

God's Word Gives Our Lives Direction



701 West Blackburn Road
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

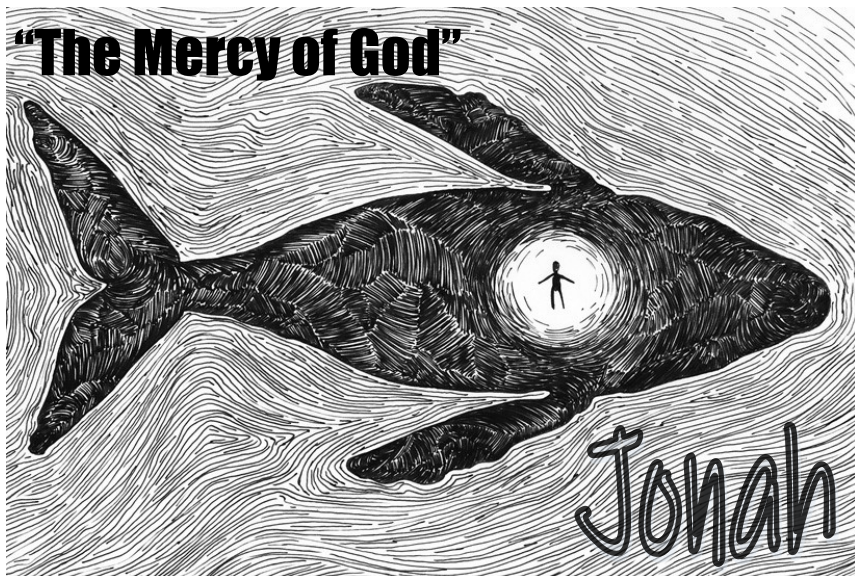
360-336-2405

www.firstcrcmv.com

Pastor John Knoester

Worship Services
10:30 AM & 6:30 PM

Church School: 9:30 AM
September—May



February 23, 2020

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

February 23, 2020

"Because the Lord our God is good,"

A.M. Worship Service

* Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude

* Welcome and Announcements

* Call to Worship: Psalm 100

* Opening Hymn: LUYH #1:1-4 *"All People That on Earth Do Dwell"*

1. All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Serve him with joy, his praises tell,
Come now before him and rejoice!
2. Know that the Lord is God indeed;
he formed us all without our aid.
We are the flock he comes to feed,
the sheep who by his hand were made.
3. O enter then his gates with joy,
within his courts his praise proclaim.
Let thankful songs your tongues employ,
O bless and magnify his name.
4. Because the Lord our God is good,
his mercy is forever sure.
His faithfulness at all times stood
and shall from age to age endure.

Words: William Kethe, 1561 at., P.D.; Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551, P.D.; CCLI# 678905

* God's Greeting/ We Greet Each Other

"His mercy is forever sure."

- * Call to Confession: Lamentations 3:19-26
- * Sung Prayer of Confession: LUYH #700:1-2 "*Your Mercy Flows*"
 1. Your mercy flows upon us like a river.
Your mercy stands unshakable and true.
 2. Most holy God, of all good things the giver,
we turn and lift our fervent prayer to you.

Chorus

Hear our cry, (*Hear our cry,*)
O Lord, (*O Lord,*)
be merciful (*be merciful*)
once more. (*once more.*)
Let your love, (*Let your love,*)
your anger stem; (*your anger stem;*)
remember mercy, O Lord, again.

Words: Wes Sutton (b. 1955) © 1988 Sovereign Lifestyle Music, Ltd. CCLI #678905

- * Assurance of Pardon: Micah 7:18-19
- * Song of Assurance: LUYH #348:1-3 "*Great is Thy Faithfulness*"
 1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23: Words: Thomas O Chisholm, 1923, © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company; Music: William M. Runyan, 1923, © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company, CCLI #678905

(Children ages 3-1st grade are dismissed for Children & Worship)

Offering: General Fund

“His faithfulness at all times stood.”

