

God's Word Gives Our Lives Direction



701 West Blackburn Road
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
1-360-336-2405
www.firstcrcmv.com

Pastor John Knoester

Worship Services
10:30 AM
6:30 PM

Church School: 9:30 AM
September—May

THE BOY JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

LUKE 2:41-52

December 29, 2019

The Loop System is provided for those using hearing devices by using the telephone mode on your device. This is available beginning in row 5 on either side of the sanctuary.

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

Pastor John Knoester

December 29, 2019

*** Please stand in body or in spirit**

“And our eyes at last shall see him”

Prelude

Sung Call to Worship: LUYH #87:1-5 *“Once in Royal’s David City”*

1. Once in royal David’s city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.
2. He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all;
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor, and meek, and lowly
lived on earth our Savior holy.

** Please Stand*

3. Jesus is our childhood’s pattern,
day by day like us he grew;
he was little, weak, and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knew:
and he feels for all our sadness,
and he shares in all our gladness.
4. And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love,
for that child, so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above:
and he leads his children on
to the place where he has gone.

5. Not in that poor lowly stable
with the oxen standing by
we shall see him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
there his children gather round,
bright like stars, with glory crowned.

Words: Cecil F. Alexander, 1848, P.D.

* Spoken Call to Worship:

LEADER: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;

**PEOPLE: on those living in the land of the shadow of death a
light has dawned.**

LEADER: Jesus Christ is our life and light. In his name and in his
power, let us worship God!

—based on Isaiah 9:2, NIV

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* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

* Opening Song of Praise: LUYH #105:1-3

"As With Gladness Men of Old"

1. As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold,
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore your splendor see.
2. As with joyful steps they sped
to that lowly manger bed,
there to bend the knee before
Christ, whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek your mercy seat.
3. As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger plain and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.

Words: William C. Dix, 1860, alt., P.D.; Music Conrad Kocher, 1838; adpt. William H.
Monk, 1861; desc Sydney H. Nicholson, 1944, ©The Royal School of Church Music;
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Welcome and Announcements: “Overcomer” movie trailer

“Through his own redeeming love,”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name
Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.

—Matthew 1:21, NI

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Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH #78:1-2,4-5

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

1. Of the Father’s love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega—
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore.
2. O that birth forever blessed,
when a virgin, blest with grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race;
and the babe, the world’s Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.
4. Let the heights of heaven adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing:
powers, dominions, bow before him
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert ring
evermore and evermore.

5. Christ, to you, with God the Father
and the Spirit, there shall be
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
and the shout of jubilee:
honor, glory, and dominion
and eternal victory
evermore and evermore. Amen.

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-413); tr. Composite, P.D.

*(During the singing of the last verse children ages 3 – 1st grade
are excused for Children and Worship)*

Offering: General Fund

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #466:1-3,5 *“Abide With Me”*

1. Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.
2. Swift to its close ebbs out life’s little day;
earth’s joys grow dim, its glories pass away.
Change and decay in all around I see.
O thou who changest not, abide with me.
3. I need thy presence every passing hour.
What but thy grace can foil the tempter’s power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.
5. Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes.
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven’s morning breaks and earth’s vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

*Words: Henry F. Lyte, 1847, alt., P.D.; Music: William H. Monk, 1861, P.D.
CCLI #678905*

“For that child, so dear and gentle,”

Scripture Readings: I Samuel 2:18-21,26 & Luke 2:41-52

Message: *“The Boy in the Temple”*

Time of Prayer

"Is our Lord in heaven above:"

* Hymn of Application: "Joy Has Dawned Upon the World" v. 1-3

1. Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation;
God's salvation now unfurled-hope for ev'ry nation.
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory,
but a humble gift of love: Jesus born of Mary.
2. Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels,
as the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable.
Hands that set each star in place
shaped the earth in darkness,
cling now to a mother's breast-vulnerable and helpless.
3. Shepherds bow before the Lamb gazing at the glory.
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story-
gold a King is born today; incense, God is with us;
myrrh, His death will make a way, by His blood He'll win us.

Words & Music by Stuart Townend & Keith Getty,
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* Benediction

* Parting Hymn: "Joy Has Dawned Upon the World" v. 4

4. Son of Adam, Son of Man, given as a ransom.
Reconciling God and man-Christ our mighty Champion!
What a Savior, what a Friend, what a glorious mystery!
Once a babe in Bethlehem-now the Lord of history.

Words & Music by Stuart Townend & Keith Getty,
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Postlude

Welcome to worship! We have come to honor and praise the living God who makes all things new. Paul reminds us that it is God who enables us to "walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). Let us glorify God with that reality in mind. Blessings on one and all. After the worship service, we invite you to join us in the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

Sunday School & Catechism Classes will not meet for several weeks. They will resume on January 26 at 9:30 a.m.

