

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
Guest Pastor Allen Likkel
June 13, 2021

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

"Amazing grace – how sweet the sound –"

Prelude

Ministry of Music: *"All of Our Tomorrows"* – Danielle Van Zanten

This spinning world by Your own hand
Hurls ever on around the sun
The seasons march at Your command
The old departs, the new year comes
And though celestial is Your gaze
You search and care for all our ways
We offer up to You this day
And all of our tomorrows

May zealous youth and cautious age
Determine not the steps we choose
Great Shepherd, guide us through each day
Oh, how we want to follow You
Come Living Way, our way make clear
Let perfect love drive out our fear
Be Thou our vision, now and here
And all of our tomorrows

When winter makes us reminisce
Of warmer days so distant now
Of cherished saints the sun once kissed
Whose beauty passed behind the clouds
Let all our fond and longing tears
Remind us we are pilgrims here
We trust You, Sovereign of our years
With all of our tomorrows

Hands to the plow, we're pressing on
And running hard to win the prize
Empowered by the love of God
With grace before and grace behind
For lo, what hope before us stands
You finish all that You began
Eternal joy is in Your hands
And all of our tomorrows

Words and music by Dave Fournier and Ryan Foglesong © 2020 Sovereign Grace
Worship/ASCAP, Sovereign Grace Praise/BMI (adm. worldwide at
CapitolCMGPublishing.com, excluding the UK & Europe which is adm. by Integrity
Music). Sovereign Grace Music, a division of Sovereign Grace Churches. All rights
reserved. CCLI #7167554

Welcome

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #776 v. 1-4
"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

1. A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
does seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.
2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.
You ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same;
and he must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed
his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.
4. That Word above all earthly powers—
no thanks to them—abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever!

Words: based on Psalm 46, Martin Luther, 1529; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1852, P.D.; Music: Martin Luther, 1529, alt.; harm. Johann s. Bach (1685-1750), P.D.; CCLI #678905

* Call to Worship:

Leader: Let us worship the eternal God,
the source of love and life, who creates us.

**People: Let us worship Jesus Christ, the risen one,
who lives among us.**

Leader: Let us worship the Spirit,
the holy fire, who renews us.

**People: To the one true God be praise in all times
and places, through the grace of Jesus Christ.**

* God's Greeting:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: May the love of God the Father,
and the grace of Jesus the Son,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be and abide with us all.

People: Amen!

Hymn of Praise: LUYH #521 v. 1-3

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

1. 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.
2. 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

“That saved a wretch like me!”

Announcements

* Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #568 v. 1-4

"I Will Sing of My Redeemer"

All Sing:

1. I will sing of my Redeemer
and his wondrous love to me;
on the cruel cross he suffered,
from the curse to set me free.

Refrain

*Sing, oh, sing of my Redeemer,
with his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon,
paid the debt, and made me free.*

Women Only, men on chorus:

2. I will tell the wondrous story,
how my lost estate to save,
In his boundless love and mercy
he the ransom freely gave.

Refrain

Men Only, women on chorus:

3. I will praise my dear Redeemer,
his triumphant power I'll tell,
how the victory he giveth
over sin and death and hell.

Refrain

All Sing:

4. I will sing of my Redeemer
and his heavenly love to me;
He from death to life has brought me,
Son of God, with him to be.

Refrain

Words: Philip P. Bliss, 1878; Music: James McGranahan; Public Domain, CCLI #678905

*(At this time children ages 3 – 3rd grade
are excused for Children and Worship)*

"I once was lost, but now am found,"

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 41:8-14, Isaiah 43:1-2, and I John 4:7-18
(In your pew Bibles on page 716, 718 & 1209)

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“And Grace My Fears Relieved”***

Time of Prayer

“Was blind, but now I see.”

Song of Application: LUYH #430 v. 1-4 *“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 (All)

(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) Please Stand

*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."*

"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)

Words & Music: David Haas (b. 1957) © 2005 GIA Publications, Inc.; All Rights Reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-711218

* ***"The Stand"***

*So what can I say? And what can I do,
but offer this heart, O God, completely to You?
So what can I say? And what can I do,
but offer this heart, O God, completely to You.*

Chorus (3x)

*So I'll stand, with arms high and heart abandoned,
in awe of the One who gave it all.
I'll stand, my soul, Lord, to You surrendered.
All I am is Yours.*

Tag

All I am is Yours.

Music & Words by Joel Houston; ©2005 Hillsong Music Publishing: CCLI #678905

* **We Profess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 26, 28**

Leader: Q. 26 What do you believe when you say,
"I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of
heaven and earth"?

People **A. That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who out of nothing created heaven and earth
and everything in them,
who still upholds and rules them
by his eternal counsel and providence,
is my God and Father because of Christ his Son.**

**I trust him so much that I do not doubt
he will provide whatever I need for body and soul,
and he will turn to my good whatever adversity
he sends me in this sad world.
He is able to do this because he is almighty God;
he desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.**

Leader: Q. 28 How does the knowledge of God's creation and providence help us?

