

God's Word Gives Our Lives Direction



701 West Blackburn Road
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

360-336-2405

www.firstcrcmv.com

Pastor John Knoester

Worship Service
10:30 AM

Church School: 9:30 AM
September—May

Let us then with
CONFIDENCE
draw near
to the
throne of **grace**
that we
may receive
mercy & find
grace
to help
in time of need.
hebrews 4:16

March 27, 2022

The Loop System is provided for those using hearing devices by using the telephone mode on your device. This is available beginning in row 5 on either side of the sanctuary.

Dear Friends,

Both Christians and non-Christians alike often have a very small view of Jesus. Non-Christians often reduce Jesus to a good moral teacher or maybe even a zealot. Many Christians tend to view him only as a necessary sacrifice, or a helpful example.

Yet, Jesus is not only our Savior, but He is also our Lord. And in order to truly worship Jesus as Lord, we need to see him in his proper place as the Son of God. The author of Hebrews gives us an extended sermon on the superiority of Jesus. He shows us that Jesus is greater than everything and everyone. The pattern in which he does this is also the pattern that we will follow in the weeks ahead.

Listed below is a tentative outline of our series. May God bless us as we strive together to lift up high the name of Jesus Christ.

In His Grace, - Pastor John

1. March 6 - *"Jesus is the Greatest" (Heb. 1:1-4)*
2. March 13 - *"Jesus is Greater than the Angels" (Hebrews 1:4-14)*
3. March 20 - *"Jesus is Greater than Moses" (Hebrews 3:1-19)*
4. March 27 - *"Jesus is Greater than Priests" (Hebrews 4:14-5:10)*
5. April 3 - *"Jesus is Greater than our Sacrifice" (Hebrews 8:1-13, 9:11-15)*
6. April 10 - *"Jesus is Greater Than; Therefore, Have Faith" (Hebrews 10:19-25, 11:1)*
7. April 15 - Good Friday Service at Faith Community Fellowship
8. April 17 - *"Jesus is Greater Than; Therefore, Run!" (Hebrews 12:1-3, John 20:1-10)*
9. May 1 - *"Jesus is Greater Than; Therefore, Endure" (Hebrews 12:4-13)*

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
March 27, 2022 – 4th Sunday in Lent
10:30 A.M. Worship Service

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

*“Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea,”*

Prelude

Welcome

* Opening Song of Praise: LUYH #574 v. 1-2 *“How Great is Our God”*

1. The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;
let all the earth rejoice, let all the earth rejoice.
He wraps himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at his voice, and trembles at his voice.

Refrain

*How great is our God!
Sing with me: how great is our God!
And all will see how great,
how great is our God!*

2. From age to age he stands, and time is in his hands;
beginning and the end, beginning and the end.
The godhead, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
the lion and the lamb, the lion and the lamb.

Refrain

Bridge

Name above all names, worthy of all praise;
my heart will sing, how great is our God!

* Call to Worship: Based on Hebrews 12:1-3

Leader: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."

People: We worship you, Lord.

Leader: "For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

People: We worship you, Lord.

Leader: "Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."

People: Let us turn our eyes to Jesus and worship him.

* Opening Song of Praise: LUYH #15 v. 1-2 *"The First Place"*

1. Jesus, the perfect picture of the unseen God.
Maker of things we cannot comprehend.
Wisdom, the earth displays your strength and beauty.
Sovereign, yes, every throne knows you are God.

Refrain

*Every inch of this universe belongs to you, O Christ.
For through you and for you it was made.
Your creation endures by the order of your hand.
So you must have in all things the first place.*

2. Victor, over sin and death you triumphed.
Firstborn, you've shown us life beyond the grave.
Bridegroom, we long for you in expectation.
Jesus, your church rejoices to proclaim.

Refrain X 2

* God's Greeting:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: May grace and peace be yours in abundance
in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

People: Amen!

