dena Klunder
Henry H	Betty Postma
Darrel L	Wayne & Rhea Doss
Darrel L	Spencer & Janelle Donaldson
Pastor John	Joe & Annette LeClair
Pastor John	Les & Joy Faber
Dennis D	Darrel & Sunee Lagerwey
Dennis D	Brian Doss

Following the service there will be a **Church Potluck** in the Fellowship Hall. If you are visiting with us today we would like to invite you to join us for lunch.

Today you will have opportunity to sign up to bring a casserole or dessert for the **Friendship House** on Wednesday, October 11. Servers are also needed. There will be a table in the Fellowship Hall where you can sign up and pick up a recipe. Monetary donations are accepted also. Any questions? Give Glenda Kok a call.

The 3.4 mile **Skagit Crop Hunger Walk** is today! It's not too late to sign up. Ending hunger means responding with compassion and long-term sustainable approaches. You can register beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Christian School on Blackburn or go online to crophungerwalk.org. The walk starts at 2:00 p.m.. There are information booths to explore so come between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m.. Your presence makes a statement.

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

The **Men's Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, September October 4 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, October 4 at 1:30 p.m. We will meet in the Koinonia Room and study Micah 2. We welcome new members to join us.

GEMS will meet on Wednesday, October 4 at 6:30 p.m. Girls in grades 2-8th grade are invited to attend.

Attention all choir members! We are planning to begin practicing next Sunday morning, October 8 after the morning service for the Reformation service on the 29th of October. We hope to see you all there. Anyone interested in singing, please join us!

ADVANCED NOTICES

The **Council** will meet on Monday, October 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Cadets will meet Wednesday, October 11 at 7:00 p.m. with registration at 7:00 p.m. Boys in grades 3-8 are invited to come.

The next **Ladies Night Out** will be Wednesday, October 11 at 7:00 p.m. at Haggen's café in Mount Vernon.

Classis will meet on Thursday, October 12 at Bellevue CRC at 9:00 a.m.

Ladies Craft Night will be held on Friday, October 13 at 6:30 p.m. Bring something to work on and come and go as you please.

Come and bring your family and friends to the **Reformation Day Service** at the First CRC of Mount Vernon on October 29 at 6:30 p.m. Reverend Ken Koeman, former pastor of Sonlight Community CRC in Lynden, Washington will proclaim the message. Geoff & Ashley Van Dragt, pastors at the University of Washington, will also be sharing with us about their ministry. We will be taking an offering to support them in their work. The evening will be a time of praise and celebration. Mark it on your calendar to come and join us in worship.

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.

By Faith Alone: Faith is a crucial component in our salvation; in fact it's the only piece humans contribute. Join Groundwork as we study Romans 1:16-17 to uncover what faith does for believers. Join us as we discuss why 500 years ago the Reformation was necessary to clarify what the Bible teaches, and see why it's still important to remember that we are saved "by faith alone" today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Cheer Up Chamy: Listen to the new episodes this month! When the news of Chamy's parents' divorce gets out, Liz and gang mobilize Operation Cheer Up Chamy! Which KC character finds the best way to cheer Chamy up? Subscribe for free at getkidscorner.com. Free Giveaway: Kids Corner's "Know Your Bible Activity Book, Part 1!" Can you figure out all eleven Kids Corner Bible puzzles? Have fun as you learn about God's big story!

There's Help for Marriages in Crisis: Every marriage hits bumps in the road. But what happens when the bumps become huge roadblocks? "Marriages in Crisis," an ebook from Family Fire, helps you find hope and see God at work in the most difficult time of your life. It's yours free when you subscribe to Family Fire at familyfire.com/marriageincrisis.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Family Life Marriage Retreat at Semiahmoo Resort, November 10-12. Information can be found at: <http://www.praise1065.com/events/113463>

Shame: Hope & Healing - A Story at 7 pm, Friday, October 20, Willoughby Church, 20525-72nd Avenue, Langley, BC. We are all more than what happens to us. When trauma strikes, we may feel like our lives – even our very selves – are ruined. Ruth Everhart, pastor and author of the award-winning memoir "Ruined" will share her story with us: her experience of sexual violence as a young college student, the reaction of the Christian subculture, and her faith journey through the decade that followed.

