

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



March 8, 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 March 8, 2020

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,"

Morning Worship Service

* Please stand in body or in spirit

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;

for I am gentle and humble in heart,

and you will find rest for your souls."

—Matthew 11:28-29, NIV Reprinted by permission from *The Worship Sourcebook,* © 2004, CRC Publications

* Opening Song of Praise: SNC #81:1-2 "Cry of My Heart"

Refrain

It is the cry of my heart to follow you. It is the cry of my heart to be close to you. It is the cry of my heart to follow, all of the days of my life.

 Teach me your holy ways, O Lord, so I can walk in your truth.
 Teach me your holy ways, O Lord, and make me wholly devoted to you.

Refrain

 Open my eyes so I can see the wonderful things that you do. Open my heart up more and more and make me wholly devoted to you. Refrain(2x)

It is the cry of my heart to follow you. It is the cry of my heart to be close to you. It is the cry of my heart to follow, all of the days of my life.

"Cry of My Heart" Text and music: Terry Butler (b.1955), ©1991, Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services CCLI# 678905

* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

* Hymn of Praise: LUYH #495:1-2

"Come, All You People, Praise Our God"

- Come, all you people, praise our God and tell his glorious works abroad, who holds our souls in life; who never lets our feet be moved and, though our faith has often proved, upholds us in the strife.
- We come with offerings to God's house, and here we pay the solemn vows we uttered in distress; to him our all we dedicate, to him we wholly consecrate the lives his mercies bless.
 PSALM 66; Words: Psalter, 1912, P.D.; Music: Charles H. Gabriel, (1856-1932), P.D.

CCLI #678905

(Children are invited forward for the Children's Message)

"The rivers of sorrow will not overflow,"

Children's Message

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

Announcements

Offering: General Fund

Introduction to Today's Study

- * Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #251:1-3 "The Church's One Foundation"
 - The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord; she is his new creation by water and the Word. From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride; with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 - Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth; her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.
 - Though with a scornful wonder Men see her sore oppressed By schisms rent asunder By heresies distressed Yet saints their watch are keeping Their cry goes up how long And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song Words: Samuel J. Stone, 1866, P.D.; Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1864, P.D. CCLI #67895

"For I will be with you in trouble to bless,"

Scripture Readings: John 6:14-20 and Matthew 14:22-27

Message: "Growing with Peter- Jesus is the Lord of all our Storms"

Prayer of Application

Sung Prayer of Response: LUYH #430 "You Are Mine"

Refrain (Solo)

Do not be afraid; I am with you. I have called you each by name. Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you, and you are mine."

(Solo)

"I will come to you in the silence.

 I will lift you from all your fear.
 You will hear my voice.
 I claim you as my choice.
 Be still and know I am here.

(Solo)

 "I am hope for all who are hopeless, I am eyes for all who long to see. In the shadows of the night I will be your light. Come and rest in me.

Refrain (Worship Team)

(Solo)

 "I am strength for all the despairing, healing for the ones who dwell in shame. All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and all will know my name.

Refrain (All)

Do not be afraid; I am with you. I have called you each by name. Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you, and you are mine." (Solo)

4. "I am the Word that leads all to freedom.
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name,
embracing all your pain.
Stand up, now walk, and live!

*Refrain (All)

Do not be afraid; I am with you. I have called you each by name. Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you, and you are mine." Words & Music: David Haas (b. 1957) © 2005 GIA Publications, Inc.; All Rights Reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-711218

Scripture Reading: Matthew 14:28-33

Meditation: "Growing with Peter - When Faith Takes Risks"

Time of Prayer

"And sanctify to you your deepest distress."

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #427:1-5 "How Firm a Foundation"

- How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word! What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
- "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed, for I am your God and will still give you aid; I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
- "When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow, for I will be with you in trouble to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.
- "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace all-sufficient shall be your supply; the flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

 "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,

I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

Words: Isaiah 43:1-5; J. Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt., P.D.; Music: J. Funk's *A Compilation of Genuine Church Music*, 1832; harm. Dale Grotenhuis (1931-2012), 1985, © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources; CCLI #678905

* Benediction

* Parting Hymn of Praise: LUYH #936:1-2 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

 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

Welcome! The psalmist wrote: "I will exalt you, my God and King. I will praise your name forever and ever" (Psalm 145:1). With a similar attitude, let us praise God joyfully. 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,

One of the more famous and outspoken disciples of Jesus is that of Simon Peter. Jesus first words to him were, "Come, follow me" (Mark 1:17). His last words to him were, "You must follow me" (John 21:22). Peter certainly had many stumbles along the way. Yet, throughout his life, he strived to be obedient to Christ's command in spite of his many shortcomings. Can the same be said of us? ... May God bless us as we travel with the disciple Peter under the ministry of Jesus throughout this Lenten season.