Next Sunday, January 5, **Darrel Lagerwey** will bring God's Word to us.

Profession of Faith will take place on Sunday, January 5 by **Kendall Van Zanten**.

There will be no evening service today. We will meet on January 5.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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 & Nancy

Address Change:

Case Lanting
c/o Olympic Place Room #102
20909 Olympic Place NE
Arlington, WA 98223

OUR CHURCH EVENTS

Dear Friends,

In our Reformed tradition we often speak of Scripture as the unfolding drama of God's covenant of grace. Nowhere is this more evident than in the many OT prophecies that are later fulfilled in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Throughout this Advent season we're going to hear some of these familiar OT prophecies as they are also addressed to us today – the people of God who are waiting for the second coming. In Advent, our anticipation for the ultimate fulfillment of all the OT promises is heightened. We long for the day in which the wolf will lie down with the lamb, death will be swallowed up, and every tear will be wiped away. This is God's plan – come quickly Lord Jesus!

December 1: *"Signs of the Times"* (Jeremiah 33:14-16 and Luke 21:25-36)

December 8: *"Prepare the Way!"* (Malachi 3:1-4, Luke 3:1-6)

December 15: *"Mighty to Save"* (Zephaniah 3:14-20, Luke 3:7-18)

December 22: *"Peace at Last"* (Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:39-56)

December 29 – *"The Boy in the Temple"* (I Samuel 2:18-20,26; Luke 2:41-52)

Today you will have opportunity to sign up to bring a casserole or dessert for the **Friendship House** on Wednesday, **January 8**. 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 **Elders & Deacons** will meet on Monday, December 30 at 7:00 p.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.

Copies of the January 2020 *"Today's Christian Living"* are available on the walkway shelf.

ADVANCED NOTICES

The **Men's Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, January 8 at 6:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant in Burlington.

Golden Hour will meet on Wednesday, January 8 at 1:30 p.m. Study Lesson 7.

The **Cadets** will meet on Wednesday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m.

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

Groundwork: A Light Shining in Darkness: The coming of the Messiah is often associated with light. Join Groundwork as we study Isaiah 9:2-3, Isaiah 60:1-3, 19-20, Matthew 5:14-16, and Revelation 22:1-5 to see what this theme means for our understanding of Christ's light and how we live while waiting for his second coming. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Team Lacerta: Look out! A racing team has invited Liz to join them. But when Liz is assigned to clean up the garage and arrange the tools, he's disappointed that he's not an important part of the team! Listen now at kidscorner.net and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for future episodes. Download KC's Collection of Memories Kit 2020 for a family activity today.

Make a Resolution That Sticks - Start 2020 with a deep dive into God's majestic Word through Psalm 119. With quick daily devotions from Today, grow in your relationship with God through Bible reading and prayer. Psalm 119 devotions begin January 1, 2020. Subscribe now at TodayDevotional.com.

At-home Faith Formation Tip: As the year draws to a close, gather as a family or with friends to reflect on the events of the past 12 months and tell stories of how God guided, protected, convicted, loved, and provided for you. Hearing each others' stories is one of the best ways to grow in faith! (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

Pregnancy Choices is looking to hire a Staff Nurse part time - 20 hours per week. For more information, please contact our Nurse Manager, Darcy, at (360) 428-4777. Pregnancy Choices is a AAAHC accredited pregnancy medical clinic serving the Skagit Valley for over 28 years. Come join our team!

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN	10:30 AM	Morning Service
MON	7:00 PM	Elders & Deacons Meet
TUES	7:00 PM	Vida Nueva Bible Study
FRI	6:30 PM	Movie "Overcomer"

NURSERY

Today: Shanna Visser, Trevor Blom, Kayla Van Hofwegen

Next Week: Sue Blom, Hannah van Hofwegen, Franchesca Bill

GREETERS

Today - Rovers: Dennis & Melba De Kok

AM: Brian Doss, Fred Folkertsma, Jeannette Folkertsma, Jill Klunder

Next Week - Rovers: Keith & Jean Rasmussen

AM: Les & Joy Faber, Jeannette Folkertsma, Jill Klunder

USHERS

Today: Henry Hammingh, Tim Van Hofwegen, Larry Greidanus

Next Week: Henry Van Zanten Jr, Tim Hibma, Wiebe Van der Hoek

SOUND

Today: Henry Van Zanten Jr.

