

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
February 27, 2022
10:30 A.M. Worship Service

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

*"Lead on, O King eternal;
til sin's fierce war shall cease,"*

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship: I Timothy 1:15-16

* Opening Songs of Praise

"Wonderful, Merciful Saviour" (Selah) v. 1-3

1. Wonderful merciful, Savior,
precious Redeemer and Friend;
Who would have thought that a Lamb
could rescue the souls of men?
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.
2. Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,
Spirit we long to embrace;
You offer hope when our hearts
have hopelessly lost the way,
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

Chorus

*You are the One that we praise,
You are the One we adore,
You give the healing and grace
our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

3. Almighty, infinite Father,
faithfully loving Your own;
Here in our weakness You find us
falling before Your throne,
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

Chorus (2x)

*You are the One that we praise,
You are the One we adore,
You give the healing and grace
our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

Words and Music by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse; ©1989 Word Music, LLC (a div. of Word Music Group, Inc.); CCLI# 678905

“And Can it Be” (Townend) v. 1-4

1. And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Savior's blood
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?

*Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst 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.

*'tis mercy all, immense and free
For O my God, it found out me!
'tis mercy all, immense and free
For O my God, it found out me!*

3. Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light

*My chains fell off, my heart was free
I rose, wne forth and followed Thee
My chains fell off, my heart was free
I rose, went forth and followed Thee.*

4. No condemnation now I dread
Jesus, 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
Bold I approach the'eternal throne
And claim the crown, through Christ my own*

*Bold I approach the'eternal throne
And claim the crown, through Christ my own*

* 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 #540 v. 1-4 "*Holy God, We Praise Your Name*"

1. Holy God, we praise your name;
Lord of all, we bow before you.
Saints on earth your rule acclaim;
all in heaven above adore you.
Infinite your vast domain;
everlasting is your reign.
2. Hark, the glad celestial hymn
angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim,
in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heavens with sweet accord:
"Holy, holy, holy Lord!"
3. Lo, the apostolic train
joins your sacred name to hallow;
prophets swell the glad refrain,
and the white-robed martyrs follow;
and from morn to set of sun,
through the church the song goes on.

4. Holy Father, holy Son,
Holy Spirit, three we name you,
though in essence only one;
undivided God, we claim you,
and, adoring, bend the knee
while we own the mystery.

Words: Te Deum, 4th c.; vers. Ignaz Franz, ca. 1774; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1853, alt., P.D. Music: *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774; desc. Emily R. Brink, 1986, ©1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources, CCLI # 678905

*“And holiness shall whisper
the sweet amen of peace.”*

Announcements

Offering:

Offertory:

*(Following the offertory children of all ages
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)*

* Song of Preparation: *“O Breath of God” (The Risen Christ)* – v. 1-4

1. O Breath of God come fill this place
Revive our hearts to know Your grace
And from our slumber make us rise
That we may know the risen Christ
2. O Word of God so clear and true
Renew our minds to trust in You
And give to us the Bread of Life
That we may know the risen Christ
3. O love of God so unrestrained
Refresh our souls in Jesus' name
Let us reflect Your sacrifice
That we may know the risen Christ

4. May God the Father God the Son
And God the Spirit make us one
In holiness let us unite
That we may know the risen Christ

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*“For not with sword’s loud clashing
or roll of stirring drums -”*

Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (Pew Bible Pg. 968)

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“The Life and Ministry of Jesus –
The Parable of the Sower”***

Time of Prayer

*“With deeds of love and mercy
the heavenly kingdom comes.”*

* Song of Application: *“O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer” v. 1-3
(Sovereign Grace)*

1. O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
Greatest treasure of my longing soul
My God, like You there is no other
True delight is found in You alone
Your grace, a well too deep to fathom
Your love exceeds the heavens’ reach
Your truth, a fount of perfect wisdom
My highest good and my unending need
2. O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
Strong defender of my weary heart
My sword to fight the cruel deceiver
And my shield against his hateful darts
My song when enemies surround me
My hope when tides of sorrow rise
My joy when trials are abounding
Your faithfulness, my refuge in the night

3. O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
Gracious Savior of my ruined life
My guilt and cross laid on Your shoulders
In my place You suffered bled and died
You rose, the grave and death are conquered
You broke my bonds of sin and shame
O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer
May all my days bring glory to Your Name

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* A Prayer for the Mission of the Church

Leader: Lord God, we bless you for the your charge to us
to “make disciples from every nation
and to teach them to obey all that you have
commanded us.”