**People: A. We can be patient when things go against us,
thankful when things go well,
and for the future we can have
good confidence in our faithful God and Father
that nothing will separate us from his love.
All creatures are so completely in his hand
that without his will they can neither move nor be
moved.**

* God's Blessing:

* Parting Praise: LUYH #691 v. 1-5 "*Amazing Grace*"

1. Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!
3. The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.
4. Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

5. When we've been there ten thousand years,
 bright shining as the sun,
 we've no less days to sing God's praise
 than when we'd first begun.

Words: st. 1-4 John Newton, 1779, st. 5 A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, P.D.
 Music: Virginia Harmony, 1831; adapt. and harm. Edwin O. Excell, 1900, P.D.;
 CCLI# 678905

Postlude

Welcome! We invite all of you to praise God with hearts and hands and voices. Let us be mindful of the wonders God has given us. Come rejoice in God and together sing praises to His name. Reach out in warmth to all who have gathered in the house of the Lord.

	Today 6/13	Next Week 6/20
Sound:	Henry Hammingh	Henry Van Zanten
Projection:	Josh Hammingh	Devin Van Zanten
Video	Carson Blom	Tim Hibma
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Announcements

June 13, 2021

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

GUEST PASTORS: Pastor John and family will be on vacation June 10-23. This morning we welcome **Pastor Allen Likkel** from Bellingham. June 20, **Pastor Jon Westra** will be proclaiming God's Word to us. In case of any pastoral needs during this time please contact your district elder.

BETH IS OUT OF THE OFFICE this week and the next while recovering from surgery. Sylvia Van Zanten will be graciously taking her place in the office. Please send your bulletin announcements and prayer chain items to the same email address as before.

You're invited to a Retirement Party Sunday, June 13 from 2-4 at Mount Vernon Christian High School in the Hamming Commons to honor **John Klunder, Karen Staat, and Christi Ledebor** for their years of hard work and service.

NEW COUNCIL OFFICERS: At its last meeting the council elected the following individuals to serve in the following positions: Tim V.H. (Elder and Council President), Joe L. (Elder and Council Vicar), Henry H. (Elder and Council Clerk), Greg A. (Records Clerk), Bob P. (Lay Shepherds Liaison), Randy B. (Deacon President), Mardy S. (Treasurer), Jack V.K (Deacon Clerk), Brad D.K. (Benevolence), Simon L. (Deacon Vicar), Hank V.Z. Sr. (Helping Hands), and Fred F. (Usher Liaison).

From the Christian Education Fund:

Update: Thank you for all those who paid their pledges for this school year and for those that pledged for next school year. We fulfilled our pledges for both school years so the Christian Education Fund will continue. Again thanks for your giving to this fund.

May 30's Sunday service link: <https://youtu.be/TiRz1CagN2E> The link to watch **last week's** Sunday service online is as follows: <https://youtu.be/ZcXJLhxdqGM>

To further aid simplifying giving when we can't all be at church, First CRC now provides options to give your tithes and offerings electronically. This means you are now able to donate using a credit or debit card, as well as give directly from a bank account. Check the church's website: <http://www.firstcrcmv.com> for more information on these and other giving options.

Dear Friends,

Around the world today many Christians still endure severe persecution. Here in the United States we are fortunate that physical persecution is rare. However, many of us are familiar with cultural pressure and/or oppression.

In the book of I Peter, the apostle Peter reminds us that Christians are *aliens* and *exiles* in an often-hostile empire. Yet, at the same time, we are also chosen by God and equipped by Jesus' work 'for' us and 'in' us to live faithfully in our dual identity.

In the weeks to come we will explore how the work of Christ enables us to live with hope, joy, and faithfulness in an often antagonistic world. Peter reminds us that the kind of life that pleases God is one that includes respect for authorities (even when they are unjust!); godly behavior in the home; and by God's grace – good deeds, courage, and a firm faith in the midst of life's trials.

Listed below is the tentative order of our study. More will be added in the weeks to come. May God bless us as we journey through I Peter together.

In His Grace, Pastor

John

1. April 25 – *"Living Hope"* – I Peter 1:1-12
2. May 2 – *"Craving Spiritual Milk"* – I Peter 1:22-2:10
3. May 9 – *"Strangers in the World"* – I Peter 2:11-17
4. May 16 – *"Unjust Suffering – Christ and Us"* – I Peter 2:18-25
5. May 23 – *"Attractive Christian Virtues"* – I Peter 3:8-12
6. May 30 – *"Godly Fear"* – I Peter 3:13-22

7. June 6 – *"A Passage for Graduates"* – I Peter 4:1-6
8. June 27 – *"Gifts Gracious Given to Faithfully Serve"*
– I Peter 4:7-11
9. July 4 – *"A Final Word on How to Endure Trials"*
– I Peter 4:12-19
10. July 11 – *"Servant Leadership"* – I Peter 5:1-4

Dates to Note:

Men's Breakfast Bible Study will be meeting Weds., June 16, at 7am at Shari's Restaurant. They are studying the book of Acts.

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

There is a copy of the June newsletter from **New Earth Recovery** up on the Missionary Board!