Next Week: Mardick Stevens

PROJECTION

Today: Tim Hibma

Next Week: Nathan Van Beek

VIDEO TAPING

Today: Brandon Speck

Next Week: Carson Blom

CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Today:

Teacher: Michele Feddema

Assistants: Brooke Knoester, Adriana Speck

Next Week:

Teacher: Marjo Rouw

Assistants: Beth Boon, Justus Visser

COFFEE HOSTS

Today: Greg & Tish Ackermann, Agnes Bollema, Randy & Peggy Burr

Next Week: Rich & Elly, Dennis & Melba De Kok, Michelle De Kok

VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

Today: Vida Nueva

Next Week: Jayne Hammingh, Brooke Knoester

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

Today: None

Next Week: Greg Boon

Accompanist: Sylvia Van Zanten

TRANSPORTATION CARE TEAM

December 29: Larry & Maxine Greidanus

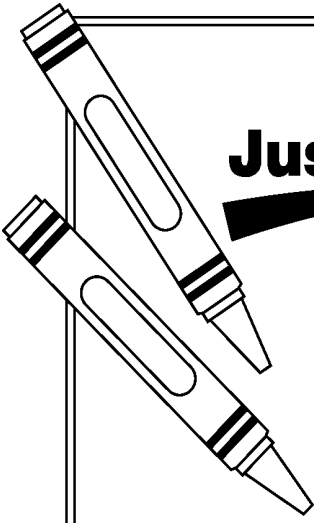
January 5: Henry & Jayne Hammingh

OFFERING:

January 5:

AM: General Fund

PM: Partners Relief & Development



Just for **KIDS**

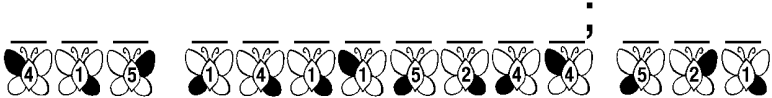
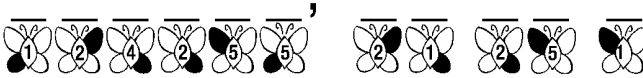
Happy New Day!

Each January 1 we begin a new year. But each day we also have a chance to begin again!

Use the code to find 2 Corinthians 5:17.



“



!”



“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”



How can we **PRAY** for you?

People to be remembered with prayers, cards, letters & words of encouragement. Call the church office at (336-2405) or e-mail: secretary@firstcrmv.com by Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

NEW CONCERN:

We express our sympathy to **Ryanne Vander Pol & her family** in the passing away of her brother, Wayne Vander Pol, from Yelm, WA. Wayne passed away December 21 after having cancer for 1 ½ years. May the family experience God's peace in the midst of their sadness.

Duane Van Dyke was moved to Mira Vista for skilled nursing care this past Thursday. Pray for continued healing for Duane.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Remember those in prayer that have lost loved ones recently.

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.

Pray for those who are who will be traveling over the Christmas time of the year.

SHUT INS:

Nell Annema at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley; **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 Home-place 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: Uganda - Resonate missionaries Josh and Mandy Shaarda in Uganda report that 10 people in a prison they are ministering in have come to faith and have given their lives to Christ! Praise God! Please pray for these new believers as they walk with Jesus.

Candidacy Committee: Administration - Pray for the Candidacy Committee in the challenges of their administrative work as they oversee processes toward ordination. Pray that they will maintain sensitivity and display wisdom, consistency, and flexibility. This behind-the-scenes work eventually bears fruit by blessing our churches as qualified pastors are approved for ordination.

Back to God Ministries International: Chinese ministry - In times of increased government scrutiny, our Chinese ministry team has been studying 2 Timothy 4 to guide and prepare them for ministry "in season and out of season." Pray for wisdom for this ministry team as they discern the best timing and approach for sharing the gospel in this challenging context.

Resonate Global Mission: North America - Pray for students involved in Resonate partner campus ministries throughout Canada and the United States. Many campus ministry events are promoted by word of mouth. Pray that students will eagerly invite their friends and classmates.

World Renew: Christmas - As God's children who are saved through the redeeming work of Christ, we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas year-round. Christ's example shapes who we are and how we live. Our generous, just, and renewing Savior calls us to be actively open-handed, passionately merciful, and enthusiastically restoring the earth. This holiday season, we pray that Christ's love will be reflected in us all year long.

CRC Communications: Christmas Eve - Pray for churches holding services this evening and tomorrow morning as together we celebrate the birth of Christ and strive to live by his love. May all of the Lord's churches be safe places for people who are seeking him. Pray that people who don't regularly come to worship services will choose to find one this Christmas and will respond to the love and life of Jesus.

Resonate Global Mission: Central Asia - "I asked the school driver for my carpool about the details of prayer in Islam," said a Resonate missionary serving in Central Asia. "A few days later he asked me about praying in Christianity." The Holy Spirit is working! Pray for more and more awareness and opportunities to share about Jesus.