> In His Grace, Pastor John Knoester

- 3/1 "Growing with Peter The Story Begins" Matt. 4:18-22, Mark 1:16-20, Luke 5:1-11, John 1:35-42
- 3/8 "Growing with Peter When Faith Takes Risks" Matt. 14:22-36, Mark 6:45-56, John 6:16-24
- 3/15 "Growing with Peter On the Mountain with Jesus" Matt. 17:1-13, Mark 9:2-13
- 3/22 "Growing with Peter No Longer on the Mountain" Matt. 26:36 -46, Mark 14:32-42, Luke 22:39-46
- 3/29 "Growing with Peter Bold Confession" Matt. 16:13-23, Mark 8:27-30, Luke 9:18-27
- 4/5 (Palm Sunday) *"Growing with Peter Fearful Silence"* Matthew 26:69-75, Mark 14:66-72, Luke 22:54-62, John 18:15-18, 25-27
- 4/12 (Easter) "Growing with Peter Confusion at the Tomb" Luke 24:12, John 20:1-9, Mark 16:7
- 4/19 "Growing with Peter Back in Grace" John 21:1-25

February & March Family Visiting - Please expect a call from the listed Elder to arrange the day and time for a visit. If you have questions, please call the listed Elder or call Henry Hammingh at 360-424-3019.

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2020				
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

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.

Cleaning out the Church Library - Please help yourself to any of the library books from the table in the fellowship hall.

Mentor Church Update - The council would like to thank all those who participated in our town hall meeting. The final vote tally was that of overwhelming support to proceed in the process of creating a residency position for a current seminary student. While grateful for the affirmation, the council would still like to hear the concerns of those who have misgivings about the position and encourage you to privately contact a council member accordingly.

The next steps in the process involve identifying potential candidates, interviewing them, and then hopefully presenting an applicant for approval no later than our May 18 congregational meeting. The residency itself would likely begin on August 1, 2020. If you have any questions about the process please feel free to contact a council member at any time.

Request from our Missionaries - Jon & Trista Vander Wal are in need of a couple things for an upcoming furlough: a vehicle, preferably a minivan, that someone would like to gift of 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.

Empire Speech and Debate, a club that serves local Christian homeschooled students, is having a tournament at our church on March 27 & 28. They need community members to serve as judges. Please signup for a time that works for you at <u>https://</u> shamrock2020.homeschooldebate.net/community-judges.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March B	Neighbors in Need donations
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Morning Service
6:15 p.m.	Youth Group
6:30 p.m.	Evening Service
Monday, March 9	
12-6 p.m.	Blood Drive at First CRC (closed 2-2:45)
7:00 p.m.	Executive Committee Meeting
wednesday, March 11	
1.00	Eviandahin Hawaa
4:00 p.m.	Friendship House
4:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Cadets
•	•
7:00 p.m.	
7:00 p.m. Sunday, March 15	Cadets
7:00 p.m. Sunday, March 15 9:30 a.m.	Cadets Sunday School

OTHER CHURCH EVENTS

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.

Please sign up to bring a casserole or dessert for the *Friendship House* on Wednesday, March 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.

ADVANCED NOTICES

The *Finance Committee* will meet Monday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m.

A Family Skating Party is being sponsored by the GEMS and Cadet clubs on Tuesday, March 17 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Skagit Skate in Burlington. Mark it on your calendar and join the fun! Bring the whole family--even babies in strollers can be wheeled around the rink. Invite your friends and neighbors. All are welcome. Enjoy great fellowship, great exercise and great family fun. Cost is \$6.50 per skater, \$1.00 more for inline skates. Come and help us reach our goal of 100 skaters and help support our programs at the same time. Contact Marjo Rouw if you have any questions.

The *Men's Bible Study* will meet on Wednesday, March 18 at 6:30 a.m.

