

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
Guest Pastor Jon Westra
January 16, 2022 – Sanctity of Life Sunday
10:30 A.M. Worship Service

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

"I have a Maker, He formed my heart."

Prelude

Sanctity of Life Video: God's Love

Welcome

* Opening Hymn: Celebration Hymnal #156 v. 1-3 *"The Love of God"*

1. The love of God is greater far
than tongue or pen can ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star,
and reaches to the lowest hell;
The guilty pair, bowed down with care,
God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled,
and pardoned from his sin.

Refrain

*O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure
the saints' and angels' song!*

2. When years of time shall pass away,
and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,
when men who here refuse to pray,
on rocks and hills and mountains call,
God's love so sure shall still endure,
all measureless and strong;
redeeming grace to Adam's race—
the saints' and angels' song.

Refrain

3. Could we with ink the ocean fill,
and were the skies of parchment made,
were every stalk on earth a quill,
and every man a scribe by trade,
to write the love of God above
would drain the ocean dry;
nor could the scroll contain the whole,
tho' stretched from sky to sky.

Refrain

*O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure
the saints' and angels' song!*

Text: Frederick M. Lehman; Meir Ben Isaac Nehorai, stanza 3; Music: Frederick M. Lehman; Public Domain; CCLI #678905

* Opening Response

Leader: How great is the love the Father has lavished
on us, that we might be called children of God.

People: And that is what we are!

Leader: Beloved, let us love one another,
because love is from God;
everyone who loves is born of God
and knows God.

**People: God's love was revealed among us in this way:
God sent his only Son into the world
so that we might live through him.**

Leader: Beloved, since God loved us so much,

People: We also ought to love one another.

* Hymn of Response: LUYH #695 v. 1,2,4 "And Can it Be"

1. And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain—
for me, who caused his bitter death?
Amazing love! How can it be
that you, my Lord, should die for me?

Refrain

*Amazing love! How can it be
that you, my Lord, should die for me?*

2. He left his Father's throne above—
so free, so infinite his grace—
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race!
What mercy this, immense and free,
for, O my God, it found out me!

Refrain

4. No condemnation now I dread,
for Christ, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Refrain

Words: Charles Wesley, 1738, alt, Public Domain
Music: Thomas Campbell, 1825, Public Domain

*Opening Prayer

* Song of Response: LUYH #339 v. 1-2 "*He Knows My Name*"

1. I have a Maker, He formed my heart;
before even time began, my life was in his hands.

Chorus

*He knows my name, He knows my every thought;
He sees each tear that falls, and He hears me when I call.*

2. I have a Father, He calls me His own;
He'll never leave me, no matter where I go.

Chorus

Instrumental Interlude

Chorus x2

Tag

He hears me when I call.
Hears me when I call.

"He Knows My Name" Words and Music by Tommy Walker,
© 1996 Doulos Publishing, CCLI # 678905

"Before even time began my life was in his hands."

Ministry Video: Imago Dei

*(Immediately following the video the children
are invited forward for the Children's Message)*

Children's Message – Mrs. Marjo Rouw

*(Following the children's message children ages 3-3rd grade are invited
to make their way to Children in Worship in the Fellowship Hall)*

* Song of Preparation: LUYH #709 v. 1-3 *"Jesus Loves Me"*

1. Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

2. Jesus loves me—he who died
heaven's gate to open wide.
He will wash away my sin,
let his little child come in.

Refrain

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

3. Jesus loves me, this I know,
as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee,
saying, "Let them come to me."

Refrain

Words: st. 1-2 Anna B. Warner, 1859, st. 3 David R. McGuire, 1971, P.D.; Music:
William B. Bradbury, 1861, P.D.; CCLI #678905

"He knows my name, he knows my every thought."

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1 – Genesis 2:3

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Celebrate Good Times, Come on!"***

Prayer of Application

*“He sees each tear that falls
and hears me when I call.”*

* Song of Application: 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.

ACAPPELLA

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.

