

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
November 21, 2021
10:30 A.M. Worship Service

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

“When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,”

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #582 v. 1-4

“You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim”

1. You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all.
2. God rules in the height, almighty to save;
though hid from our sight, his presence we have;
the great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King.
3. “Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!”
let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;
the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.
4. Then let us adore and give him his right:
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing—with angels above—
and thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1744, alt., P.D.; Music: arr. William Croft, 1708, P.D.;
CCLI #678905

* Litany of Praise

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!

* Song of Praise: LUYH #427 v. 1, 2, 5 *"How Firm a Foundation"*

1. 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?
2. "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.
5. "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

*(Following the singing of this song the children
are invited forward for the Children's Message)*

"My grace all sufficient shall be your supply;"

Children's Message: Marjo Rouw

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

* Song of Preparation: LUYH #844 v. 1-5

"Lift Up Your Hearts unto the Lord"

1. Lift up your hearts unto the Lord,
lift up your hearts unto the Lord.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
lift up your hearts unto the Lord!
2. In Christ the world has been redeemed,
in Christ the world has been redeemed.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
in Christ the world has been redeemed.
3. His resurrection sets us free,
his resurrection sets us free.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
his resurrection sets us free.
4. Therefore we celebrate the feast,
therefore we celebrate the feast.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
therefore we celebrate the feast.

Acapella:

5. Sing alleluia to the Lord,
Sing alleluia to the Lord.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
Sing alleluia to the Lord.

Words: st. 1-4 from early Christian liturgy; st. 5 Linda Stassen, 1974, © 1974
Linda Stassen; Music: Linda Stassen, 1974; harm. Dale Grotenhuis, 1986, © 1974,
1986 Linda Stassen; CCLI #678905

"The flame shall not hurt you; I only design"

Scripture Reading: Daniel 3 (Pew Bible Pg. 875)

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"The Fiery Furnace"***

Time of Prayer

"Your dross to consume and your gold to refine."

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #177 v. 1-4 *"Oh, to See the Dawn"*

1. Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then
nailed to a cross of wood.
This the power of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.

2. Oh, to see the pain written on your face,
bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Every bitter thought, every evil deed
crowning your bloodstained brow.
This the power of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.

3. Now the daylight flees; now the ground beneath
quakes as its Maker bows his head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life,
"Finished!" the victory cry.
This the power of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.

4. Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,
for through your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death; life is mine to live,
won through your selfless love!
This the power of the cross:
Son of God slain for us.
What a love, what a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © 2005 Thankyou Music (PRS), desc. Larry Visser ©2012 Thankyou Music, admin. EMICMGPublishing.com; CCLI #678905

* We Profess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A #94,
Our World Belongs to God Art. 23-24

Leader: Q. What does the Lord require in the first commandment?

People: **A. That I, not wanting to endanger my very salvation, avoid and shun all idolatry, magic, superstitious rites, and prayer to saints or to other creatures.**

That I sincerely acknowledge the only true God, trust in Him alone, look to him for every good thing humbly and patiently, love him, fear him, and honor him, with all my heart.

In short, that I give up anything rather than go against his will in any way.

Leader: Art. 23: When Israel spurned God's love—
lusting after other gods,
trusting in power and wealth,
and hurting the weak—
God scattered them among the nations,
yet kept a faithful remnant and promised them
the Messiah: a prophet to speak good news,
a king to crush evil and rule the earth with justice,
a priest to be sacrificed for sinners.
God promised to forgive their sins
and give them a new heart and a new spirit,
moving them to walk in his ways.

People: **Art. 24: Remembering the promise to reconcile the world to himself,
God joined our humanity in Jesus Christ—
the eternal Word made flesh.
He is the long-awaited Messiah,
one with us and one with God,
fully human and fully divine,
conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

* God's Blessing:

May the love of the Father enfold us,
the wisdom of the Son enlighten us,
and the fire of the Spirit kindle us;
and may the blessing of the Lord god
come down upon us
and remain with us always. Amen.

* Closing Hymn of Praise: LUYH #427 v. 3, 4 *"How Firm a Foundation"*

3. "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.

4. "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.