Scripture Reading: Jonah 4

Message: **“The Mercy of God”**

Time of Prayer

Moment for Reflection: *“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”*

“And shall from age to age endure.”

* We Confess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism

Question & Answer 1

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own,¹ but belong—body and soul, in life and in death²—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.³ ¹ 1 Cor. 6:19-20; ² Rom. 14:7-9; ³ 1 Cor. 3:23; Titus 2:14

Question & Answer 2

Q. What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

A. Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are;¹ second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery;² third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.³

¹ Rom. 3:9-10; 1 John 1:10; ² John 17:3; Acts 4:12; 10:43; ³ Matt. 5:16; Rom. 6:13; Eph. 5:8-10; 2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Pet. 2:9-10

* Song of Application: *“The Lord is My Salvation” v. 1-4*

1. The grace of God has reached for me,
and pulled me from the raging sea.
And I am safe on this solid ground:
The Lord is my salvation.
2. I will not fear when darkness falls,
His strength will help me scale these walls.
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun:
The Lord is my salvation.

Refrain

*Who is like the Lord our God?
Strong to save, faithful in love.
My debt is paid and the victory won;
The Lord is my salvation.*

3. My hope is hidden in the Lord,
He flow'rs each promise of His Word.
When winter fades, I know spring will come:
The Lord is my salvation.
4. In times of waiting times of need,
When I know loss when I am weak.
I know His grace will renew these days:
The Lord is my salvation.

Refrain

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* Benediction

* Parting Praise: *“The Lord is my Salvation” v. 5*

5. And when I reach the final day,
He will not leave me in the grave.
But I will rise, Christ will call me home:
The Lord is my salvation.

Refrain

*Who is like the Lord our God?
Strong to save, faithful in love.
My debt is paid and the victory won;
The Lord is my salvation.*

Bridge x2

Glory be to God, the Father, Glory be to God, the Son,
Glory be to God, the Spirit; the Lord is our salvation.

Ending

The Lord is our salvation, the Lord is our salvation.

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Postlude

Welcome! Sunday worship is the call of God to bring special honor to his name. Give him what he asks through faithful worship. Receive this day also as his gift to you to refresh you for the week ahead. 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

Dear Friends,

The book of Jonah is probably one of the more beloved books of the Old Testament. Many of us first became familiar with this story at an early age. I personally am reminded of the story nearly every summer when we go whale watching on the coast.

The book of Jonah challenges us to consider not only what it means to *believe* the gospel of God's grace, but also what it means to *live* it. Furthermore, Jonah reminds us that one of the chief characteristics of believers is not that we never sin, for sadly we still do, but that we should be ready to repent of our sin whenever we are reminded of God's grace. Therefore, if you are still learning the grace of Jesus Christ – then Jonah is an ideal companion to study and learn from.

The following is the tentative schedule of our study in the weeks to come. As always, you are encouraged to read the text in advance before each Sunday. May God bless us as we walk/swim with Jonah in these weeks to come.

In His Grace,
Pastor John

Jan. 12 - *"The Mercy and Sovereignty of God"* – Jonah 1:1-4

Jan. 19 – *"The God Who Never Let's Go"* – Jonah 1:4-16

Feb. 9 – *"A Cry from the Depths"* – Jonah 1:17-2:10

Feb. 16 – *"A Great Revival"* – Jonah 3:1-10

Feb. 23 – *"The Mercy of God"* – Jonah 4:1-11

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.

