# Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church! Pastor John Knoester November 24, 2019

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

\* Please stand in body or in spirit.

"How great the chasm that lay between us, how high the mountain I could not climb."

Prelude: Jill Klunder

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Worship: Psalm 87:1-3

- \* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #286:1,2,4 "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"
  - 1. Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God. He, whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode. On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose? With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
  - 2. See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love, well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove. Who can faint while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage? Grace, which like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.
  - 4. Savior, since of Zion's city I through grace a member am, let the world deride or pity, I will glory in your name. Fading are the world's best pleasures, all its boasted pomp and show; solid joys and lasting treasures none but Zion's children know. PSALM 87; Words: John Newton, 1779, alt., P.D.;

Music: Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809), 1797, P.D.; CCLI #678905

<sup>\*</sup> God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

\* Opening Songs of Worship Read John 7:37-38

# "Living Waters"

- Are you thirsty? Are you empty?
   Come and drink these living waters.
   Tired and broken, peace unspoken,
   Come and drink these living waters.
- Christ is calling, find refreshing at the cross of living waters.
   Lay your life down, all the old gone, rise up in these living waters.

#### Chorus

There's a river that flows with mercy and love, bringing joy to the city of our God;
There our hope is secure, do not fear anymore, praise the Lord of living waters.

3. Spirit moving, mercy washing; healing in these living waters
Lead your children to the shoreline, life is in these living waters.

#### Chorus

There's a river that flows with mercy and love, bringing joy to the city of our God;
There our hope is secure, do not fear anymore, praise the Lord of living waters.

Are you thirsty? Are you empty?
 Come and drink these living waters.
 Love, forgiveness, vast and boundless,
 Christ, He is our living waters.

#### Chorus

# Ending

There our hope is secure, do not fear anymore, praise the Lord of living waters.

Words and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty , Ed Cash; © 2016 Getty Music Publishing (BMI) and Alletrop Music (BMI) (Admin in North America by MusicServices.org and elsewhere by SongSolutions.org); CCLI #678905

# "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" LUYH #521:1-3

 Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
 Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
 Praise the mount— I'm fixed upon it mount of God's unchanging love.

- Here I raise my Ebenezer;
  hither by thy help I've come;
  and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
  safely to arrive at home.
  Jesus sought me when a stranger,
  wandering from the fold of God;
  he, to rescue me from danger,
  interposed his precious blood.
- 3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
  Let that grace now like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee: prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.
  Words: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt., P.D.; Music: J. Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813, P.D.; CCLI # 678905

# "In desperation, I turned to heaven and spoke your name into the night."

Ministry Report: "Children of the Valley" - Sophia Garcia

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offering: General Fund

Near the end of the offertory the Sunday School Choir is invited forward.

Ministry of Music: Sunday School Children
"Here I Am to Worship" Bells

"Praise and Thanksgiving" (2x)

Praise and thanksgiving let everyone sing, unto our father for every good thing All together joyfully sing.

Words: Alsatian; translated by Edith Lowell Thomas, 1950; Music: Alsatian round; harmonized by Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

Harm; 1987 CRC Publications; CCLI #678905

Apostles' Creed: Sunday School Children

Following their reciting of the Apostles' Creed children ages 3 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade are dismissed to the Koinonia Room for Children & Worship

- \* Song of Preparation: "I Believe in God Almighty" Sing! #175:1-3
  - I believe in God Almighty,
     Father of all things that be,
     Maker of the earth, and heavens,
     Keeper of the sky and sea.
     I believe in God's Son, Jesus,
     now for us both Lord and Christ,
     of the Spirit and of Mary
     born to bring abundant life.
  - I believe that Jesus suffered, scourged and scorned and crucified, taken from the cross, was buried— True Life there had truly died.
     I believe that on the third day Christ was raised up from the grave, then ascended to God's right hand.
     He will come to judge and save.
  - 3. I believe in God's own Spirit, bonding all the saints within one Church, catholic and holy, where forgiveness frees from sin, in the body's resurrection, for the breaking of death's chain gives the life that's everlasting.

    This the faith that I have claimed.