**People: How grateful we are for your promise
to never leave us or forsake us.**

Leader: As we seek to plan the seed of your word,
and to water the seed once planted,
teach us to trust and to testify
that you are the source of all the growth.

**People: As the seed of your Word is planted in our hearts,
help us – and all those around us – to be good soil,
receptive to all that you desire for us
to know, to love, and to do.**

Leader: By your Spirit, increase our
“love and knowledge and depth of insight.”

**People: so that “we may be able to discern what is best,
and be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,
filled with the harvest of righteousness
that comes through Jesus,
to the glory and praise of God.**

Leader: We pray all this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

* Sending and God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #328 v. 1-3 *"Lead On, O King Eternal"*

1. Lead on, O King eternal,
the day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest
your tents will be our home.
Through days of preparation
your grace has made us strong;
and now, O King eternal,
we lift our battle song.

2. Lead on, O King eternal,
till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper
the sweet amen of peace.
For not with swords' loud clashing
or roll of stirring drums—
with deeds of love and mercy
the heavenly kingdom comes.

3. Lead on, O King eternal;
we follow, not with fears,
for gladness breaks like morning
where'er your face appears.
Your cross is lifted o'er us,
we journey in its light;
the crown awaits the conquest;
lead on, O God of might.

Words: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1888, alt., P.D.; Music: Henry T. Smart, 1836, P.D.
CCLI #678905

Postlude

Welcome! The psalmist prayed: "Restore us, O Lord God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved" (Psalm 80:19). May all who have come to worship find restoration, inner peace and spiritual strength. After the morning service all are invited to the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

Tech Team	Today 2/27	Next Week 3/6
Sound:	Henry H	Mardy S.
Projection:	Devin VZ	Hannah VH
Video	Tim H.	Devin VZ
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

February 27, 2022

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Save the Date! On Friday, March 25 at 7 PM we will be showing the movie *"The Pilgrim's Progress"* in the church fellowship hall. The book itself was written by John Bunyan nearly 350 years ago while he was still in prison. This Christian allegory is generally regarded as one of the most significant works of theological fiction in English literature. And when it comes to total sales - *"The Pilgrim's Progress"* is second only to the Bible itself. ... We certainly encourage you to read the book itself, but the movie is good too! So bring your family, friends, and neighbors to the showing on the 25th. Popcorn will be provided - any candy, drinks, and 'comfy chairs' are up to you!



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.

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 20 link: <https://youtu.be/ASUEs-U3Ac8>

CALENDAR:

Greeters: This morning – **Larry & Maxine Greidanus;**
Next week – **Dick & Linda Gudmunson**

Coffee Hosts: This morning – **Clarence & Eleanor Klunder;**
Next week – Henry & Sharon Kuipers

Children's Worship: This morning – Marjo R., Hannah VH.;
Next week – Heidi B., Kayla VH

Next week:

Worship Team: This Morning – Henry VZ, Pam VZ, Sylvia VZ, Kayla VH, Ella VH;

Next Week – Kevin & Glenda K., Franchesca K., Nellie VDH

Men's Bible Study will meet at Shari's in Burlington at 7:00am, Tuesday, March 1

GEMS meets Wednesday, March 2 at 6:30pm

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Family Fire - is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

No Separation from God - Check out the new kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. The love of God is like a strong magnet. Nothing can separate you from his love, no matter what happens. Remember that God has already shown his love to you and to all the world. He sent his Son Jesus to save us from our sins. Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Groundwork: Finding Meaning in Life and the Passing of Time- In Ecclesiastes 3 the Teacher advises, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." He later calls time a burden, but also says God has "set eternity in the human heart." Join Groundwork as we study Ecclesiastes 3:1-11, 12:1-14 to glean wisdom from the Teacher for how to find meaning in life through our time. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

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.