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2020 FAMILY VISITS

Elder	Deacon	Family
Dave V	Jack VK	Rouw, Marjo
Dave V	Jack VK	Stevens, Mardy & Kristine
Kevin K	Mardy S	Van Klaveren, Jack & Trudy
Kevin K	Mardy S	Ackermann, Greg & Tish
Henry VZ	Randy B	Ackermann, Alyssa
Henry VZ	Randy B	Beezhold, Terry & Joni
Tim VH	Mardick S	Blom, Eliot & Sue
Tim VH	Mardick S	Burr, Randy & Peggy
Darrel L	Dan VK	Cuperus, Rich & Elly
Darrel L	Dan VK	De Kok, Michelle
Pastor John	Brad DK	Feddema, Jim & Michelle
Pastor John	Brad DK	Vander Wekken, Chris
Henry H	Rich C	Klunder, Todd
Henry H	Rich C	Paul, Wilma

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

On behalf of the Van Dyke family, we would like to express our deepest appreciation for your prayers and support during the time of Duane's homegoing. --Trudy Van Dyke & family

The ***Dunamis Project*** is happening in Bellingham from March 11-14. Registration is now open! The first part of the Dunamis Project focuses on worldview, spiritual reality, and the nature and work of the Holy Spirit. For more information, pick up a flyer from the shelf in the breezeway or go to <https://www.prmi.org/dppacnorwest>.

Request from our Missionaries - Jon & Trista Vander Wal are planning to travel from Papua New Guinea to Seattle in June to begin a year-long furlough. They are in need of a couple thing while stateside: a vehicle, preferably a minivan, that someone would be willing to gift or sell for a reasonable price, and an affordable, furnished place to stay in the Olympia area for one month from late June to late July. Please contact the church office if you are able to help in any way.

There will be a ***piano concert*** at ***Bethany Covenant Church*** today, Feb 23, at 4:00 p.m. It will be a concert of classical music and hymn arrangements, assisted by Bonnie Wilkens (violinist) and Becky Dutton (soprano). It is free to attend.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Morning Service
	11:45 a.m.	'Town Hall' Meeting
	6:15 p.m.	Youth Group
	6:30 p.m.	Evening Service
MON	7:00 p.m.	Elder & Deacon Meeting
WED	7:00 p.m.	Cadets

OTHER CHURCH EVENTS

Please join us after the service for an open ***'town hall' meeting*** to further discuss the possibility of being a 'mentor church' to a current seminary student. The purpose of the meeting is to update you on the current discussion in council, answer/clarify any questions that remain, and then hopefully receive congregational support to proceed in the process.

ADVANCED NOTICES

The ***Men's Bible Study*** will meet on Wednesday, March 4 at 6:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant in Burlington.

Golden Hour will meet Wednesday, March 4 at 1:30 p.m.

GEMS will meet Wednesday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Church leaders from **Classis Pacific Northwest** will meet March 5 & 6 at Warm Beach Camp.

Blood Drive - A blood drive will be held on Monday, March 9, from 12:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m. (closed from 2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.) at First CRC. For information and to sign up contact the Blood Center at 1-800-398-7888 or at DonorSched@bloodworksnw.org.

Save the Date! Our annual "**Taste of Mexico**" dinner this year is set to take place on **Friday, March 20 at 6:15 p.m.** This year we will be journeying to Mexico and our friends from Vida Nueva will be joining us! Each family is encouraged to prepare and bring their favorite Mexican dish, but it's not a requirement. There is generally more than enough food to go around. Instead of our usual 'best dish' competition we will have some other activities/entertainment instead. In the meantime, please save the date and be looking for the opportunity to sign up accordingly in the weeks to come!

The **Cadet Pinewood Derby** will take place on Saturday, March 21 in the elementary gym at Mount Vernon Christian School. Get your derby cars ready and join them in the "open class" race!

Classis Pacific Northwest is holding a **Safe Church Conference** on March 28 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at New Hope Fellowship in Monroe. All church council members, staff, and volunteers are invited to attend. Registration is requested by March 18. Please contact Jayne Hammingh for more information.

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

Mount Vernon Christian School welcomes parents and students to tour our facilities, meet teachers and students, ask questions and learn more about how we integrate faith and learning as we partner with families to provide a safe learning environment. **The next open house will be Tuesday, March 10, 2020.** The 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. time will also include Preschool and Kindergarten information. Please visit www.mountvernonchristian.org and click on "Contact" or call 360.424.9157 to register.

