

***Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!***  
***October 24, 2021***  
**10:30 A.M. Worship Service**

\* Please stand in body or in spirit.

*"Immortal, invisible, God only wise,"*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

\* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #579 v. 1-4

*"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above,  
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
4. Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all praise we would render; O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Words: Walter C. Smith, 1867, alt., P.D.; Music: Roberts' Caniadau y Cyssegr,  
1839, P.D. CCLI #678905

\* Litany of Praise

Leader: In your wisdom, O God,  
you call us here to worship you.

People: **We gather, alive to the Word of God.**

**Leader:** You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant,  
ready to listen and respond with heart, soul,  
strength, and mind.

**People:** **We listen, alive to the Word of God.**

**Leader:** You call us to be always watchful  
for your Word of wisdom,  
sometimes startling and unexpected,  
sometimes still and quiet,  
but always dwelling among us.

**People:** **We watch and wait for the Word of God.**

\* 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!**

\* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #406 v. 1, 3, 5

*"Lord, I Bring My Songs to You"*

1. LORD, I bring my songs to you,  
every day declaring praise.  
All the meek shall hear my words  
always telling of your ways.  
Join with me your heart and voice,  
praise the LORD, in him rejoice.
3. Taste and see that God is good,  
sheltering all who love his name.  
Fear the LORD and heed his word;  
those who fear him know no shame.  
Lion's young from hunger cry;  
God his own will satisfy.

5. God the LORD sees all our needs;  
he will answer us in grace.  
But against all evil ones  
God will surely turn his face.  
When the contrite cry, he hears,  
saving them and ending fears.

*Words: Marie J. Post, 1985, © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources CCLI #678905*

*"In light inaccessible, hid from our eyes,"*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Leader: All the prophets testify about Christ  
that everyone who believes in him  
receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

—based on Acts 10:43

God's Will for Our Lives: Proverbs 8:32-35

Song of Response: LUYH #117 v. 1, 2, 4 *"Blest Are They"*

1. Blest are they, the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of God.  
Blest are they, full of sorrow;  
they shall be consoled.

*Refrain*

*Rejoice and be glad!  
Blessed are you;  
holy are you.  
Rejoice and be glad!  
Yours is the kingdom of God.*

2. Blest are they, the lowly ones;  
they shall inherit the earth.  
Blest are they who hunger and thirst;  
they shall have their fill.

*Refrain*

4. Blest are they who seek peace;  
they are the children of God.  
Blest are they who suffer in faith;  
the glory of God is theirs.

*Refrain*

*Rejoice and be glad!  
Blessed are you;  
holy are you.  
Rejoice and be glad!  
Yours is the kingdom of God.*

MATTHEW 5:3-12; Words and Music: David Haas (b. 1957), based on Matthew 5:3-12,  
Descant: Michael Joncas (b. 1951); © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.; One License.net  
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*(During the last verse of this song the children  
are invited forward for the Children's Message)*

Children's Message: Marjo Rouw

*(Following the message children ages 3- 3rd grade  
are dismissed for Children's Worship)*

\* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #53 v. 1, 5, 18 *"Song of the Prophets"*

1. In ages past the mighty Lord  
by prophets spoke the Word,  
and from their lips God's great design  
throughout the earth was heard.  
In revelation, parable,  
bold fantasy, and dream,  
they echoed God's eternal vow  
to ransom and redeem.
5. Blest be God's name from age to age,  
who strength and wisdom brings;  
who makes the roaring lions submit,  
and silent tongues to sing.  
Life's deep and hidden mysteries  
no more confound our will,  
for God will keep the covenant  
to love and lead us still.

18. Yet still in present, troubled days  
we seek to hear God's voice,  
and in the face of our distress,  
find reason to rejoice.  
Grant us the wisdom to discern  
through faith who we should be—  
a fallen race, restored through grace,  
a captive world set free.