    "I Believe in God Almighty"; Text: Sylvia Dunstan (based on the Apostles' Creed); Music: Oude en Niewuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen: Text: © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-711218

# "Then through the darkness, Your loving-kindness tore through the shadows of my soul."

Scripture Readings: Read by Hammingh Family

I Corinthians 2:6-10 (pg. 1129)
I Corinthians 15:35-44 (pg. 1140)
Revelations 21:1-6 (pg.1230)

Message: "We Believe in the Resurrection of the Body and the Life Everlasting"

Time of Prayer

# "The work is finished, the end is written, Jesus Christ, my living hope."

\* We Confess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 57-58 (GH pg. 885) Q 57. How does "the resurrection of the body" comfort you? A. Not only my soul will be taken immediately after this life to Christ its head,¹ but even my very flesh, raised by the power of Christ, will be reunited with my soul, and made like Christ's glorious body.²

Luke 23:43; Phil. 1:21-23
 Cor. 15:20, 42-46, 54; Phil. 3:21; 1 John 3:2

- Q. 58 How does the article concerning "life everlasting" comfort you?
- A. Even as I already now experience in my heart the beginning of eternal joy, so after this life I will have perfect blessedness such as no eye has seen, no ear has heard, no human heart has ever imagined: a blessedness in which to praise God forever.

<sup>1</sup> Rom. 14:17

<sup>2</sup> John 17:3; 1 Cor. 2:9

- \* Song of Application: "Living Hope" vs. 1-3
  - How great the chasm that lay between us.
     How high the mountain I could not climb.
     In desperation I turned to heaven
     and spoke Your name into the night.
     Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
     tore through the shadows of my soul.
     The work is finished, the end is written.
     Jesus Christ, my living hope.
  - Who could imagine so great a mercy?
     What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
     The God of ages stepped down from glory
     to wear my sin and bear my shame.
     The cross has spoken; I am forgiven.
     The King of kings calls me His own.
     Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever.
     Jesus Christ, my living hope.

### Chorus (2x)

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free! Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me! You have broken every chain. There's salvation in Your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

 Then came the morning that sealed the promise, Your buried body began to breathe.
 Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion declared the grave has no claim on me. (Repeat verse 3)
 Jesus, Yours is the victory!

Chorus (2x)

### \* God's Blessing

# \* Parting Praise: "Living Hope"

Chorus (2x)

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free! Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me! You have broken every chain. There's salvation in Your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

#### **Ending**

Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Oh Godf, You are my living hope.

Words and Music by Phil Wickham and Brian Johnson; © 2017 Phil Wickham Music / Simply Global Songs / Sing My Songs / Bethel Music Publishing; *All rights reserved. CCLI #678905* 

#### \* Postlude

**Welcome** to the House of the Lord! We have come to bring our worship to our God. May we do so in our singing, praying, giving, preaching and listening. May God be glorified. After the morning service all are invited to the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

#### **OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

**Thanks** to everyone that made our blood drive a success. One-hundred and five patients will be helped as a result of this blood drive. Thirty-five donors gave whole blood and 2 donors gave platelets. There were 5 first-time donors and 1 person who donated 100 units as of that blood drive.

**Welcome Baby Basket:** Welcome to little Bailey Kay See! There is a basket in the annex ready to be filled with gifts for Bailey and her family. Let's have some fun welcoming the newest member into our church family! TODAY is the last Sunday to bring something.

**Family Visiting:** The following is the current family visiting schedule for November & January. 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.

NOVEMBER-JANUARY 2019/2020 FAMILY VISITS		
Elder	Deacon	Family
Dave V	Jack VK	Boonstra, Shirley
Dave V	Jack VK	De Groot, Marjean
Kevin K	Randy B	De Vries, Alice
Kevin K	Randy B	Haarsma, Martha
Henry VZ	Mardick S	Klunder, Clarence & Eleanor
Henry VZ	Mardick S	Rasmussen, Keith & Jean
Tim VH	Brad DK	Kok, Kevin & Glenda
Tim VH	Brad DK	Pippel, Bob & Andy
Darrel L	Dan VK	Reehoorn, Sally
Darrel L	Dan VK	Van Zanten, Hank & Sylvia
Pastor John	Rich C	Vander Kooy, Daniel & Briana
Pastor John	Rich C	Vander Veen, Henry & Anjean
Henry H	Mardy S	VanDyke, Duane & Trudy
Henry H	Mardy S	Visser, Dave

**Note from the Deacons:** For offerings, please make all checks payable to First CRC. The money will then go to whatever the offering is for that day or to the cause you indicate in the memo line on the check. It helps if you don't make the check out to that specific organization.

