

***Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!***  
***Pastor John Knoester***  
***July 4, 2021***

\* Please stand in body or in spirit

*"Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;"*

Prelude

Welcome

\* Sung Call to Worship: LUYH #551 v. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6  
*"All Creatures of Our God and King"*

**All Sing**

1. All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice with us and sing:  
alleluia, alleluia!  
O burning sun with golden beam,  
and shining moon with silver gleam,  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Women Only**

3. Cool flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for your Lord to hear;  
alleluia, alleluia!  
Fierce fire, so masterful and bright,  
providing us with warmth and light,  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Men Only**

4. Earth ever fertile, day by day  
bring forth your blessings on our way,  
alleluia, alleluia!  
All flowers and fruits that in you grow,  
let them his glory also show:  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### All Sing

5. All you who are of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part;  
alleluia, alleluia!  
All you who pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and on him cast your care:  
  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### All Sing

6. Let all things their Creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness,  
alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Francis of Assisi; Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams. Public Domain; CCLI #678905

### \* Call to Worship:

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

**People: "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."**

Leader: Great and marvelous are your deeds,  
Lord God Almighty!

**People: Just and true are your ways, King of the ages.**

Leader: Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name?

**People: For you alone are holy.  
All nations will come and worship you!**

- Based on Matthew 11:28-29 and Revelation 15:3-4

\* 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 Response: LUYH #21 v. 1-3 *"This is My Father's World"*

1. This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings  
the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;  
his hand the wonders wrought.
2. This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise;  
the morning light, the lily white,  
declare their Maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair.  
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;  
he speaks to me everywhere.
3. This is my Father's world; oh, let me not forget  
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the Ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King, let the heavens ring! God reigns;  
let the earth be glad.

Words: Maltbie D. Babcock (1858-1901) P.D.; Music: English; adapt.  
Franklin L. Sheppard (1852-1930), P.D.; CCLI #678905 Music (TERRA BEATA  
6.6.8.6 D): English; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard (1852-1930), P.D.

*"There is no shadow of turning with thee;"*

Announcements

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance:

**Leader:** The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**People:** **As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the LORD has compassion for those  
who fear him.**

**Leader:** For he knows how we were made;  
he remembers that we are dust.

**People:** **But the steadfast love of the LORD is from  
everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,  
and his righteousness to children’s children,  
to those who keep his covenant  
and remember to do his commandments.**

—Psalm 103:8, 13-14, 17-18, NRSV

\* Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH #348 v. 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*

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

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

*“Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;”*

Scripture Reading: I Peter 4:12-19 (pg. 1203 in pew Bible)

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“A Final Word on How to Endure Trials”***

Time of Prayer

*“As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.”*

Song of Reflection: “Christ My Sure and Steady Anchor”

– Sovereign Grace

\* We Profess our Faith: Our hope in the age to come

Leader: God saves the world through Jesus.  
Those who call on that name will have life.

**People: Christ’s hand reaches out beyond those who say  
“Lord” to the infants who live in the atmosphere  
of faith, even to the farthest stars and planets  
of all creation.**

Leader: The boundaries of God’s love are not known;  
the Spirit works at the ends of the world  
before the church has there spoken a word.

**People: God will renew the world through Jesus,  
who will put all unrighteousness out,  
purify the works of human hands,  
and perfect their fellowship in divine love.**

Leader: Christ will wipe away every tear;  
death shall be no more.

**People: There will be a new heaven and a new earth,  
and all creation will be filled with God’s glory.**

\* God’s Blessing

\*Parting Praise: LUYH #659 v. 1-4 *"Nearer, Still Nearer"*

1. Nearer, still nearer, close to thy heart,  
draw me, my Savior, so precious thou art.  
Fold me, O fold me close to thy breast;  
shelter me safe in that haven of rest,  
shelter me safe in that haven of rest.
2. Nearer, still nearer, nothing I bring,  
naught as an offering to Jesus, my King—  
only my sinful, now contrite heart;  
grant me the cleansing thy blood doth impart,  
grant me the cleansing thy blood doth impart.
3. Nearer, still nearer, Lord, to be thine,  
sin with its follies I gladly resign,  
all of its pleasures, pomp and its pride;  
give me but Jesus, my Lord crucified,  
give me but Jesus, my Lord crucified.
4. Nearer, still nearer, while life shall last,  
till safe in glory my anchor is cast;  
through endless ages, ever to be  
nearer, my Savior, still nearer to thee,  
nearer, my Savior, still nearer to thee.