Ministry Opportunity: "Underground Ministries" is a local ministry that seeks to support those coming out of prison as they reenter into society. Part of their ministry model is to match one prisoner with a core group of 5-7 members of a local church to walk alongside and support them upon their release from prison. The relationship itself already begins approximately 12-18 months before the inmate is released by way of letters, emails, and Zoom meetings. The hope is that the relationship will then continue well after the release date itself. The Evangelism Committee has recently received the blessing from council to become a "One Parish/One Prisoner" support team and to also begin to gather a 'core group' of First CRC members who are feeling led by God to play an active role in this ministry. Thus, if you sense God calling you to this role, or would like to know more about it – please contact Darrel Lagerwey or Pastor John in the weeks ahead.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELPING HANDS, HUMBLE HEARTS - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. When we help others, we also learn about community. Community means living and working together, taking care of each other. God's great design includes all of us fitting together. No one has to be alone! Listen now at kidscorner.net and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for all the new content.

FAMILY FIRE - 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: HOLY PEOPLE, GOD'S WISDOM, AND THE POWER OF THE CROSS - The Corinthian church was full of imperfect believers sorting out the impact of their faith on how they lived in the world. Join our Groundwork conversation as we examine 1 Corinthians 1-2

and hear Paul's reminder return back to the basics and the heart of the gospel message. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Special Council of Delegates Meeting - Synod 2021 was cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. A special, virtual meeting of the Council of Delegates will be held June 15 and 16 to deal with matters that cannot wait for Synod 2022. Please keep this important meeting and its participants in your prayers. Learn more or watch the livestream at crcna.org/COD-2021

Human Trafficking Prevention Live Dialogue Series - Join World Renew in dialoguing about human trafficking prevention in a two-part series. The first session on June 16 at 3PM ET will focus on the theology of flourishing with Rev. Roy Berkenbosch. The second session on June 23 at 3PM ET will feature Esther Kuhn from World Renew Senegal sharing stories from the field where World Renew works proactively with communities to stop human trafficking before it starts. Register on Zoom at bitly.com/livedialogue or join on Facebook at facebook.com/worldrenew/live.

Prayer Guide



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:

Andy Pippel went home to be with her Lord on Tuesday. While we certainly grieve that Andy is no longer with us - we are comforted by the fact that there is no longer any more confusion, discomfort, or pain. We give thanks to God for a life well lived and for the joy Andy brought to so many people during her time here on earth. The memorial service for Andy Pippel will take place this coming **Monday, June 14**. During this time not only will we have the opportunity to celebrate Andy's life here on earth, but we'll also have the opportunity to comfort each other while we sing of our faith and proclaim the hope that we have in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

A small graveside service for family members and close friends will

take place at **Mount Vernon Cemetery on Fir Street at 11 AM**. This will be followed by a memorial service at **First Christian Reformed Church at 1:30 PM**. Following the service there will also be an opportunity for fellowship and small refreshments will be served. Please continue to keep Bob, Carlene, Curt, and extended family members in your prayers in the days ahead as they grieve their loss and also prepare to lay Andy to rest.

Our sympathies and condolences to the family and friends of **Ineke/ Hebeltje Dykstra** who passed away earlier this week. Hebeltje is the sister of **Alice Oosterhoff** and also a former member of First CRC. May God provide His comfort to the entire family in this time of loss.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please pray **for Adelaida Vega**. The new chemo pills that she was taking had the opposite effect of what was hoped so she is taking another chemo medication, again given through a port. They're hoping that this will help her shrink down her cancer. Her family is thankful for all the prayers from all of you.

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

Continue to pray for those recuperating from surgeries and going in for regular cancer treatments.

SHUT INS:

Nell Annema and Jerry & Marion Ekkelkamp at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley; 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 **Clarence 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)

June 13, 2021 - (Candidacy Committee: Candidate presentation)

Today is designated Candidacy Sunday to recognize and pray for the 31 persons being presented as first-time candidates this year. Please ask God to fill their hearts with trust in his guidance, and to empower them with courage and strength to be proclaimers of the gospel and restorers of the broken communities they will work in (Isa. 61).

June 12, 2021 - (Safe Church: Webinar) Today Safe Church will host a new webinar, "On Being Restorative Congregations in the Aftermath of COVID-19." We pray this will encourage participants on how to move forward after a year filled with so much loss, isolation, and division. May conversations in this space encourage church communities to come together, rebuild, and learn how to move forward together.

June 11, 2021 - (Communications: COD special meeting) Synod 2021 has been canceled because of the pandemic and ongoing travel restrictions. This week, on June 11-12 and 15-16, the Council of Delegates will gather virtually for a special meeting to discuss and make decisions on matters that cannot wait for action by Synod 2022. Please ask God to guide their decision-making with wisdom and love as they do their work.

June 10, 2021 - (Resonate: Germany) Resonate missionaries David Kromminga and Mary Buteyn planted a church with and for newcomers in Berlin, Germany. Please pray for this church as they connect with their surrounding community. "Ask God for people to respond to Jesus' invitation in their lives," ask David and Mary.