# **OUR CHURCH EVENTS**

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Apostles' Creed is probably the most well-known ecumenical statement of our faith. It is called the "Apostles' Creed" not because it was produced by the apostles themselves, but because it contains a brief summary of their teachings. It's a beautiful statement of what Christian believers in all times and places profess to believe.

In the weeks to come, we are going to make our way through the Apostles' Creed and reflect on each statement of belief. Through the use of various scripture texts and confessional teachings we're going to remind ourselves of some of the central tenants of our faith.

Listed below is a 'tentative' schedule of our study, but it could easily change depending on how far we get each week. .... May God bless us as we embark on this study together.

In Christ,

Pastor John Knoester

Nov. 24 – "We Believe in the resurrection of body and life everlasting"

It is time for Angel Tree: Angel Tree is a ministry of Prison Fellowship where churches buy gifts for a child who has a parent in prison. Today there is a table in the fellowship hall where there are gift suggestions for Angel Tree for those who would like to purchase a gift(s) for a child of a prisoner. You may spend \$25.00 for each child. Please return the wrapped gifts to the church office by December 15.

**Choir** will meet for practice in the sanctuary after coffee time today.

Youth Group will meet tonight at 6:15 PM.

The *Elders & Deacons* will meet on Monday, November 25 at 7:00 p.m.

*Men's Bible Study* will meet on Wednesday, November 27 at 6:30 a.m. at Sheri's Restaurant in Burlington.

Our *Thanksgiving Eve Service* will be held on Wednesday, November 27 at 7:00 p.m.

**Cookies:** You have an opportunity to sign-up to bring 2-3 dozen cookies or bars for the Celtic Christmas Concert which benefits New Earth Recovery on Tuesday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m. The sign-up sheet is on the coffee table in the Fellowship Hall.

#### **ADVANCED NOTICES**

Golden Hour will meet Wednesday, December 4 at 1:30 PM. Study lesson 6.

GEMS will meet Wednesday, December 4 at 6:30 PM.

The *Candlelight Service* will be held on Sunday, December 15 at 6:30 p.m.

We will have a *Potluck* on Sunday, December 22 at 6:00 p.m. with *Caroling* beginning at 6:30 p.m. Come and join us.

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

**Save the Date:** The movie "**Overcomer**" will be shown in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, January 3 at 6:30 p.m. Invite your friends and neighbors to come.

# **ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT**

**Groundwork: Lean into God's Grace:** When the challenges feel insurmountable, the loneliness and temptation to give up creep in. Join Groundwork as we study what Ezra and Nehemiah do in Nehemiah 8-9 and Nehemiah 13:22,31 and discover how leaning into God's grace and love is the antidote we need to carry us through. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Turkey Rocket:** On Thanksgiving Day, all of Terrene comes out to celebrate and be thankful, but Liz and the gang encounter some tough challenges and hard times. Can they be thankful regardless of their circumstances? Listen now at kidscorner.net and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for future episodes. Download KC's Advent Gifts of Kindness devotionals to lead your family's Bible study as you prepare for Christmas.

**At-Home Faith Formation Tip** - Advent starts next Sunday! How might you celebrate this time of expectant waiting with the people in your household? Here are two ideas: Participate in the Advent Word project at adventword.org. AdventWord is a global, online Advent calendar that offers meditations and images to inspire and connect individuals and a worldwide community of believers to the themes of Advent. (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

**Prepare Your Heart:** Starting December 2, 2019, World Renew and the CRC Office of Social Justice will distribute a free email devotional to your inbox during Advent. Don't let Christmas presents overtake the Christmas Presence. Sign up to receive reflections on this year's theme of How Long, Lord? every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday through Christmas Day. How Long, Lord? will explore how witnessing destruction and injustices can often lead us to ask the same question that God's people and the prophets in the Bible asked: "How Long, Lord?" Yet, in the midst of asking that question, we can have hope that our pain will not be forever and that the God who made us is with us, now and forever. Go to crcna.org/advent to sign up today!

A Jesse Tree Family Devotional: A family devotional and craft for Advent from Today. Focus your family on the coming Christ. Share devotions together and color ornaments to explore the stories and symbols foretelling the promised Messiah. To get it, subscribe to Today for free at TodayDevotional.com/jessetree.

