

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
February 20, 2022
Guest Pastor Alan Muia
10:30 A.M. Worship Service

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

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

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

* Call to Worship:

Leader: O magnify the Lord with me.

People: Let us exalt God's name together!

Leader: Will give thanks to you, O Lord, with our whole heart;
we will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

**People: We will be glad and exult in you;
We will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #772 v. 1-4

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

1. My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Chorus:

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.*

2. When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus

3. His oath, His covenant, His blood
support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

Chorus

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.*

4. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found,
dressed in His righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.

Chorus

Words: Edward Mote (1797-1874), Tune: William B. Bradbury (1816-1868), Public Domain. CCLI# 678905

* 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!

* We Greet One Another

* 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

"There is no shadow of turning with thee;"

Offering Prayer

Offering

Offertory

(Following the conclusion of the offertory the children are invited forward for the Children's Message)

Children's Message: Mrs. Marjo Rouw

(Following the message children ages 3-3rd grade are invited to go to Children in Worship)

* Hymn of Preparation: 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

"Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;"

Scripture Reading: Luke 7:36-50 (Pew Bible Pg. 1023)

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"The Life and Ministry of Jesus –
Forgiven and Thankful"***

Time of Prayer

"As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be."

* Hymn of Application: 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

* We Profess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 56, 86

Leader: Q. What do you believe concerning
“the forgiveness of sins”?”

**People: A. I believe that God,
because of Christ’s atonement,
will never hold against me any of my sins
nor my sinful nature
which I need to struggle against all my life.**

**Rather, in his grace
God grants me the righteousness of Christ
to free me forever from judgment.**

Leader: Q. We have been delivered from our misery
by God’s grace alone through Christ
and not because we earned it:
why then must we still do good?

**People: A. To be sure, Christ has redeemed us by his blood.
But we do good because Christ by his Spirit
is also renewing us to be like himself,
so that in all our living
we may show that we are thankful to God
for all that he has done for us,
and so that he may be praised through us.
And we do good so that we may be assured
of our faith by its fruits and so that by
our godly living our neighbors may be won over
to Christ.**

* God’s Blessing: Based on II Thessalonians 2:16-17

* Parting Praise: LUYH #366 v. 1-4 *“My Jesus, I Love Thee”*

1. My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.
2. I love thee because thou hast first loved me
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.
3. I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death,
and praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath,
and say when the death-dew lies cold on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Acapella

4. In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright.
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow;
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Words: William R. Featherstone, ca. 1862, P.D.; Music: Adoniram J. Gordon, 1876, P.D.; CCLI #678905

Postlude

Welcome! The psalmist wrote: “I will exalt you, my God and King. I will praise your name forever and ever” (Psalm 145:1). With a similar attitude, let us praise God joyfully. 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.

Tech Team	Today 2/20	Next Week 2/27
Sound:	Mardick S.	Henry VZ
Projection:	Tim H.	Devin VZ
Video	Dick G.	Tim H.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

February 20, 2022

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Committee Heads: Budget Request Forms will be in your mailboxes very soon. If you do not receive one please let Mardy Stevens know at mardystevens@comcast.net.

Welcome Baby Basket: Let's welcome our newest addition, **Mason Glen See!** There will be a basket in the church fellowship hall for the next few weeks. Join in on the fun of filling the basket with any kind of gift that will help the See family welcome and celebrate their precious little blessing. There are still 4 slots open for their MealTrain. The link for their meal train is: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/rqyvkw>.

All men who would like to participate in leading "And Can It Be" on February 27. Please meet by the piano after church **this morning** for a short rehearsal.

Save the Date! This year's **Good Friday Service (April 15)** will be a combined service at our sister church - **Faith Community Fellowship** (1427 Monte Vista Drive). On this evening we will take the time to remember the events of Jesus' death and what it means for the redemption of the world. The service will begin at **6:30 PM**.

Ministry Need - Intern Pastor Housing: At the February 23, 2020 town hall meeting our congregation overwhelmingly approved the desire to become a CRC 'mentor church' to a current, or recently graduated, seminarian. Ideally it would be for someone who desires additional field education experience in the parish ministry. ... Unfortunately, less than a month later, COVID arrived and those plans were put on hold. Recently, we resubmitted our application. Our hope is that such an intern would begin sometime this summer (starting anywhere between June 1 – Sept. 1) and serve at least through May 31, 2023. We look forward to seeing where God leads.

Part of our responsibility to the intern is to provide housing options. Such options could include living with a family in the church (or broader Mount Vernon community), house sitting, or renting. Congregational members who may be aware of any potential possibilities along these lines are encouraged to contact Pastor John, or any one of the elders, in the weeks ahead. Thank you in advance for keeping an ear out on this significant need!

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](http://www.firstcrcmv.com) for more information on these and other giving options.