*Words and Music: Lelia N. Morris (1862-1929), P.D.; CCLI# 678905*

Postlude

In **1 Timothy 1:17** we read: "Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever." We welcome everyone and invite all to join in offering honor and glory to God. Worshiping with hearts and hands and voices, we can each experience inspiration today.

	<i>Today 7/4</i>	<i>Next Week 7/11</i>
Sound:	Tim Hibma	Devin Van Zanten
Projection:	Hannah Van Hofwegen	Devin Van Zanten
Video	Carson Blom	Carson Blom
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

# First CRC Announcements

**July 4, 2021**

## **OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

Today, the Lord willing, our mom **Wilma** and some of her family will be in attendance to celebrate her 100th birthday! What an enormous blessing God has given us in her long, healthy life! **Please join us for a short time of fellowship with cake and coffee after the service in the annex.** Her actual birthday is tomorrow, July 5. If you want to visit her at a later date, please call Life Care Center (360.856.6867) to get their latest visitation rules. She still appreciates and looks forward to phone calls or notes. Address: Wilma Paul c/o Life Care Center, Room 111A, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284. Her personal phone: 360.395.4782 Bill Paul and family, John Paul and family

**Church Committees:** A special 'thank you' to all those who have already volunteered their time and talents to serve on the various committees of our church. The committees for the 2021-2022 church year are being formed. If you would like to be a part of a certain committee (and are not already serving a 3-year term) please let Beth and/or an elder know by **next Sunday, July 11**. Committees are listed in the back of the directory.

**And speaking of committees...** If you are on the schedule and are unable to be here – we all know how busy summers can be, especially – please find a replacement from your committee and let Beth know by Weds. so she can put it into the bulletin announcements. This way we cut out the middleman! Thank you so much.

**Sunday service link for June 27, 2021:** <https://youtu.be/msA-JkakD9A>

*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.

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 – I Peter 4:7-11
4. May 16 – *“Unjust Suffering – Christ and Us”* – I Peter 2:18-25
5. May 23 – *“Attractive Christian Virtues”* – I Peter 3:8-12 – I Peter 4:12-19
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 Graciously Given to Faithfully Serve”*
9. July 4 – *“A Final Word on How to Endure Trials”*
10. July 11 – *“Servant Leadership”* – I Peter 5:1-4

### ***Birthdays for June:***

***Jill Haagsma*** celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 13; ***Adriana Swanson*** celebrated her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday on June 12.

### ***Birthdays for July:***

***Wilma Paul*** will be celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 5; ***Grace Feddema*** will celebrate her 98th birthday on July 6; ***Henry Vander Veen*** will celebrate his 94th on July 23.



### ***Anniversaries for June:***

***Jack & Trudy Van Klaveren*** celebrated forty years of marriage on June 5; ***Terry & Joni Beezhold*** will celebrate 35 years of marriage on June 27; ***Dennis & Melba De Kok*** will celebrate 53 years of marriage on June 28.

### **DATES TO NOTE:**

***Men's Breakfast Bible Study*** will meet on Wednesday, July 14, at 7:00 a.m. at Sheri's Restaurant in Burlington. They are studying the book of Acts.

### **ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT**

There is a copy of a recent update ***from Jon & Trista Vander Wal & Family*** up on the Missionary Board! Copies are also available for you to pick up.

### **REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Get the Denomination's Award-Winning Magazine for FREE** - The Banner, the magazine of the Christian Reformed Church, is free! Sign up for free print delivery and a weekly e-newsletter by visiting [thebanner.org/signup](http://thebanner.org/signup). Given the Award of Merit (2018) for best denominational magazine by the Evangelical Press Association, The Banner offers CRC news; thoughtful articles; and reviews of books, movies, and music. [TheBanner.org/signup](http://TheBanner.org/signup)

**CREATIVE IN CHURCH** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Church is more than just a building or service. The church is God's family. God knows we need people with different gifts around us to grow. Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for all the new content.