Free Advent Jesse Tree Resource - Jesse Tree: God's Big Advent Story is now available FREE for CRC families! This downloadable package from Faith Alive and Faith Formation Ministries includes 25 simple devotions that are great for kids of various ages and printable story symbol ornaments that follow God's story from creation to the birth of Jesus. Each day's reading invites families to read and wonder about a Bible story together, pray together, and step away from the busyness of the season. Learn more and download the devotions and symbols at tinyurl.com/DwellJesseTree.

A Musical Benefit for New Earth Recovery: Join the NOEL ensemble in concert and celebrate the wonder of a medieval Christmas with Celtic and classical harp, flute, strings, and poetry-with treats following. This will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at First Christian Reformed Church in Mount Vernon. Free event with a freewill offering.

"Christmas Time Is Here" with the Mount Baker British Brass Band. presenting music for the holiday season. This will be held on Sunday, December 1 at 2:00 p.m. at Anacortes Christian Reformed Church (10th and O Street). A free-will offering will be taken to benefit Bridges of Hope (a transition home with Vida Nueva-Joe Strong).

**Bethany Christian Services** is having their 21st annual "Homes for the Holidays". This will be held on Saturday, December 14 from 12:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20.00 and can be purchased at: Bethany Office, 1031 N. State Street, Suite 108, Bellingham; Surrounding Gifts in Lynden; Homes on the day of tour. Call 360-733-6042 for more information.

# **REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Fountain View Academy** Choir and Orchestra is returning to our area for the 4th year in a row and is, for the 2nd year, coming to Mount Vernon First Christian Reformed Church on December 5 at 7:00 p.m. This world-renowned Choir and Orchestra is on their west coast tour starting in Mount Vernon and continuing on to mid California for the next few weeks. Come and enjoy a free concert of up to 100 young people praising God with voices and instruments as they perform a variety of Christmas carols and classics. We hope to see you there and feel free to invite friends.

# **CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

SUN	10:30 AM	Morning Service
	11:45 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	6:15 PM	Youth Group
	6:30 PM	Evening Service
MON	7:00 PM	Elders & Deacons' Meeting
TUES	7:00 PM	Vida Nueva Bible Study
WED	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Eve Service

#### **NURSERY**

**Today:** Beth Boon, Rayahna Oostra, Carson Blom **Thanksgiving Eve:** Sue Blom, Joel Link, Caleb Link

Next Week: Pam Van Zanten, Emma Droog, Devin Van Zanten

#### **GREETERS**

Today - Rovers: Rich & Elly Cuperus

AM: Mardick & Jill Stevens, Henry & Anjean Vander Veen

Next Week Rovers: Dennis & Melba De Kok

AM: Jack & Trudy Van Klaveren, Randy & Peggy Burr

#### **USHERS**

Today: Larry Greidanus, Henry Van Zanten, Darin Kuipers

Thanksgiving Eve: Larry Greidanus, Henry Van Zanten, Darin Kuipers

Next Week: Tim Hibma, Tim Van Hofwegen, Larry Greidanus

# **SOUND SYSTEM**

Today: Henry Van Zanten Jr, Devin

Van Zanten

**Thanksgiving Eve:** Tim Hibma **Next Week:** Mardick Stevens

## **PROJECTION**

Today: Nathan Van Beek

**Thanksgiving Eve:** Josh Hammingh **Next Week:** Nathan Van Beek

# **VIDEO TAPING**

Today: Tim Hibma

Thanksgiving Eve: Brandon Speck

Next Week: Carson Blom

# **CHILDREN & WORSHIP**

Today:

Teacher: Tim Van Hofwegen

Assistants: Monica Droog, Carson Blom

Next Week:

Teacher: Tim Van Hofwegen

Assistants: Shanna Visser, Kera Boon

#### **COFFEE HOSTS**

Today: Katie Jungquist, Clarence & Eleanor Klunder, Jill Klunder

Next Week: John & Dena Klunder, Kevin & Glenda Kok, Darin & Michelle Kuipers

# **VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE**

**Today:** Vida Nueva

Next Week: Jayne Hammingh, Josh Hammingh

#### **MINISTRY OF PRAISE**

**Today:** Henry Kuipers

Accompanist: Joann Orange **Next Week:** Jayne Hammingh Accompanist: Sylvia Van Zanten