Worship Service YouTube Link: Feb 6 link: <https://youtu.be/wUVXbZK2Cps>; Feb 13 link:<https://youtu.be/5lvQQ2Wa8U4>

The TODAY Devotionals for the months of March/April are available in your mailboxes

CALENDAR:

Greeters: This morning – **Dennis & Melba DK;**

Next week – **Larry & Maxine Greidanus**

Coffee Hosts: This morning – **Dick & Linda Gudmunson;**

Next week – **Clarence & Eleanor Klunder**

Children's Worship: This morning – **Juli O., Kera B.;**

Next week – **Marjo R., Hannah VH**

Next week:

Worship Team: Feb. 27 – Henry VZ, Pam VZ, Sylvia VZ, Kayla VH, Ella VH;

March 6 – Kevin & Glenda K., Franchesca K., Nellie VDH

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Turkey & the Seven Churches of Revelation (May 23 – June 4, 2022):

Travel to ancient sites in Turkey connected with Paul's First, Second and Third Missionary Journeys, and also the seven churches of Revelation. Added to these magnificent biblical sites is a visit to the spectacular region of Cappadocia. Contact Dr. Jeff Weima, Professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, at weimje@calvinseminary.edu or 616-328-3110.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

At-home Faith Practice Reflection Tip - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Justice and Mercy: Read Isaiah 58:9-10 and ponder or discuss the following questions. A yoke is a type of harness used with a team of animals, typically oxen. Usually made of wood and iron, it's heavy and rigid, and it restricts the animals' freedom to move. In the Bible the word "yoke" is used to describe being bound to something or someone, for better or for worse. With this in mind, how would you describe "the yoke of oppression"? How might your church, or another group of which you're a part, begin to meet the needs of the oppressed and "do away with the yoke of oppression"? What practical steps might you take? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject)

Be Quick to Listen - Check out the new kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Listening is a skill and it takes practice to become a good listener. What makes someone a good listener? Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Focus on the Cross - Lent is a season to focus on the hope of Jesus Christ. Receive a free Today devotional email series to help you refresh, refocus, and renew your faith during Lent. Or download the ebook! Subscribe at todaydevotional.com/lent.

Groundwork: A Wise Perspective on Work - Much of our adult life revolves around work: work for our jobs, work on our houses and for our families, and work for the Lord. Join Groundwork as we study Ecclesiastes 4:4-8, 5:10-15, 9:7-10 to listen to the Teacher's wisdom on what makes our work meaningful. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Online Bible Study - Building God's Church Together - "Building God's Church Together" is an online Bible study that explores God's vision for men and women serving the church together. It involves 7 self-guided sessions and 5 scheduled virtual discussion groups every Wednesday during Lent (March 9-April 6) to cultivate deeper understanding. This series will be hosted by Rev. Elaine May and Rev. Liz Testa. Register now: tinyurl.com/BGCTstudy

CRCNA Position Openings - Resonate Global Mission has the following position openings posted to the CRCNA website: Domestic Part-time Administrative Coordinator and International Career Missionary positions Education Consultant, Missional Leadership Developer, Media Director, and Frontier Focused Rural Ministry Team Member. Visit www.crcna.org/jobs for details and deadlines.



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.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Thank you for keeping **Kevin Wigboldy (Joni's brother)** in your daily prayers. He has been very low this week as the chemo has been harsh. Please continue to pray for his body to heal.

Shirley Boonstra received her biopsy results this past week. They are such that she will need a PET scan in the near future with chemotherapy to begin shortly after. Please pray that the chemo will be effect with as minimal side effects as possible. Pray too that God will grant Shirley His abiding peace throughout the days and weeks ahead.

Dennis DeKok had good news this week in that his PSA numbers are way down since starting his treatment! We thank God that things are going smoothly right now with his therapies. His Caring Bridge page is: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/dennisdekok>

Please pray for comfort for those who have lost loved ones.

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 February 14 - *Safe Church Ministry: Survivors*

Please continue to pray for people within our community who have experienced harm. We are thankful for the strength God provides for survivors to come forward and speak the truth. Please pray with us for survivors of abuse, especially those who have been victimized by persons in our denomination, and pray for all who walk alongside them.

Tuesday February 15 - *ReFrame: Japan*

A Japanese-ministry listener named Keiko attended church with her non-Christian husband on Christmas, and he expressed interest in learning more about Jesus. Now they are listening to ReFrame programs on the internet together. Praise God! Pray that Keiko's husband and loved ones may come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Wednesday February 16 - *Resonate: West Africa*

A Resonate missionary in West Africa asks you to pray for a Christian school that she and other believers recently started. Most of the students are from Muslim families. Pray that students and families may experience the love of Jesus and come to know him as Lord and Savior.

Thursday February 17 - *World Renew: Climate change*

Across the globe, droughts have wiped out crops, resulting in food insecurity, and floods have washed away entire villages, taking lives and destroying property. Even so, hope in Christ lifted spirits and strengthened the resolve of people who suffered loss. Please pray with us that God's most vulnerable children will come to find hope and the courage to persevere through life's hardships, knowing they are loved and cherished by God—always.

Friday February 18 - *Chaplaincy and Care: Teaching and learning*

Several of our chaplains serve as certified supervisor-educators. Please pray for wisdom and energy as they provide spiritual care to patients and as they arrange for, teach, and supervise the training of many other chaplains and psychospiritual therapists, preparing them to serve in a variety of institutions.

Saturday February 19 - *Resonate: Worldwide*

As the coronavirus pandemic continues to ravage the world, many people are asking questions about the meaning of life and are open to the gospel. “Pray for God’s wisdom and creativity as pastors and church leaders find opportunities amid the pandemic to share the good news of Jesus,” ask Resonate missionaries Ken and Jeannie Lee, who serve in Japan.

Sunday February 20 - *Pastor Church Resources: Wisdom and patience*

In some ways, congregations are like families. They experience good times, not-so-good times, laughter, tears, and sometimes significant strife. Pray for consultants who work with churches experiencing challenging situations. May God give them the wisdom they need as they offer assistance and counsel. Pray too for all of our congregations as they navigate life together.