Words: Michael Morgan © Faith Alive Christian Resources; Music: Irish traditional; arr. Rory Cooney (b. 1952) ©1990 GIA Publications, Inc.; OneLicense.net License #A-711218

*"Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days"*

Scripture Reading: Daniel 2:1-23  
(Pew Bible Page 873)

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Nebuchadnezzar's Dream"***

Time of Prayer

*"Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise."*

\* Song of Application: LUYH #54 v. 1-3 *"Wisdom Calls"*

1. At the crossroads of decision  
Wisdom calls to all and each:  
"Come, my children, learn and listen—  
heed the ways I seek to teach."  
Conscious thoughts or intuition  
frame her words of grace and peace:  
"Choose the pathway of the Lord."
2. On the ash heap of disaster  
"Where is God?" we cry and weep.  
Friends are false and faith uncertain;  
Wisdom seems beyond our reach.  
Still she whispers from the whirlwind  
of our pain and of our grief:  
"Trust the goodness of the Lord."

3. On a cross and in a manger  
God's compassion is made plain.  
"Word made flesh" is God among us;  
"He is risen" brings hope for pain.  
"Come, you weary," pleads the Savior;  
Wisdom calls to us again:  
"Cast your burdens on the Lord."

Words: Carol Bechtel © 2012 Carol Bechtel, admin.  
Faith Alive Christian Resources

\* We Profess our Faith: Our World Belongs to God – Art. 1-2

**Leader:** As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world—  
which some seek to control,  
but which others view with despair—  
we declare with joy and trust:

**People:** **Our world belongs to God!**

**Leader:** From the beginning, through all the crises  
of our times, until his kingdom fully comes,  
God keeps covenant forever.

**People:** **Our world belongs to him!**  
**God is King! Let the earth be glad!**  
**Christ is Victor; his rule has begun. Hallelujah!**  
**The Spirit is at work, renewing the creation.**  
**Praise the Lord.**

\* God's Blessing

\* Closing Hymn of Praise: LUYH #859 v. 1-4 *"Be Thou My Vision"*

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

## Postlude

**Welcome!** Let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy." Those are the words of the psalmist in Psalm 5:11. Whoever you are, wherever you are from, we welcome you and we invite you to "be glad" with us about God's goodness and mercy. Let us "ever sing for joy" and praise God with profoundly grateful hearts. 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.

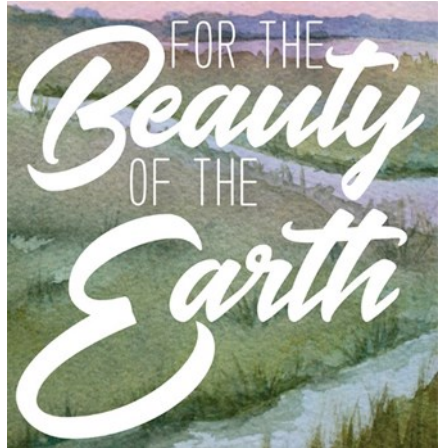
	Today 10/24	Next Week 10/31
Sound:	Mardy S	Tim H.
Projection:	Tim H.	Hannah VH
Video	Devin VZ	Brandon S.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

# First CRC Bulletin Announcements

**October 24, 2021**

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY:**

**Pictures Needed!** This year's Thanksgiving Service is going to follow the various themes of the beloved hymn, "*For the Beauty of the Earth.*" In preparation for it we would like any of you budding photographers to send Beth a few of your favorite family pictures. Not only are we looking for photos of God's gorgeous creation (sunsets, flowers, mountains, rivers, etc.), but we are also looking for pictures of significant life events (graduations, wedding, anniversaries, birth of a



child/grandchild, etc.) as well as memorable life experiences (sports events, family vacation pictures, silly children pictures, etc.). These pictures will be used throughout the service as we give thanks to God for the 'beauty of the earth,' the 'wonder of each hour,' the 'joy of human love,' and most importantly of all the 'best gift divine.' We will try to utilize them all, depending on how many pictures we receive! Send them to: [secretary@firstcrcmv.com](mailto:secretary@firstcrcmv.com)

**Thank you so much** for your September gift to our ministry with Wycliffe! You are a crucial part of the team helping to get God's Word to those who have not yet heard. - In Christ, **The Vander Wal family**

**Sunday School Service Opportunity (and Adults!):** Between now and Sunday, Nov. 14 we are focusing on making 23(ish) Thanksgiving care packages for our college age young adults and older. Some ideas might be baked goodies, homemade gifts, letters/cards of encouragement, Starbucks gift cards, etc. You may place your items in the labeled basket, or on the table, marked accordingly in the Fellowship Hall beginning on **Sunday, October 31.** .....