At-home Faith Practice Reflection Tip - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Justice and Mercy: Read Revelation 21:1-4 and ponder or discuss the following questions. This passage shares a vision of a new heaven and a new earth that is completely free from pain, sadness, and death. As the season of Lent begins this week, consider the many ways in which you and the communities you're a part of have sinned against God and neighbor. What would it be like to live in a world free from the results of sin? Where do you see glimmers of the new heaven and new earth today? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject)

Join World Renew in Renewing Hope for Survivors of Disasters - On average, it takes a town in the United States 3-5 years to recover from a disaster. Over the last 50 years, World Renew Disaster Response Services has responded to disasters in 8 Canadian provinces, nearly every state, and 4 U.S. territories. In two weeks, join World Renew to learn how through your gifts you can help renew hope for families across North America who are recovering from fires, floods, hurricanes and other disasters. For more information go to: worldrenew.net/drs

Online Bible Study Series for Lent - Starts March 2 - "Building God's Church Together" is an online Bible study series that includes self-guided sessions and virtual discussion groups to cultivate a deeper understanding of God's vision for men and women working together in the church. The course opens on March 2 and the first virtual discussion group is on March 9 and runs through Lent. Sign up today! tinyurl.com/BGCTstudy



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.

Hank Van Zanten is home and is currently on antibiotics for 10 days to control the swelling of the prostate gland. He will be meeting soon with a urologist and his primary care doctor. Please continue to pray for relief from the pain and for full healing in the days and weeks ahead. Thank you!

Please keep **Alice De Vries** and her loved ones in your prayers throughout the days and weeks ahead. Alice's sister Greta Knudson passed away at Birchview memory care. Pray for the comfort of Christ that only He can provide. Pray too for the Spirit's guidance as they make memorial plans in the days ahead. Finally, pray for God's peace and assurance as Greta is now enjoying her eternal rest.

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.

Pray for **Shirley Boonstra**, that God will grant Shirley His abiding peace throughout the days and weeks ahead as test and tests results come in.

Pray for **Dennis DeKok**, that his fight against cancer will continue to go well and he can be restored to good health. 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 21 - Indigenous Family Centre: Community health
Please pray for community members as COVID cases increase in Winnipeg, Manitoba. May God keep everyone safe from the virus and the effects of isolation. Please pray that staff may remain physically and mentally healthy as they seek to meet the needs of the community while following health guidelines. We continue to be thankful for the steadfast support of the CRC.

Tuesday February 22 - World Renew: Haiti

Amid the ongoing pandemic, please pray for the availability of vaccines to protect the health of the Haitian public. Also pray for the health and safety of World Renew staff and partners as they continue to work under difficult conditions to bring hope to Haiti's most vulnerable people.

Wednesday February 23 - ReFrame: Today devotions

Pray for Marianne and Julie, Today readers who both lost their husbands in the past year and reached out for prayers. "I thought my faith was rock solid, but this has been a challenge," said Marianne. Ask God to comfort them, both through the devotions in Today and through family and friends who know Marianne and Julie.

Thursday February 24 - Resonate: Nicaragua

Pray for the Nehemiah Center, a Resonate partner in Nicaragua, as they continue to build relationships with local churches and work to help strengthen and equip them. Ask the Holy Spirit to work powerfully through this community of churches to transform communities and bring people into a relationship with Christ.

Friday February 25 - Worship Ministries: Preparing

Worship leaders and pastors are constantly thinking ahead in preparation for the next season. With Lent beginning in March, pray for space and time in February to reflect on the wonderful things God has done and will do in their lives and congregations. Pray for renewed strength and energy for all who are involved in leading worship.

Saturday February 26 - Raise Up: Timothy Leadership Training: Burundi

Pray for pastors from a variety of denominations in Burundi, East Africa, who have asked for Timothy Leadership Training. Pray also for insight and well-laid plans for Resonate staff who are visiting there to assess this request. May God's power and plans to equip and strengthen these churches bear fruit and extend farther into this area.

Sunday February 27 - ReFrame: India

Pray for Pankaj, who serves with ReFrame's partners in India, ministering among people who are differently abled. He not only shares the gospel with these people but also helps with their physical needs. Ask God to work through Pankaj's efforts.