

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

Pastor John Knoester

November 1, 2020

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

*“Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;”*

* Prelude

Welcome

* Sung Call to Worship: *“Praise to the Lord”* LUYH #575:1, 2, 4

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation!
O my soul praise him,
for he is your help and salvation!
Come, all who hear; brothers and sisters, draw near.
Join me in glad adoration!

2. Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things
is wondrously reigning,
sheltering you under his wings,
oh, so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?

4. Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath,
come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!

Words: Joachim Neander, 1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt., P.D.; Music:
(LOBE DEN HERREN): Ernewerten Gesangbuch, Stralsund, 1665; desc. Craig S.
Lang (1891-1971) © Novello and Co., Ltd. Admin. G. Schirmer, Inc.; CCLI #678905

* Call to Worship:

Leader: Let us join our voices to praise the spotless
Lamb, Jesus Christ, who has redeemed us from
sin and death.

People: **We, whom he has redeemed, will sing praises and shout for joy this hour;**

Leader: because in Christ the Lamb we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our sins in accordance with the riches of his grace.

People: **Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us.**

Leader: Let us praise him by saying:

People: **Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise! To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb we give worship this hour and forever and ever. Amen.**

* Opening Song of Praise: *Gather Us In*" Sing! " #8:1-4

1. Here in this place new light is streaming,
 now is the darkness vanished away;
 see in this space our fears and our dreamings
 brought here to you in the light of this day.
 Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
 gather us in, the blind and the lame;
 call to us now, and we shall awaken,
 we shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
 we are the old who yearn for your face;
 we have been sung throughout all of history,
 called to be light to the whole human race.
 Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
 gather us in, the proud and the strong;
 give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
 give us the courage to enter the song.
3. Here we will take the wine and the water,
 here we will take the bread of new birth,
 here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
 call us anew to be salt for the earth.
 Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
 give us to eat the bread that is you;
 nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
 lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away
here in this place the new light is shining,
Now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

"Gather Us In" Text and Music: Marty Haugen (b. 1950), © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc., All rights reserved, Reprinted under OneLicense.net License#A-711218

* God's Greeting

*"Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above."*

Announcements

Call to Confession: (Based on Isaiah 30)

In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!
—Isaiah 30:15, 18, NIV

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance (Based on Isaiah 53):

Leader: Who has believed what we have heard?
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? He grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

People: **He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our diseases, yet we considered him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.**

Leader: But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the
punishment that made us whole, and by his
bruises we are healed.

**People: All we like sheep have gone astray, we have
all turned to our own way; and the Lord has
laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

God's Law: (Based on Proverbs 3)

We respond to God's forgiveness by living our thanks
according to God's Word. Hear now God's will
for our lives: Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding; in all your
ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths
straight. —Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV

* Song of Preparation: *"The Lord's my Shepherd" :1-3*

1. The Lord's my Shepherd I'll not want
He makes me lie in pastures green
He leads me by the still, still waters
His goodness restores my soul

Chorus

And I will trust in You alone
And I will trust in You alone
For Your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home

Descant (sung as echo to chorus)

I will trust I will trust in You
I will trust I will trust in You
Endless mercy follows me
Goodness will lead me home

2. He guides my ways in righteousness
And He anoints my head with oil
And my cup it overflows with joy
I feast on His pure delights

Chorus & Descant

3. And though I walk the darkest path
I will not fear the evil one
For You are with me
And Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know

Chorus & Descant (2x)

And I will trust in You alone
And I will trust in You alone
For Your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home

I will trust I will trust in You
I will trust I will trust in You
Endless mercy follows me
Goodness will lead me home

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*“Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away;”*

Scripture Reading: Psalm 23:1-5, Luke 22:7-38

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“Psalm 23 for 2020 – The Table is Ready”***

Time of Prayer

*“Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.”*

* Song of Application: *“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” :1-3*

1. How deep the Father’s love for us,
how vast beyond all measure
that He should give His only Son
to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss.
The Father turns His face away
as wounds which mar the Chosen One
bring many sons to glory.

2. Behold the Man upon a cross,
my sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.

3. I will not boast in anything:
no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

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* We Profess our Faith: The Apostles Creed – GH pg. 813

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended to heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #859 "Be Thou My Vision" v. 1-4 1.

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art-
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father; thine own may I be,
thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.
3. Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only first in my heart,
high king of heaven, my treasure thou art.
4. High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Words: Irish hymn, 8th c; tr. Mary E. Byrne; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, Music: Irish melody; arr. Jack Schrader; © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. CCLI#678905

Postlude

Welcome! The psalmist prayed: "Restore us, O Lord God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved" (Psalm 80:19). May all who have come to worship find restoration, inner peace and spiritual strength.