Shame: Hope & Healing - In the Church on Saturday, October 21, 9:30-1:30, New Life CRC, 35270 Delair Road, Abbotsford. The church is called to be a community of grace. How should the church respond when trauma strikes? Ruth will use her story to encourage churches to be places of safety, where stories are told and heard, where hope is offered, and where healing flows. \$15 Workshop includes lunch. Register at www.bcsafechurch.com

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN	11:45 am	Church Potluck
	2:00 pm	Crop Hunger Walk
	7:00 pm	Evening Service
	7:45 pm	Youth Group
TUES	7:00 pm	Vida Nueva
WED	6:30 am	Men's Bible Study at Shari's
	1:30 pm	Golden Hour
	7:00 pm	GEMS

NURSERY

Today: Infants & Toddlers

Julie Speck, Jordan Feddema, Kennedy Donaldson

Next Week: Infants & Toddlers

Shanna Visser, Cody Hilsinger, Jordan Feddema

GREETERS

Today - Rovers: Larry & Margaret Vander Pol

AM: Larry & Maxine Greidanus, Kermit & Julie Houck

Next Week - Rovers: Greg & Tish Ackermann

AM: John & Dena Klunder, Kevin & Glenda Kok

USHERS

Today: Kendall Van Zanten, Tim Van Hofwegen, Darin Kuipers

Next Week: Henry Hammingh, Larry Greidanus, Tim Hibma

SOUND SYSTEM

Today: Mardick Stevens

Next Week: Tim Hibma

PROJECTION

Today AM: Tim Hibma

Next Week: Josh Hammingh

VIDEO TAPING

Today: Mike Hibma

Next Week: Brandon Speck

CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Today:

Teacher: Juli Oostra

Assistants: Elly Cuperus, Hannah Van Hofwegen

Next Week:

Teacher: Marjo Rouw

Assistants: Johnna Van der Hoek, Rayahna Oostra

LIBRARY:

Today: Melba De Kok

Next Week: Joy Faber

COFFEE HOSTS

Today: Church Potluck

Next Week: Joe & Annette LeClair, Aileen Meischke, Bob & Andy Pippel

VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

Today: Jayne Hammingh, Brooke Knoester

Next Week: Devin Van Zanten & Sylvia Van Zanten

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

Next Week: Dennis De Kok

Accompanist: Sylvia Van Zanten

OFFERING: October 8, 2017

AM: General Fund

PM: Faith House for Men "The Trust"

6:30 P.M. Worship Service

Pianist: Marjo Rouw

Welcome / Announcements

Prayer for Worship

Opening Songs of Praise: Led by Marjean De Groot

"Praise the Lord! Sing Hallelujah" LUYH #518:1,3,4
"With Grateful Heart my Thanks I Bring" LUYH #585:1,3,4
"The Church's One Foundation" LUYH #251:1,2,4

Catechism Reading: Lord's Day 34 Q&A 94-95

Q. 94 What does the Lord require in the first commandment?

A. That I, not wanting to endanger my own salvation, avoid and shun all idolatry,¹ magic, superstitious rites,² and prayer to saints or to other creatures.³

That I sincerely acknowledge the only true God,⁴ trust him alone,⁵ look to him for every good thing⁶ humbly⁷ and patiently,⁸ love him,⁹ fear him,¹⁰ and honor him¹¹ with all my heart.