#### TRANSPORTATION CARE TEAM

**November 24:** Dennis & Melba De Kok **December 1:** Larry & Maxine Greidanus

**OFFERING: November 24** 

AM: General Fund PM: Campus Christian Fellowship

November 27—Thanksgiving Eve

PM: Undesignated gifts go to Northwest Hispanic Ministry

**December 1: AM:** General Fund **PM:** Faith House

# 6:30 P.M. Worship Service

Pianist: Joann Orange

Welcome/Announcements

Prayer for Worship

Opening Songs of Praise: Henry Kuipers

"Let All Things Now Living"

"Oh, For A Closer Walk with God"

LUYH #5:1, 2

LUYH #324:1, 3, 5

"How Great Thou Art" LUYH #553:1, 4

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 7:18-28, 4:14-16, Romans 8:28-39

Belgic Confession: Article 26

Message: "The Intercession of Christ"

Time of Prayer

Offering: Campus Christian Fellowship (Skagit Valley College)

Hymn of Application: LUYH #682 *"Before the Throne of God Above"* v. 1-3

- \* 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: <a href="mailto:secretary@firstcrcmv.com">secretary@firstcrcmv.com</a> by Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

# **NEW CONCERN:**

**Elaine Hammingh** broke her upper left arm in three places after a fall this past Wednesday. She will most likely have surgery this Tuesday. Pray for complete healing for Elaine.

#### **CONTINUING REQUESTS:**

Wilma De Boer returned to her home at Creekside. She continues to be very weak. Pray for strength for each day.

**Adelaida Vega** (Michelle Kuiper's mother) recent scan showed that her cancer continues to shrink. She will continue with chemo once every three weeks. Continue to pray for healing.

Continue to pray for *Ryanne Vander Pol* as she continues with her IV therapy and some radiation treatments.

Continue to pray for those who have recently lost loved ones.

#### **SHUT INS:**

**Nell Annema** at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley; **Wilma De Boer** at Creekside in Burlington; **Mary Koopmans** at Where the Heart Is in Burlington; **Case Lanting** at Arlington Health & Rehab Center; **Wilma Paul** at Life Care Center in Sedro-Woolley; **Sally Reehoorn** at Creekside in Burlington; **Adrianna Swanson** at Creekside in Burlington; **Bev Van Slageren** at family in Grandview, WA; **Duane Van Dyke** at Where the Heart Is in Burlington; **Lona Vander Griend** at Home Place in Burlington.

#### **OTHER REQUESTS:**

**Resonate Global Mission: Central Asia** - A Resonate missionary in Central Asia asks for prayer for local believers as it becomes more challenging to be a Christian in this part of the world. Pray that believers in Christ in Central Asia may grow in wisdom to know how to live out their faith.

Calvinist Cadet Corps: Prayer - "Hi God, it's me," our theme for this year, encourages boys to go to God in prayer. Please pray that our Cadets will be both eager to pray and assured that God hears their prayers. Pray also for wisdom and strength for our counselors as they lead boys. May God help us all as we strive to live for Jesus.

*EIRC - Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee: Persecution -* As we live, work, and worship in relative peace in North America, we pray for Christian brothers and sisters in communion with the CRC who face severe opposition in Myanmar, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. Ask God for safety and perseverance for all of these Christian communities.

**Resonate Global Mission: Illinois campus ministry** - Pray for the Resonate partner campus ministry at Northern Illinois University. Ask God to work in the hearts of students and give them a passion for sharing his love with others. Pray that God will work through these students wherever he sends them to draw more people to him.

**Back to God Ministries International: Chinese ministry** - Praise God with Li, who follows our Chinese ministry programming. For as long as she could remember, Li said, her mother did not get along with her grandmother on her father's side of the family. But then her mother became a Christian, and Li said recently, "My mother called to tell me that grandmother now also believes in the Lord! With such a changed and respectful daughter-in-law, my grandmother didn't know what reason she had not to believe."

**World Renew: Disaster Response Services (DRS)** - When our DRS volunteers go out and serve in communities hit by disaster, they are sometimes met with suspicion; but as they do what they say they are going to do, a sense of trust and respect for the church and for Christians grows. Please ask the Spirit to continue to move in and through our volunteers to display Christ's love in vulnerable communities.

**Resonate Global Mission: Africa** - Resonate missionary Renita Reed-Thomson, who serves with Discipling Marketplace Leaders throughout Africa, asks you to pray for her and her team as they disciple marketplace leaders, who can then train more believers to reclaim the marketplace for Christ.