Offering

Offertory: *“Here is Love” - Sovereign Grace*

* God’s Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #19 v. 1-2,4-5 *“For the Beauty of the Earth”*

1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

Refrain

*Christ, our Lord, to you we raise
this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

2. For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light,

Refrain

4. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,

Refrain

5. For yourself, best gift divine,
to the world so freely given,
agent of God's grand design:
peace on earth and joy in heaven,

Refrain

Words: Folliot S. Pierpont, 1864, alt., P.D.; Music: Conrad Kocher, 1838; adapt.
William H. Monk, 1861, P.D.; CCLI #678905

Postlude

Welcome! This is the day that the Lord has made. Worship is our opportunity to be glad and rejoice in the Lord's house on the Lord's Day. We come as the children of God, knowing that we are welcomed here where all are meant to be one in the Lord. Let us lay down our burdens and rejoice in the Lord for the Lord is good, the Source of love. 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.

<i>Tech Team</i>	<i>Today 1/16</i>	<i>Next Week 1/23</i>
Sound:	Henry H.	Tim H.
Projection:	Tim H.	Devin VZ
Video	Dick G.	Brandon S.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC

Bulletin Announcements

January 16, 2022

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Guest Pastor: We welcome **Pastor Jon Westra** to our pulpit this morning. Pastor Jon pastored in Cleveland, OH, church planted in Phoenix, AZ, and served our daughter church, Faith Community Fellowship in Mount Vernon. He retired from full time ministry in 2015, Jon is married to Karen and they have 2 married daughters and 7 grandchildren.

Instrumentalist Sunday! Sunday, January 30 will be the first of several "instrumentalist Sundays" throughout 2022! If you like to play an instrument (trumpet, flute, clarinet, trombone, etc.) and would like to play along with some familiar hymns on the 30th - please let Beth know as soon as possible. The instrumental music to 3-4 hymns will be placed in your church mailbox no later than Sunday, January 23. We are looking forward to hearing our many gifted musicians (young and old!) play on the 30th!

The Meal Train for Dennis and Melba DeKok is complete through the first week in February! Thank you so much to all who are blessing the DeKoks with delicious dinners. I will keep the link here in case dates are added and I will let you know! The link is: <https://mealtrain.com/407w17>. If you are having difficulty using the link once it's sent out, or you are not tech savvy, please email me at church or call Heather Van Hofwegen at **(425)923-6446**.

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.

There are copies of *Today's Christian Living* on the shelf in the hallway underneath the Missionary bulletin board.

Worship Service YouTube Link:

Jan. 9 Morning Service: <https://youtu.be/i4ONVJ1Sm4M>

Calendar:

Greeters: This morning—Greg & Tish Ackermann; Next week: Jan. 23—Greg & Beth Boon

Coffee Hosts: This morning—Mardick & Jill Stevens; Next week: Jan. 23—John & Judy Velasquez

Next week:

Worship Team: Greg & Beth B., Shirley B., Franchesca K., Nellie VDH;

Jan. 30: Kevin & Glenda K., KayIVH, Ellie VB

Weds., Jan. 19: GEMS at 6:30 pm

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:

Coming this August: Inspire 2022 in Chicago, Ill.! Get reenergized for ministry at this North America-wide event at the Tinley Park Convention Center. Who is it for? Deacons, elders, Sunday School teachers, adult Bible study leaders, youth directors and MORE. Come be inspired by: Meaningful Worship, Energizing Plenary of Speakers, and a Whole host of innovative workshops. See the poster across from Beth's office for more information and a QR code you can scan as well. <https://www.crcna.org/inspire>



21ST ANNUAL QUILT & MORE AUCTION! C.A.R.E. Medical Center's 21st Annual Quilt & More Auction is just around the corner! Mark your calendar and please plan on joining us for this exciting event! (*C.A.R.E. was formerly Pregnancy Choices*)

Here are the event details:

WHEN: Saturday February 5 • TIME: 9:00am Doors open, 10:00am Auction begins, 12:00pm Event ends

WHERE: Mount Vernon Church of the Nazarene, 2710 E. Fir Street, Mount Vernon

WHY: The proceeds from this event are used to support C.A.R.E. Medical Center in its mission to help the women and men in our community who are facing unplanned pregnancies by providing education, resources, and compassionate care.