**Christmas Blessing:** The Evangelism Committee would like to do a small church project for the purpose of blessing our neighbors. Thus, this year we will be making "Christmas Cookie Jars." Essentially these are decorative mason jars filled with the ingredients for making holiday cookies. A Christmas greeting, recipe, and a brief invitation to our Christmas services will be attached to the jar. The goal is 300 'gifts' and the first thing we need to do is collect the jars. **Thus, if you have any 8 oz (pint) mason jars at home (with lids preferred, but not necessary) that you would be willing to donate we will gladly receive**

**them!** The rest will likely need to be purchased (approximately \$2 a jar).

**Please bring these jars to church no later Sunday, November 14** after which we will purchase whatever is needed. .... There are sign up sheets in the annex for volunteers to bring ingredients and to sign up for 'assembly' (tentatively Saturday, Dec. 4) and 'distribution' (tentatively Dec. 4 or 5).

#### **Ingredients List:**

- 5 pounds bags of flour (need 14)
- 5 pounds bags of sugar (need 9)
- 10-12 ounce bag of chocolate chips -2 cups (need 38 bags)
- 10-12 ounce bag of Christmas M&M's (need 38 bags)
- 1 box of baking soda (1 pound)
- 1 box of salt

**Local Worship Conference!** Tim Vande Griend, the Director of Worship Arts at Crosspoint CRC in Chino, CA. will be in Mount Vernon the weekend of **Nov. 12-14**. Tim is an extremely gifted musician and teacher who is deeply beloved by those who have been impacted by his ministry. All church members and friends are invited to attend any one, or all, of the following workshops and services at the First Christian Reformed Church in Mount Vernon:

#### **Friday, Nov. 12, 7-9 PM:**

We'll begin the weekend spending some time together in worship with songs, scriptures, and prayers, followed by an interactive conversation about worship. We'll discuss foundational questions as well as practical ones as a means of pursuing worship renewal in one's local setting.

**Saturday, Nov. 13, 10 AM – Noon:**

This workshop will focus on practical skills in worship leadership, including: musical skills for instrumentalists and vocalists, verbal leadership, Scripture reading, transitions, and more.

**Saturday Lunch: Noon – 1 PM (For those also participating in the afternoon workshop)**

**Saturday, Nov. 13, 1 PM – 3 PM**

This afternoon workshop will be preparation specifically for Sunday morning's worship service at First CRC. All those interested in participating are encouraged to sign up accordingly

**Sunday, Nov. 14, 10:30 AM – Sunday morning service!**

\*\*We want to do hospitality well! Therefore, for 'planning purposes' it would be helpful to know how many people will be attending each of the workshops. If possible, please send an RSVP email either to the First CRC office at [secretary@firstcrcmv.com](mailto:secretary@firstcrcmv.com), or to Pastor John Knoester at [Jknoes14@hotmail.com](mailto:Jknoes14@hotmail.com). Even if you don't RSVP, please feel welcome to attend any of the sessions!

**Check Your Mailboxes!!** If you are volunteering this year in any capacity involving children, you will find the SAFE CHURCH paperwork in your mailboxes. At this time we need to figure out the "certification process", as the website we use has changed during the pandemic, so instructions for that will be coming later.

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:**

**Greeters:** Oct. 24 – Shirley Boonstra & Elly Cuperus; Oct. 31 – Dennis & Melba DeKok

**Coffee Hosts:** Oct. 24 – Dick & Linda Gudmunson; Oct. 31 – Clarence & Eleanor Klunder

**Upcoming Dates:**

**Tuesday, Nov. 2, 7:00AM:** Morning Men's Bible Study at Shari's in Burlington

**Links for Sunday's Service:** Oct. 17: <https://youtu.be/K2zkhCctbKA>

Dear Friends,

I suspect when most of us think about the book of Daniel we immediately recall the stories of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace and Daniel in the lion's den. Such stories are often taught in a way to provide us a model for how to live for Christ in a hostile world. Certainly that is an important part of their purpose.

Yet, the reality is, very few of us can really claim to come close to such a standard. As sinners, we often fall miserably short. Which is precisely why the book of Daniel points us to someone even greater who also lived a life of exile and separation. His name, of course, is Jesus.