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

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. 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 11/21	Thanksgiving Eve	11/28/21
Sound:	Henry VZ	Mardy S.	Mardy S.
Projection:	Devin VZ	Tim H.	Tim H.
Video	Tim H./Dick G.	Devin VZ	Devin VZ
Offering:	General Fund	TBD	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

November 21, 2021

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Young Adults! You are invited to a night of pizza and fellowship at Coconut Kenny's (1600 S. 28 Burlington Blvd) at 6pm. It will be a great time to "catch up" on how you've been and what God has been doing in your life. If you are interested in coming, please RSVP no later than Christmas Day to Pastor John, at 360-941-5902 or jknoes14@hotmail.com

New Attendees – Church Information Sunday! If you are a frequent visitor on Sunday mornings or have recently have started attending on a regular basis – you are invited to attend a brief 'informational gathering' on Sunday, December 5 immediately following the Sunday morning service. During this time a couple members of the church leadership team will take the time to share a little bit more about the church and also be available to answer any questions you might have. Essentially we want to do hospitality well and would love to get to know you more! This gathering will take place at the front of the church shortly after the service and shouldn't last long. We look forward to having a great conversation!

Worship Service YouTube Links:

Friday 11-12 Worship Conference: https://youtu.be/t3cec_6RDVI

Sunday 11-14 Service: <https://youtu.be/JBcNOSJEAkk>

Christmas Blessing Cookie Jar Update: Thanks to all who have given to this project so far. **We have collected all 300 of the jars.** There is still a need for 2 more 5 pound bags of flour; 4 more 4 pound bags of white sugar; 26 more 1 pound bags of brown sugar; 8 more 12 ounce bags for chocolate chips, and 7 more 10 ounce bags of Christmas M&M's. Please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall if you are willing to bring any of these items. All ingredients for the cookies need to be at church by Sunday, November 28. We also would love to have more volunteers to put the jars together on Saturday, December 4 - 9am til noon. A great event for the whole family! Bring a snack to share if you'd like! Please sign-up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

Angel Tree is a program of Prison Fellowship that serves incarcerated parents by providing a pathway for strengthening and restoring their relationships with their children and families. As a church, this gives us the opportunity to share Christ's love by purchasing a Christmas gift for each child which is given on the parent's behalf. Each child receives a gift valued at around \$25.00. On November 28 following the service, *A Program of Prison Fellowship* Angel Tree tags with the child's name, age and suggested gift ideas will be available for you to pick up. Any questions? Call Sylvia Van Zanten at 360-386-7442.



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.

Please get all bulletin announcements to Beth by 10 AM Weds., November 24 this week! Thank you!

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 November: Trudy Van Dyk (Nov. 2); David Schmidt (Nov. 3); Terry Beezhold (Nov. 5); Clarence Vander Griend (Nov. 6 – 93 years!); Cody See (Nov. 6); Alyssa Ackermann (Nov. 7); Jeff Droog (Nov. 19); Jennaya Knoester (Nov. 28); Pam Van Zanten (Nov. 29). Happy Birthday and prayers for continued health!

November Anniversaries: Bob & Marty Hitchcock (Nov. 28)

CALENDAR:

Greeters: November 21 – **Katie Junquist & John & Judy Velasquez;**
Thanksgiving – **Clarence & Eleanor Klunder;**

November 28 – **Henry & Sharon Kuipers**

Coffee Hosts: November 21 – **Mardick & Jill Stevens;** Thanksgiving – **Joe LeClair & John & Judy Valesquez;**

November 28 – **Dennis & Melba DeKok**

NEXT WEEK:

Thanksgiving Eve Service, November 24, 7:00 pm

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, Nov. 30, 7:00AM: Morning Men's Bible Study at Shari's in Burlington
Our Candlelight Service is set for **December 19 at 6:30 pm**

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT -

Save the Date! Celebrate a medieval Christmas with the acclaimed NOËL Celtic and classical **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.

Heather Village, a Christian retirement community in Mount Vernon, is seeking a property manager. Candidates must be a Christian with excellent communication and organizational skills. Previous experience in real estate or property management is preferred. This is a part-time position of up to 10 hours a week with potential for growth. Please submit a resume or list of qualifications by November 30, 2021, to Heather Village, 925 Heather Circle, Mount Vernon WA 98273 or via email to HVoffice2021@gmail.com.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

CRCNA Senior Leadership Search - The Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA) is searching for senior leaders to fill two new positions: a General Secretary and a Chief Administrative Officer. It is hoped that these positions will be filled during Synod 2022, pending approval of the Structure and Leadership Team's report. A search for a third position, Executive Director - Canada, also will begin soon. Please

pray for those involved in these searches. Pray for wisdom and the Holy Spirit's leading. Please also pray for the persons that God is preparing to fill these roles, that they may be equipped for leadership of the church during this time and into the future. For more information, or to apply, visit crcna.org/ExecutiveSearch

At-home Faith Practice Reflection Tip - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Generosity: Read 1 John 3:16-18 and ponder or discuss the following questions. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject) This passage clearly ties love of our neighbor to sharing material possessions with people in need. How do you discover needs in your neighborhood, city, country, and world? What needs are you able to meet? How might you remind yourself daily of God's generous love for you?