To donate, please contact **Marnie Fox at 360-941-5821 or Irene Bazan at 360-428-4777.**

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Turkey & the Seven Churches of Revelation - (May 23 – June 4, 2022) Visit ancient sites connected with Paul's First, Second, and Third Missionary Journeys as well as the seven churches to whom John wrote the Book of Revelation. Join Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, for this inspirational biblical tour. Contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu

Word Power: MLK Day- Check out the new kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Did you know words have power? Your words. Your neighbor's words. Everybody's! Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. knew that. He used his word power to help people see each other as equals, no matter their skin color. Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Groundwork: You Belong. Be Rooted in Christ's Love - Keeping up faith can be hard when life's circumstances are difficult. Join Groundwork as we study Ephesians 3 to hear the Apostle Paul's assurance that we belong in God's family, that his promises are, indeed, for us, and be blessed by his prayer for the Holy Spirit to root us in Christ's love. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Faith Practice Reflection Tip- Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Engaging Scripture: Read Isaiah 55:10-11 and ponder or discuss the following questions. The verses right before this passage are about forgiveness of sins, and the verses right after are about the joy of having the curse of sin lifted. How does this passage give you hope, both for your own life and for the world? In what ways have you felt God's Word helping you and those around you "bud and flourish"? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject)



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@firstcrmv.com by 9:00 am Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

NEW REQUESTS:

Please pray for **Joni Beezhold's brother Kevin** who was recently diagnosed with leukemia. He will be starting aggressive chemo treatment within the next 30 days. Please pray that the treatment itself is effective. Pray too for God's peace upon Kevin and all those who are close to him.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

We praise God that **Dennis De Kok** is feeling stronger. He hopes to be able to have radiation treatment on Monday. Pray that he continues to gain strength and that the treatment is effective. If you would like to follow Dennis' progress on a regular basis one of the best ways to do so is through the family's Caring Bridge site. (Just make sure when you type in his name that you don't put in a space between the 'e' and the 'K' in the last name or it won't show up. ☹) An easier way to find it would be to simply click on the following link and sign in/up accordingly: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/dennisdekok>

Please pray for those who have lost loved ones, that God will comfort them in their grief.

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

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 January 10 - World Renew: CFGB Grant

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB) has received \$75 million in funding from the Canadian government, and this grant will help fund emergency response projects implemented through its 15 member church-based agencies, including World Renew. We thank God for this funding that will help to bring hope to people struggling with food insecurity around the world.

Tuesday January 11 - *Resonate: Colorado*

Shawn and Diane Sikma, who lead Jesus on Colfax Ministries, a Resonate partner in Aurora, Colo., ask you to pray for an end to violence in the area. "We pray for peace, protection, and justice, asking Jesus to break the power of Satan. This is a spiritual battle. Please pray with us," said Shawn.

Wednesday January 12 - *ReFrame: Japan*

Our Japanese ministry team recently heard from someone who received a CD copy of their radio programs from a neighbor. They were thankful for the programs and asked for more information about the Christian faith. Pray that this listener will continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ.

Thursday January 13 - *Calvin Theological Seminary: Learning and safety*

Pray for January Term classes, for students who are traveling, and especially for new students planning to begin their studies in the spring semester. Pray for health and safety for all.

Friday January 14 - *Resonate: Middle East*

Resonate's Cohort in the Middle East is starting this fall! Cohort is a leadership opportunity for young adults. Pray for the young adults who will serve in this grassroots ministry, seeking to engage in deep spiritual formation and to build relationships.

Saturday January 15 - *Chaplaincy and Care: Disasters*

When events like mass shootings, floods, and tornadoes affect so many lives, active and retired chaplains across North America are called upon to provide emergency support, critical incident debriefing, and spiritual care. Please pray for chaplains providing such support in areas of natural and human-made disasters.

Sunday January 16 - *Justice ministries: Sanctity of Human Life Sunday*

In the U.S., two-thirds of women who have had an abortion have reported coming from a Christian-faith background. The same percentage say they could not afford another child. Let us seek the thriving of all God's children, bearing the practical needs of persons contemplating abortion and bringing them before the Lord.