In short, that I give up anything rather than go against his will in any way.¹²

¹ 1 Cor. 6:9-10; 10:5-14; 1 John 5:21; ² Lev. 19:31; Deut. 18:9-12; ³ Matt. 4:10; Rev. 19:10; 22:8-9;

⁴ John 17:3; ⁵ Jer. 17:5, 7; ⁶ Ps. 104:27-28; James 1:17; ⁷ 1 Pet. 5:5-6; ⁸ Col. 1:11; Heb. 10:36; ⁹ Matt. 22:37 (Deut. 6:5); ¹⁰ Prov. 9:10; 1 Pet. 1:17; ¹¹ Matt. 4:10 (Deut. 6:13); ¹² Matt. 5:29-30; 10:37-39

Q. 95 What is idolatry?

A. Idolatry is having or inventing something in which one trusts in place of or alongside of the only true God, who has revealed himself in the Word.¹

¹ 1 Chron. 16:26; Gal. 4:8-9; Eph. 5:5; Phil. 3:19

Scripture Readings: Exodus 20:1-3, Rev. 2:1-7, Matt. 10:37-39

Message: **"The Only God"**

Time of Prayer

Offering: New Earth Recovery - The Trust (Men's Home)

Song of Application: LUYH #859:1-4 **"Be Thou My Vision"**

* 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:

Hans Meischke has been diagnosed with colon cancer recently. He will meet with the doctor on October 17 to determine when surgery will be. Pray for Hans and Aileen at this time.

Recently **Annette Le Clair** had some more tests done. The results were such that a new treatment plan is now needed. Please continue to keep Annette and her entire family in your prayers.

SHUT INS:

Nell Annema at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley, **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.

PRAISE:

We give thanks to God that **Kevin & Glenda Kok** will be celebrating 35 years of marriage on October 2. May God continue to bless them in their marriage.

OTHER CONCERN:

Emily Curry, 16 year old granddaughter of Hank & Sylvia Van Zanten, has been diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma cancer and had chemo treatments this past week. Pray that the mass in her chest area has shrunk enough so they can do a biopsy and put in a port for future treatments.

Urban Aboriginal Ministries: Reconciliation - We are thankful for the CRC's work with and support of Indigenous ministries. As our world continues to divide people based on race, socio-economic status, and more, we pray for unity and understanding. May the work we do with Indigenous peoples bring reconciliation, and may our churches be communities of reconciliation with one another and with God.

Resonate Global Mission: Bible translators - Today is international translation day. Pray that God will continue to bring people forward who want to translate the gospel into the world's languages. Praise God for the many people—including missionaries and ministry leaders who serve with the CRC's mission agencies—who are committed to this work.

Centre for Public Dialogue: Haitian refugees - Hundreds of Haitian refugee claimants recently crossed the border from the United States into Quebec, fearing deportation from the U.S. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come: be the refuge of these vulnerable people and show us, as your body, how to respond for Jesus' sake.

Chaplaincy and Care: Medical chaplains - About 20 percent of our chaplains work in hospitals or other medically related settings. They give comfort and hope to people and families whose lives are disrupted by accident, illness, and possibly death. Research shows that this type of spiritual care dramatically affects the outcome of physical care. Please pray for these kingdom workers who extend the comfort of God's love in such situations.

World Renew: Canada - In Alberta inmates at the Bowden Institution are walking to end hunger by raising funds for a World Renew partner, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. More than half of the institution's inmates have committed to walking hundreds of kilometers around the prison yard for the annual Walk-a-Thon fundraiser. Pray that God will provide for needy people and encourage these inmates through this opportunity for charity, discipleship, and fellowship.

Resonate Global Mission: Michigan - Ernest Umoh pastors Strong Tower Ministries in Wyoming, Mich., a church plant that primarily serves people escaping from Muslim-majority countries in East Africa. Pray that through the ministries of Strong Tower, these refugees will experience Christ's love and better understand the Christian faith.

Back to God Ministries International: Worldwide - Pray for families who are experiencing brokenness and pain. Ask God to use our Family Fire ministry to bring messages of hope and healing to strengthen many families and marriages.