* We Greet One Another

*"A great High Priest whose name is Love,
whoever lives and pleads for me."*

* Invitation to Transformed Living

Leader: Friends, when we confess our sins,
we do so in recognition that Jesus has already
sacrificed and made forgiveness available to us.
Hebrews 4 says,

**People: Therefore, since we have a great high priest
who has ascended into heaven,
Jesus the Son of God,
Let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.**

Leader: For we do not have a high priest who is unable
to empathize with our weaknesses,
But we have one who has been tempted
in every way, just as we are – yet he did not sin.

**People: Let us then approach God's throne of grace
with confidence, so that we may receive mercy
and find grace to help us in our time of need.**

Leader: In confidence of God's mercy and grace,
let us confess our sins together in a time of prayer.

* Prayer of Confession

* Call to Holy Living (Based on Hebrews 10:19, 23-25)

* Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #682 v. 1-3

"Before the Throne of God Above"

1. Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea,
a great High Priest whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
my name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heaven he stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.
2. When Satan tempts me to despair
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see him there
who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
my sinful soul is counted free;
for God the Just is satisfied
to look on him and pardon me,
to look on him and pardon me.
3. Behold him there! The risen Lamb,
my perfect, spotless righteousness;
the great unchangeable "I AM,"
the King of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die,
my soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my Savior and my God,
with Christ, my Savior and my God.

Words: Charitie Lees DeCheney Bancroft (1841-1923), P.D.; Music: Vikki Cook,
1997, ©1997 Sovereign Grace Worship, admin. EMICMGPublishing.com; CCLI
#678905

Announcements

Offering:

Offertory Video: Jesus the Royal Priest – Bible Project

*(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)*

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #168 v. 1-3

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

1. O sacred head, now wounded,
with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded
with thorns, your only crown.
O sacred head, what glory
and blessing you have known!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I claim you as my own.
2. My Lord, what you did suffer
was all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression,
but yours the deadly pain.
So here I kneel, my Savior,
for I deserve your place;
Look on me with your favor
and save me by your grace.
3. What language shall I borrow
to thank you, dearest Friend,
for this, your dying sorrow,
your mercy without end?
Lord, make me yours forever,
a loyal servant true,
and let me never, never
outlive my love for you.

Words: Latin, medieval; German tr. Paul Gerhardt, 1656; English tr. James W. Alexander, 1830, alt., P.D.; Music: Hans Leo. Hassler, 1601; adapt. and harm. Johann S. Bach in St. Matthew Passion, 1729, P.D.; CCLI #678905

*"My name is graven on his hands,
my name is written on his heart;"*

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 4:14-5:10 (Pew Bible Pg. 1186)

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“Jesus is Greater than Priests”***

Time of Prayer

*“I know that while in heaven he stands,
no tongue can bid me thence depart;”*

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #897 v. 1-3

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
oh, what needless pain we bear—
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.
2. Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness—
take it to the Lord in prayer.
3. Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

Words: Joseph M. Scriven (1820-1866), P.D.: Music:
Charles D. Convers, 1866, P.D. CCLI #678905

* We Confess Our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 116-119

Leader: Why do Christians need to pray?

People: Because prayer is the most important part of the thankfulness God requires of us. And also because God gives his grace and Holy Spirit only to those who pray continually and groan inwardly, asking him for these gifts and thanking him for them.

Leader: How does God want us to pray so that he will listen to us?

People: First, we must pray from the heart to no other than the one true God, who has revealed himself in his Word, asking for everything he has command us to ask for.

Second, we must acknowledge our need and misery hiding nothing, and humble ourselves in his majestic presence.

Third, we must rest on this unshakable foundation: even though we do not deserve it, God will surely listen to our prayer because of Christ our Lord.

That is what he promised in his Word.

Leader: What did God command us to pray for?

People: Everything we need, spiritually and physically, as embraced in the prayer Christ our Lord himself taught us.

Leader: What is this prayer?