Golden Hour will meet Wednesday, March 18 at 1:30 p.m.

Save the Date! Our annual "Taste of Mexico" dinner will be Friday, March 20 at 6:15 p.m. This year 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. Instead of our usual 'best dish' competition we will have some other activities/entertainment instead. Please save the date and sign-up on the sheet in the fellowship hall!

The *Cadet Pinewood Derby* will be 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.

GEMS Schedule Change - The original GEMS schedule listed no meeting on April 1 because of spring break. Spring break is the following week, April 6-10, so GEMS will be meeting after all.

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

New Earth Recovery has launched an exciting campaign to begin an expansion of their ministry. Their most recent newsletter is available on the breezeway shelf.

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.

<u>Open House</u>: 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!

Family Fire is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

Groundwork: I Believe - What is a creed? Is the Apostles' Creed biblical? Join Groundwork as we begin a study of the Apostles' Creed and the scriptures that inform it. Dig into Romans 10:9 and Deuteronomy 6:1-9 to discover the function these summary statements have in the life of faith and the value they offer us yet today. Listen now at

GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Seventh Commandment - Check out our children's programs at www.kidscorner.net. In this week's episode, "Seventh Commandment," Grandpa Anole uses the story of David and Bathsheba to teach his church school class about the seventh commandment and broken promises. 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.

Lent At-home Faith Formation Tip - Many Christians practice giving something up for Lent in order to make more space for God. If you have kids in your household, think together about how you might make more space for God this week. For example, you might take a technology break each day and spend the time reading about Jesus' life and ministry in The Jesus Storybook Bible or Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible and talking about the stories together. (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

Volunteers	Today	Next Week
Nursery:	Elly Cuperus Josie Droog Trevor Blom	Brooke Knoester Rayahna Oostra Tessa Speck
Greeters:	Keith & Jean Rasmussen Mardick & Jill Stevens Daniel & Bree Vander Kooy	Greg & Tish Ackermann Minne Van der Hoek Bryan & Deanna Van Beek
Ushers:	Larry Greidanus Henry Hammingh Tim Van Hofwegen	Tim Hibma Wiebe Van der Hoek Henry Van Zanten
Sound:	Tim Hibma	Henry Hammingh
Video:	Carson Blom	Mike Hibma
Projection:	Nathan Van Beek	Hannah Van Hofwegen
Children & Worship:	Darrel & Sunee Lagerwey Shanna Visser Hannah Van Hofwegen	Heather Van Hofwegen Johnna Van der Hoek Emma Droog

Volunteers	Today	Next Week
Coffee Hosts:	Rich & Elly Cuperus Dennis & Melba De Kok Jeannette Folkertsma	Michelle De Kok Wayne & Rhea Doss Jill Klunder
Vida Nueva Childcare:	Sylvia Van Zanten	Vida Nueva
Ministry of Praise:	Hank Van Zanten Piano: Sylvia Van Zanten	Tim Van Hofwegen Piano: Joann Orange
Transportation:	Shirley Boonstra	Les & Joy Faber
Offering:	AM: General Fund PM: MVC (General Fund)	AM: General Fund PM: MVC (General Fund)

Evening Worship Service

Pianist: Sylvia Van Zanten

Welcome/Announcements

Prayer for Worship

Opening Songs of Praise: Led by Hank Van Zanten LUYH #325:1,3,4 "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" LUYH #352:1,2,4 "O Jesus, I Have Promised" LUYH #356:1-3 "Fill Thou My Life, O Lord, My God"

Scripture Readings and Confession: Genesis 17:1-14, Jeremiah 31:31-34, Colossians 2:6-15

Confessional Reading: Belgic Confession Article 34 The Sacrament of Baptism

We believe and confess that Jesus Christ, in whom the law is fulfilled, has by his shed blood put an end to every other shedding of blood, which anyone might do or wish to do in order to atone or satisfy for sins.

Having abolished circumcision, which was done with blood, Christ established in its place the sacrament of baptism. By it we are received into God's church and set apart from all other people and alien religions, that we may wholly belong to him whose mark and sign we bear. Baptism also witnesses to us that God, being our gracious Father, will be our God forever.