Open House:

March 10

10:00-11:30 a.m.

1:00-2:30 p.m.

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Know someone who should visit?
There are postcards available on the
shelf in the breezeway.
Please take some to share!

Groundwork: Jesus cast out demons - As Jesus went about his earthly ministry, he cast demons out to release people from their bondage. Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 12:22-29 and Matthew 8:28-34 to discover his purpose, learn about God's kingdom, and better understand how we should respond to evil today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Liz and Jonah - Check out our children's programs at www.kidscorner.net. In this week's episode, Miss Wattle gives Liz the task of warning Skink to improve his grades. Why would she do that, and why should Liz even care about helping? Listen now at kidscorner.net and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for future episodes. Download KC's Lent 2020 devotionals to lead your family's Bible study as you prepare for Easter. kidscorner.net/activities.

Words From The Cross - Words From The Cross is a seven-part Bible study podcast from Groundwork. In the season of Lent, dig deep into the significance and resonance of Christ's words from the Cross and let them focus your heart on our salvation through his death and resurrection. Get it when you subscribe to Groundwork at groundworkonline.com/words.

At-home Faith Formation Tip - In The Common Rule: Habits of Purpose for an Age of Distraction (2019, IVP books), Justin Whitmel Earley suggests eight habits to shape our days. Daily habits include prayer at morning, midday, and bedtime; one meal with others; one hour with phone off; and Scripture before phone. Weekly habits include one hour of conversation with a friend, curate media to four hours, fast from something for 24 hours, and Sabbath observance. What habits have you chosen to shape your days? (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

A Lenten Devotional Series from Today - Lent is a season to focus on the hope of Jesus Christ. Receive a free Today devotional email series to help you refresh, refocus, and renew your faith during Lent. Or download the ebook! Subscribe at todaydevotional.com/lent.

NURSERY

Today: Shanna Visser, Emma Droog, Joel Link

Next Week: Julie Houck, Kennedy Donaldson, Franchesca Bill

GREETERS

Today- Rovers: Larry & Margaret Vander Pol

AM: Darin & Michelle Kuipers, Joe LeClair

Next Week- Rovers: Rich & Elly Cuperus

AM: Randy & Juli Oostra, Marinus & Jill Rouw

USHERS

Today: Larry Greidanus, Henry Hammingh, Tim Van Hofwegen

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

SOUND

Today: Mardy Stevens

Next Week: Mardick Stevens

PROJECTION

Today: Josh Hammingh

Next Week: Devin Van Zanten

VIDEO TAPING

Today: Tim Hibma

Next Week: Brandon Speck

CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Today: Teacher: Marjo Rouw;

Assistants: Beth Boon, Caleb Link

Next Week: Teacher: Tim Van Hofwegen

Assistants: Monica Droog, Joel Link

COFFEE HOSTS

Today: Bryan & Deanna Van Beek, Mardick & Jill Stevens,
Jack & Trudy Van Klaveren

Next Week: Greg & Tish Ackermann, Agnes Bollema,
Randy & Peggy Burr

VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

Today: Vida Nueva

Next Week: Jayne Hammingh, Josh Hammingh

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

Today: Henry Kuipers
accompanist: Melba De Kok

Next Week: Jayne Hammingh
accompanist: Marjo Rouw

TRANSPORTATION CARE TEAM

March 1: Henry & Jayne Hammingh

March 8: Shirley Boonstra

FEBRUARY OFFERINGS:

AM: General Fund

PM: Pregnancy Choices

MARCH OFFERINGS:

AM: General Fund

PM: Mount Vernon Christian School (General Fund)

6:30 P.M. Worship Service

Pianist: Melba De Kok

Welcome/Announcements

Prayer for Worship

Opening Songs of Praise: Led by Henry Kuipers

LUYH#548:1,6 *"My God How Wonderful You Are"*

LUYH#755:1,3 *"Speak O Lord"*

LUYH#770:1,4 *"In Christ Alone"*

Scripture Readings and Confession: Galatians 5:1-15, James 1:22-25

Confessional Reading: Belgic Confession Article 32

The Order and Discipline of the Church

We also believe that
although it is useful and good
for those who govern the churches
to establish and set up
a certain order among themselves
for maintaining the body of the church,
they ought always to guard against deviating
from what Christ, our only Master,
has ordained for us.