People: Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

* God's Blessing:

* Parting Praise: LUYH #175 v. 1-4 *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

1. When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them through his blood.
3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Sing acapella

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1707, P.D.; Music: Lowell Mason, 1824, P.D. CCLI #678905

Postlude

In ***1 Timothy 1:17*** we read: "Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever." We welcome everyone and invite all to join in offering honor and glory to God. Worshiping with hearts and hands and voices, we can each experience inspiration today. 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 3/27</i>	<i>Next Week 4/3</i>
Sound:	Henry H.	Mardick S.
Projection:	Beth B.	Devin VZ
Video	Tim H.	Brandon S.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC

Bulletin Announcements

March 27, 2022

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

A FAMILY SKATING PARTY is being sponsored by the GEMS Girls Club on **Thursday, March 31 from 6:00–8:00 P.M.** at Skagit Skate in Burlington. Put it on your calendar and join the fun. Bring the whole family...even babies in strollers can be wheeled around the rink. Invite your friends and neighbors. ALL ARE WELCOME! Enjoy great fellowship, great exercise and a great family fun night. Remember those great skating parties years ago? Support GEMS—help us surpass the minimum requirement. Cost: \$7.00 per skater/skates; (\$1.00 more for online.)

Christian Education Fund: A reminder that all pledges for the school year 2021-2022 are due by May 31, 2022. For those who are a part of the CEF don't forget when you register for next school year to mark that you are a part of the First CRC CEF. If you have any questions regarding your pledges, please contact Katie Jungquist.

Would you like to purchase an ***Easter Lily or Bible*** in memory of a loved one? They will be placed at the front of the church on Easter Sunday. If you would like to order, please call or leave a message for Beth at the church office (336-2405) by Monday, April 11. The cost of the lilies will be available soon. Bibles from the Gideons are \$5 apiece. Make checks payable to the First Christian Reformed Church and turn the money into the church office. Lilies may be taken home after the Easter services.

Instrumentalist Sunday! *Easter Sunday* will be our second "Instrumentalist Sunday" throughout 2022! If you like to play an instrument (trumpet, flute, clarinet, trombone, etc.) and would like to play along with beautiful Easter hymns please let Beth know as soon as possible. The instrumental music to 4 hymns will be placed in your church mailbox no later than Saturday, April 1.

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**.

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: March 20: https://youtu.be/9_8WLf2_850

CALENDAR:

Greeters: This morning – **Henry & Sharon Kuipers;**

Next week – **Keith & Jean Rasmussen**

Coffee Hosts: This morning – John & Judy Velasquez;

Next week – Dennis & Melba DeKok

Children's Worship: This morning – **Alyssa A., Emmalyn S.**

Next week – **Tim HV, Kiera L.**

Worship Team: This Morning – Henry & Pam VZ, Sylvia VZ, Devin VZ

Next Week – Greg & Beth B, Kayla VH, Ella VH

Upcoming Dates to Note:

Tues., March 29, 7:00am – Men's Bible Study at Shari's in Burlington

Thurs., March 31, 6:00-8:00pm – GEMS Family Skate Night

April 15, 6:30pm: Good Friday combined service at Faith Community Fellowship

There will be no Sunday School next week, April 3.

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

Registration for Cascade Family Bible Camp is now open. Join families from around the Pacific Northwest July 7-11 at Warm Beach for a weekend of worship, inspiring speakers, and outdoor fellowship. First time attenders will save 50%. For more information or to register, go to www.cascadefamilybiblecamp.org.

RECOMMENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Who Taught You about Jesus? - Check out the new kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. How did you first learn about Jesus? We all have someone in our lives who shared the story of Jesus Christ with us. Maybe it was your parents, a Sunday school teacher, or a friend who invited you to church. This week's verse, 2 Timothy 1:5, tells us about the two women who raised Timothy in the faith. Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Groundwork: The Paradox of the Cross - In the Roman empire, the cross brought death in a brutal, humiliating way. But believers of Jesus Christ find life in the cross. Join Groundwork as we study 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Romans 5:1-11, and Ephesians 2:8-10 to study the paradox of the cross, remember the profound love of God, and learn how we should live in light of this paradox. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

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.