Therefore Christ has commanded that all those who belong to him be baptized with pure water "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."⁷⁷

In this way God signifies to us that just as water washes away the dirt of the body when it is poured on us and also is seen on the bodies of those who are baptized when it is sprinkled on them, so too the blood of Christ does the same thing internally, in the soul, by the Holy Spirit. It washes and cleanses it from its sins and transforms us from being the children of wrath into the children of God.

This does not happen by the physical water but by the sprinkling of the precious blood of the Son of God, who is our Red Sea, through which we must pass to escape the tyranny of Pharaoh, who is the devil, and to enter the spiritual land of Canaan.

So ministers, as far as their work is concerned, give us the sacrament and what is visible, but our Lord gives what the sacrament signifies— namely the invisible gifts and graces; washing, purifying, and cleansing our souls of all filth and unrighteousness; renewing our hearts and filling them with all comfort; giving us true assurance of his fatherly goodness; clothing us with the "new self" and stripping off the "old self with its practices."⁷⁸

For this reason we believe that anyone who aspires to reach eternal life ought to be baptized only once without ever repeating it for we cannot be born twice. Yet this baptism is profitable not only when the water is on us and when we receive it but throughout our entire lives.

For that reason we reject the error of the Anabaptists who are not content with a single baptism once received and also condemn the baptism of the children of believers. We believe our children ought to be baptized and sealed with the sign of the covenant, as little children were circumcised in Israel on the basis of the same promises made to our children.

And truly, Christ has shed his blood no less for washing the little children of believers than he did for adults.

Therefore they ought to receive the sign and sacrament of what Christ has done for them, just as the Lord commanded in the law that by offering a lamb for them the sacrament of the suffering and death of Christ would be granted them shortly after their birth. This was the sacrament of Jesus Christ.

Furthermore, baptism does for our children what circumcision did for the Jewish people. That is why Paul calls baptism the "circumcision of Christ."⁷⁹ ⁷⁷Matt. 28:19^{:78}Col. 3:9-10^{: 79}Col. 2:11

Message: "The Sacrament of Baptism"

Time of Prayer

Song of Application: LUYH #790:1-3 "Baptized in Water"

Offering: Mount Vernon Christian School (General Fund)

* 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: <u>secretary@firstcrcmv.com</u> by Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

PRAISES:

Nell Annema's 91st birthday is Wednesday, March 11.

NEW REQUESTS:

Don Lagerwey is now at the Life Care Center in Sedro-Woolley. Please continue to pray for a full recovery.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

<u>Please pray for our</u> *missionaries*. They are Brett & Angela Nicholson (Seattle), Joe Strong (Mount Vernon), Jon & Trista Vander Wal (Papua New Guinea), Geoff & Ashley Van Dragt (Seattle), and Naji Umran & Anne Zaki (Egypt).

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:

World Renew: (Canadian Foodgrains Bank) World Renew is working to end hunger for refugees and displaced people in countries around the world, including Lebanon. After over eight years of war, Syrian families have almost nothing left and are often unable to put food on the table. Thanks to partners like the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, we are able to provide basic food needs, education, and other resources. Please continue to pray for these families displaced from their homes.

Resonate Global Mission: (Eastern Europe) Having come to faith in Christ five years ago, a man in Eastern Europe said, "The encounter with the Lord freed me from addictions, changed my values, and restored my family." Now, with support from a Resonate missionary, he is sharing the gospel in a nearby town. Praise God! Pray that many more will come to trust in Christ!

World Renew: (Disaster Response Services (DRS)) Disaster response work includes not only repairs but also early damage assessment so that local organizations can meet the most pressing needs effectively. By God's grace and through the generous gifts of our donors and volunteers, we can remind disaster survivors of God's love and promises that we are never alone. Join us in praying for people affected by disasters.

Resonate Global Mission: (West Africa) A believer in West Africa, where Resonate missionaries serve, asks you to join him in prayer. He wants to see the rest of his family come to faith in Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit to draw his family into a relationship with the living God!

Disability Concerns: (Routine) Upcoming spring breaks can make for busy times for many families of young children within our congregations. These times can be challenging for some of our youngest friends who thrive on schedules and routine. Pray for families as they navigate this busy season of life.

Back to God Ministries International: (China) Our Chinese ministry team has been working on several new videos and biblical messages in response to the coronavirus outbreak. Pray for their online audience, many of whom have been isolated amid China's quarantines and travel restrictions. Pray for people's mental health as well as physical wellness.