Therefore we reject all human innovations
and all laws imposed on us, in our worship of God,
which bind and force our consciences in any way.

So we accept only what is proper
to maintain harmony and unity
and to keep all in obedience to God.

To that end excommunication, with all it involves,
according to the Word of God, is required.

Message: ***“The Order and Discipline of the Church”***

Time of Prayer

Song of Application: LUYH #286:1,2,4

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

Offering: Pregnancy Choices

* God’s Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #965

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

sermon notes:

Who is
Speaking?

Where in
the Bible?

Book: _____
Chapter: _____
Verse: _____

I learned:



Who is
the passage
talking about?

I didn't
understand:

What
happened?

Words
I don't know

my
favorite
song was:



here
you
draw
something:

Date: _____





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@firstcrcmv.com by Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Don Lagerwey was transported to Everett Friday and was taken to a rehab center in Anacortes. Praise God for the answers to prayer on Don's behalf. Please continue to pray for a full recovery.

Please pray for **Hans and Aileen Meischke**, as well as Aileen's brother, **Ide Hamming**. He has been diagnosed with inoperable cancer in the gall bladder and colon. The doctors are saying that Ide likely has less than two months to live. Please pray for Hans, Aileen, and the entire family in the days and weeks ahead.

Continue to pray for healing for **Adelaida Vega** (Michelle Kuiper's mother) as she continues chemo.

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

SHUT INS:

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

OTHER REQUESTS:

Back to God Ministries International: (Niger) In October 2019 we prayed for Bahati in Niger. Our French ministry team recently visited with her and learned that both she and her daughter are doing well, living safely with a leader from the church where they worship. Continue to pray for Bahati as she adjusts to living in a new community after fleeing her oppressive family.

Resonate Global Mission: (Ontario) Praise God for the supportive community at Guelph Campus Ministry, a Resonate partner campus ministry in Ontario. Allie's life was in a downward spiral after her friend died by suicide, but God brought her to Guelph Campus Ministry. There she found community, healing, and hope in Christ. Please pray for Allie as she now serves as a leader of this campus ministry.

Calvinist Cadet Corps: (Prayer) Our theme this season—"Hi God, it's me"—continues to encourage cadets and counselors to turn to God in prayer. Please pray that the boys and men of Cadets will pray earnestly and often, know that God listens, share how God answers prayer, and demonstrate faithful responses to God's leading.

Back to God Ministries International: (Chinese ministry) Lan shared that she has been using a new app from our Chinese ministry to hold her accountable in her faith journey. "Your application helps me keep in touch about my spiritual health and the spiritual health of my brothers and sisters in Christ," she says. Pray that Lan will continue to grow in faith with the help of this tool.

Resonate Global Mission: (Nebraska) Give thanks to God for working in Johnny's life. Johnny was addicted to drugs and struggled to find hope, but then he connected with F Street Neighborhood Church, a Resonate church plant in Nebraska. God healed Johnny from his addiction, and now he is passionately sharing the love of Christ in his neighborhood. Please pray for Johnny as he lives into God's purpose for his life.

Calvin Theological Seminary: (Discernment) Pray for final year students preparing for candidacy and for the places that God is preparing for them to serve, and for all students as they discern God's leading. Pray for faculty as they teach and encourage our students. Pray for staff in their varieties of faithful service for our students.

CRC Communications: (Holiday) This past week we celebrated President's Day in the United States, and Family Day in much of Canada. Pray for our nations' leaders as they govern and make decisions that affect our lives today and in the future. Pray for our nations' families, asking for God's grace and guidance, that we may all know God as our Father and show his love to the people who live with and around us.