	Today	Next Week
Sound:	Henry Hammingh	Tim Hibma
Video:	Tim Hibma	Brandon Speck
Projection:	Hannah Van Hofwegen	Devin Van Zanten
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund



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 9:00 am Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

NEW REQUESTS:

Please keep **Chris Vander Wekken** in your prayers. He is back in a regular room at the hospital. He himself is still unsure of how successful the surgery was and is still waiting to gain greater clarity from the doctors. He is currently quite weak and is not yet able to walk on his own, but he is slowly but surely regaining strength. His biggest struggle right now is with his loss of mobility/freedom and the need for 'patience' as he slowly recovers. He is thankful for all the many people who are currently praying and have personally reached out to him.

Rinie Rouw: Recently the cardiologist changed directions and decided to manage Rinie's heart disease with medications instead of surgery. He is currently taking it a week at a time to determine if this route provides the desired outcome. Therefore, the Nov. 6 angioplasty date is currently on hold. Rinie and Jill are grateful for the prayers of the congregation and for all those who have reached out to them. Please continue to pray for both of them in the weeks ahead.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please pray for **Aileen Meischke** who was taken to Skagit Valley Hospital yesterday with several health concerns. Aileen spent the night at the hospital for observation and is undergoing an MRI today. Pray that the doctors might be able to accurately diagnose and discern what is taking place so that Aileen might be able to return home in the near future. Pray too for Hans and their children as they anxiously await news.

In addition, please also pray for **Elaine Hammingh** who has recently been suffering from an infection in the incision where her original surgery took place. Yesterday she had a procedure to flush out the infection and is doing well. Please pray that she can experience full and complete healing in the near future!

Adelaida Vega's cancer has become active again and one of the challenges the doctors are encountering is they don't know what it looked like when she first had it in the Philippines. Adelaida feels very positive about this new treatment, but also desires all of our prayers.

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; **Jerry & Marion Ekkelkamp** and **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; **Andy Pippel**, **Adrianna Swanson**, and **Lona Vander Griend** at Home Place in Burlington; **Sally Reehoorn** at Creekside in Burlington; **Bev Van Slageren** at family in Grandview, WA.

OTHER REQUESTS: (CRC Communications)

November 1, 2020 - (World Renew: World Hunger Sunday) In communities where poverty is prevalent, people often struggle to grow enough food, find clean water, rebuild after a disaster, and deal with injustice. Praise God with us for opportunities to come together as one in Christ, to love our neighbor, and to foster justice, love, and mercy in our work with partners and congregations.

October 31, 2020 - (CRC Communications: Reformation Day) Today we commemorate the beginning of the Reformation and the changes it brought to Christian thought and the worldwide church. Pray today for the Holy Spirit to bring light, truth, and love into our discussions and interactions with each other and all people.

October 30, 2020 - (World Renew: World Hunger Awareness) In Isaiah 58, God calls his people to loose the chains of injustice, free the oppressed, share food with the hungry, shelter the stranger, and reconcile with estranged family members. These acts not only draw us closer to each other but also deepen our relationship with God. In this time of hunger awareness, pray that all who are hungry may experience a fuller relationship with the Lord who brings healing, righteousness, and hope.

October 29, 2020 - (Back to God Ministries International: Russia) Pray for Natalia and other listeners who rely on our Russian ministry team to hear God's Word in Russia. "Our radio is always tuned to your frequency," says Natalia. "We are so thankful for your ministry and for proclaiming God's Word in our lives."

October 27, 2020 - (Back to God Ministries International: ReFrame Media) Janie reached out to ReFrame's prayer team and asks you to pray for her son: "He is in jail, so please pray that God will bring restoration and healing to him and that he will turn to Jesus."

October 26, 2020 - (Resonate Global Mission: North America) Pray for Resonate partner church plants in Canada and the United States. With the help of Resonate COVID-19 relief grants, many church plants have been able to step up and meet tangible needs in their communities. Pray that God will be glorified through this servant leadership.

Sermon Outline – Morning Service

Scripture Reading: Psalm 23:1-5a, Luke 22:7-38

Sermon Text: Psalm 23:5a

“Psalm 23 for 2020 - The Table is Ready”

I. Introduction

*Nigeria reflections and the role of the ‘table’ in our daily lives

II. *“You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies”*

“Tablelands”

What are they?

The importance of a shepherd’s preparation

B. Preparing the table

1. Clearing the table itself

a. As it relates to sheep and to David himself

b. Application for us today

2. Keeping an eye out for predators and dangerous guests

a. As it relates to sheep

b. Application for us today

3. The importance of fresh water

a. As it relates to sheep

b. Application for us today

C. Various examples of God's 'table-visits' through the years

D. Jesus Christ is our 'table-preparing' Shepherd!

III. Conclusion