**GROUNDWORK: SEX, FOOD, AND FAITH-INFORMED CHOICES** - Should your faith impact the choices you make in life? Only the big ones or the everyday ones too? Join Groundwork as we study 1 Corinthians 7-8 to hear the Apostle Paul's guidance for how faith influences our decisions - even the ones we make about sex and food. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Certificate in Worship Leadership** - Worship Leaders! Start the conversation now with your church to consider signing up for the online Certificate in Worship Leadership course. Interested? Check out this Network post, which includes a link to the form which will give you a reduced price by registering through Worship Ministries. <https://network.crcna.org/worship/online-worship-training-designing-creative-worship> Registration with Samford runs July 15 - August 1. Questions? Email ([worship@crcna.org](mailto:worship@crcna.org)) or call us (877.272.6202) we are happy to chat. More information on this course is available at: [www.samford.edu/worship-arts/online-certificate](http://www.samford.edu/worship-arts/online-certificate)

**Disability Concerns Leadership Training 2021** - Join us August 11 and 12th for our annual Disability Concerns Leadership Training Event. 11am - 2pm Eastern. Hosted online this year. All welcome! Find out more at: <https://bit.ly/whosmissinginmychurch>

**July Safe Church Webinar with Scot Mcknight:** July 7th - Join us online Wednesday, July 7th 12p - 1p Eastern (9-10a Pacific) when Dr. Scot Mcknight, author of *The Church Called Tov: Forming a Goodness Culture that Resists Abuses of Power and Promotes Healing*, will be the guest speaker for our Safe Church monthly webinar. To find out more: <https://bit.ly/ChurchCalledTov>

**At-home Faith Formation Tip** - The Practice of Remembering: The faith practice of remembering centers our attention on what God has done in our lives, deepening our assurance that God is with us here and now, and expanding our hope and anticipation for what God will yet do. Take some time this week to make a "faith timeline" to remember what God has done in your life and in the lives of people you love. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices](http://crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices).)



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](mailto:secretary@firstcrcmv.com) by 9:00 am Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

**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 those recuperating from surgeries and going in for regular cancer treatments.

Continue to pray for those families who have recently lost loved ones.

**PRAISE:** We rejoice and give thanks to God with Rynne Vander Pol with being done with her cancer treatments this past week on June 24.

**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; **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)**

**July 4, 2021 - (ReFrame Ministries: China)** Two of our largest WeChat channels were shut down recently, leaving about 240,000 followers without access to devotions and other biblical content. This came as part of a broad wave of restrictions on Christian content by the government. Pray that people in China may find other Christian resources online, including some of ReFrame's other social media channels.

**July 3, 2021 - (Safe Church Ministry: Webinar)** Safe Church works with a vision that one day our churches will be free from abuse. As we work toward this goal, our ministry continues to bring in experts to share how to prevent and address abuse. Pray that our webinar with Scot McKnight on July 7 will offer more guidance to our community (see [bit.ly/ChurchCalledTov](https://bit.ly/ChurchCalledTov)).

**July 2, 2021 - (Resonate Global Mission: Cohorts)** Pray for individuals and churches in Canada and the United States who are participating in Resonate's Go Local cohorts. Ask the Holy Spirit to work in and through participants as they join God at work in their local communities. Pray that people will be able to build meaningful relationships with neighbors that lead to conversations about faith.

**July 1, 2021 - (World Renew: Human trafficking prevention)** Forced labor, child marriage, and sexual exploitation are all results of human trafficking. This Canada Day, World Renew invites you to join in standing against injustice. O God, grant us courage to speak for people who have no voice, give us determination to act, and fill us with faith to trust in your promises, that we may reflect Christ's gracious love.

**June 30, 2021 - (Resonate: Nicaragua)** Last fall, two category-4 hurricanes devastated parts of Nicaragua and other countries in Central America. Steve Holtrop, a Resonate missionary and regional mission leader for Central America, facilitated trauma-healing workshops to help people start to heal emotionally and spiritually from the disasters. Ask the Holy Spirit to continue to work in people's hearts and minds.

**June 29, 2021 - (Chaplaincy and Care: Care and safety)** With ongoing COVID-19 positivity rates, our chaplains serving in long-term care, hospice, and hospitals continue to provide pastoral care in the midst of safety restrictions and great grief. Pray that they will be a light of hope for the people they serve and carve out space for their own self-care in the midst of this pandemic.

**June 28, 2021 - (ReFrame: Japanese ministry)** Seiryō shared that he has been reading the Bible every morning and reading our Japanese devotions in the evenings. He said that he feels closer to God because of these opportunities to go deeper with Scripture. Praise God! Pray that Seiryō will continue to discuss God's Word with his friends and loved ones.