Turn Gratitude into Shared Hope - As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving this coming Thursday, may we fix ourselves on gratitude for the Lord's blessings in our lives. We have an opportunity to express this gratitude through our offering to World Renew by sharing His hope with some of the world's families who are currently experiencing poverty. Please give with a cheerful and generous heart to World Renew Free a Family® program this Thanksgiving. For more information, go to worldrenew.net/free-a-family

Supplication Prayers - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Asking God to supply our needs is completely different than making a wish on a birthday candle or writing a letter to Santa. God is much bigger and much better than that! Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content, including The Gifts of Kindness Advent Calendar and the KC parent blog too.

Groundwork: Jonah: Discovering God's Heart - Do you want to know and understand the heart of God? Join Groundwork as we study Jonah 4 to conclude our study of Jonah and witness the stark contrast between our human tendencies and his sovereignty. Together, we'll discuss how we can respond to God's relentless love and abundant mercy in our own lives today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Today is Chaplaincy and Care Sunday - Churches throughout the CRCNA take time to pray for and encourage the frontline work of chaplains today. Chaplaincy and Care Ministry endorses, trains, advocates, and provides care for these specialized ministers and pastors as they serve in institutional settings. Support this essential and exciting ministry by giving at: crcna.org/Chaplaincy/Donate



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 pray for all those affected by the flooding in our area this past week.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Pray continued healing for those affected by COVID.

Pray for continued healing for **Marilyn Cooke, Wilma Paul** and **Corky Vander Griend**.

Please continue to pray for **Les Faber** and 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 November 15 - *Centre for Public Dialogue: China*

Pray for Christians in China who regularly declare their unwavering faith in the face of oppression and persecution. Pray for protection and safety from physical harm and for provision for material needs. Pray for protection from evil—that God will guard the hearts of his people from despondency, fear, and isolation.

Tuesday November 16 - *Resonate: Cambodia*

Resonate missionaries Ly Chhay and Navy Chann Chhay ask for prayer for the pastors and churches they work with in Cambodia. Pray for “God’s direction for the local church to carry out their ministry in their area and beyond,” they ask.

Wednesday November 17 - *Safe Church: Learning*

Today the Safe Church and Women's Leadership ministries are hosting a conversation with Beth Allison Barr, author of *The Making of Biblical Womanhood*, on how the Bible has been interpreted regarding the roles of women. Pray that everyone will come together with a posture of humility and a deep desire to learn. See network.crcna.org/safe-church.

Thursday November 18 - *Pastor Church Resources: Grace and guidance*

These days there are many opportunities for congregations to tackle topics that bring out strong opinions, emotions, and responses. Talking about “tough stuff” is important and healthy. Pray that as these conversations take place, all may listen well, honor each other, extend much grace, and listen deeply for the Spirit’s guidance.

Friday November 19 - *Resonate: Michigan*

Hesed Community Church, a Resonate church plant partner in Detroit, Mich., recently purchased another ministry house! Pray for the Holy Spirit’s guidance as they move into the neighborhood.

Saturday November 20 - *ReFrame: World Children's Day*

This year on World Children’s Day we are focusing on children in schools across Indonesia who receive devotional booklets and watch videos supplied by our Indonesian ministry team. Pray that

the biblical messages in these resources will offer hope and practical ways for young people in Indonesia to learn about faith in Christ.

Sunday November 21 - *Chaplaincy and Care: Chaplaincy Sunday*

Pray for and encourage the work of our 155 CRC chaplains ministering to over 2 million people each year in hospitals, hospices, counseling agencies, long-term care facilities, correctional facilities, community service agencies, veterans centers, the military, and the workplace.

May our chaplains be a light in the darkness, bringing Christ's grace, peace, and healing.