In the weeks to come we're going to study the first half of the book of Daniel and observe how it points us to Jesus Himself. Listed below is our study plan and as always I encourage you to read the text ahead of time before each Sunday. May God bless us as we engage in this study together! In His Grace, - Pastor John

1. Oct. 17 – Daniel 1 – *“Exiled in Babylon”*
2. Oct. 24 – Daniel 2:1-23 – *“Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream”*
3. Oct. 31 – Daniel 2:24-49 – *“The Interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream”*
4. Nov. 7 – Guest Pastor Aaron Oosterwyk
5. Nov. 14 – Guest Tim Vande Griend – *“Worship Convictions Conversation”*
6. Nov. 21 - Daniel 3 – *“The Fiery Furnace”*

***Birthdays for October: Sylvia Van Zanten (Oct. 10, 71 years), Steve Jungquist (Oct. 17, 71 years), Wayne Doss (Oct. 19, 74 years), Marinus Rouw (Oct. 12, 84 years), Joni Beezhold (Oct. 30).*** Happy Birthday and prayers for continued health!

***Anniversaries for September: Kevin & Glenda Kok, 39 years.***

*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. 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.*

### **ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT**

**Save the Date!** Celebrate a medieval Christmas with the acclaimed NOËL Celtic and classical harp ensemble and benefit **New Earth Recovery**, a faith-based nonprofit operating recovery homes in Skagit County.

**Tuesday Dec 7 @ 7:00 pm**, here at First Christian Reformed Church. Harps, flute, strings, poetry, and treats following. Free event with a freewill offering.



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:**

**Michelle Kuipers** will be able to go back to work on Friday. Apparently the Covid had also caused significant swelling in the neck and face area. However, she recently was able to receive a prescription that has effectively reduced the swelling. We praise God for His healing hand! Both Darin and Michelle also want to express their gratitude for all the prayers offered on their behalf. Thank you for being the church.

Pray for healing for **Tish Ackermann**, who was diagnosed with Covid this past week, and for **Greg Ackermann's father**, who was taken to the ER this past week with significant pain.

Pray for continued healing for **Wilma Paul**.

Please continue to pray for **Les Faber**, as he has entered into Hospice care. Please also continue to pray for **Joy** and the entire Faber family in the days and weeks to come.

Please continue to keep **Adelaida Vega** in your prayers.

Please continue to pray for members who have lost loved ones.

### **SHUT INS:**

**Nell Annema and 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 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)**

**Monday October 18** - from: Diaconal Ministries Canada: Deacons as leaders

Pray for deacons as they equip their congregations in service, justice, stewardship, compassion, and prophetic criticism, particularly in today's uncertain times. Ask God to grant deacons an abundance of wisdom (James 1:5), love for God and others (Matt. 22:37-39), and faith that God is able to work in them and through them (Heb. 11:6; Phil. 2:13).

**Tuesday October 19** - from: ReFrame: English ministry

Pray for Jen, who contacted our Prayer Team and wrote, "I need direction. I feel that God had put me on a shelf and had forgotten about me. Please pray that I have wisdom and direction and know where the Holy Spirit is leading."

**Wednesday October 20** - from: World Renew: Hunger awareness

Every October, thousands of people around the globe recognize and participate in world hunger awareness in honor of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1945. Join with us in God's work of renewing the lives of 821 million hungry people in the world today, and ask God to transform hunger into hope.

**Thursday October 21** - from: Resonate: Nebraska

F Street Neighborhood Church, a Resonate partner in Lincoln, Neb., is starting Celebrate Recovery. "This is about Christ and his work in our lives, regardless of our addictions, habits, and struggles," said church planter Jeff Heerspink. Ask God to work through this new ministry to transform people's lives.

**Friday October 22** -from: Raise Up: Global Coffee Break: Ongoing work

Pray for Global Coffee Break partners around the world as they use Discover Your Bible materials to reach out. Pray also for the translation of these study materials into many languages, and for the protection and growth of groups. May new Christians be born from the Word and develop a rich foundation in studying the Bible.

**Saturday October 23** -from: ReFrame: Chinese ministry

Many of our Chinese web resources and social media accounts have recently been shut down by the Chinese government. Pray that the good news of Jesus will reach the people who have lost access to these resources and devotions.

**Sunday October 24** - from: Chaplaincy and Care: Spiritual care

Starting today, throughout Canada and the United States, chaplains and institutions are celebrating Spiritual Care Week to recognize the work of spiritual caregivers in their midst. Please pray alongside our 155 chaplains and spiritual care practitioners as they share their stories and celebrate their ministries in their local communities.