At-home Faith Practices Reflection Tip - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Listening: Read Psalm 19:1-4 and ponder or discuss the following questions. How does God’s creation “pour forth speech” about God? How might we become better listeners to the testimony of God’s creation? How can each of us use our gifts and talents to help God’s creation flourish? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject)


Resonate Match Campaign: Double Your Impact - Resonate Global Mission has a great opportunity for your giving to God’s mission through the Christian Reformed Church! April 1-30, any amount you give for our special campaign will be matched, dollar for dollar, by a generous donor! Learn more at www.resonateglobalmission.org/MatchMyGift

Join Us for World Renew Sunday - More than 700 million people around the world live in extreme poverty (on less than \$1.90 a day). Next week, World Renew and churches across the US will be partnering together to help build pathways out of poverty for the world’s vulnerable. Visit worldrenew.net/world-renew-sunday to learn more and come prepared to give next week for World Renew Sunday.

Register Today for Inspire 2022 - Plan to join sisters and brothers in Christ from all around the CRC for three days of worship, prayer, learning, and fellowship. We’ll gather, August 4-6, near Chicago, Illinois, for Inspire 2022. Register today and get the early bird rate. Groups of 5 or more from one church qualify for a further discount with our group rate! Learn more at crcna.org/inspire

Free CRC Leadership Training Course - Register now to take the new Thriving Essentials virtual training in April at no cost (limit 25 persons). The two, 2-hour-long Zoom sessions on April 18 and 25 can help get all church leaders on the same page concerning the key concepts of Mission, Discipleship, Discernment, and Leadership. Take the class for yourself, then decide if attendance would benefit your core church leadership. Website: crcna.org/Thrive

The Banner's Counting On You! - Please support the award-winning, journalistic ministry of the CRC by donating online today. \$500,000 is needed every year to keep The Banner going. Give now at: TheBanner.org/Give

 **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 by 9:00 am Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please continue to pray for the **Lanting** family upon the passing away of **Case**.

Please keep **Kevin Wigboldy** (Joni B.'s brother) in your prayers for continued healing while he has been able to come home.

Please pray for **Shirley Boonstra** as she begins treatment and adjust to her new home.

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

SHUT INS:

Nell Annema and Marion Ekkelkamp at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley; **Marcella DeVries** at Bethany Lutheran in Everett, and **Mary Koopmans** at Where the Heart is in Burlington; **Wilma Paul** at Life Care Center in Sedro-Woolley; **Adrianna Swanson**, and **Clarence Vander Griend** at Home Place in Burlington; **Marjean DeGroot** at Mountain View; **Sally Reehoorn** at Creekside in Burlington; **Bev Van Slageren** at family in Grandview, WA.

OTHER REQUESTS: (CRC Communications)

Monday March 21 - *World Renew: Honduras*

Recently Xiomara Castro became the first female president of Honduras. We celebrate this milestone and pray that it may be a catalyst for change, opportunity, and inspiration for women everywhere. World Renew field staff also ask for prayers that this new president may help bring about economic stability and an end to violence and corruption in the country.

Tuesday March 22 - *Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee: Unity*

Please pray that Christians and denominations will seek God's face together and strive for unity in these divided times. May we see the image of God in one another and seek to understand, listen, and share the truth.

Wednesday March 23 - *Resonate: Uganda*

Give thanks for the ways God is working through Educational Care. Harriet, a teacher in Uganda who participated in the program, was able to disciple a number of young people in her community while schools were closed because of the pandemic. And while schools have reopened, students continue to study the Bible with her.

Thursday March 24 - *Raise Up: Educational Care: East Africa*

Pray for the East Africa Educational Care (EC) team as they prepare for a new opportunity God has provided for EC training in over 200 schools. Pray for wisdom for the team and for effective plans and logistics, asking that this ministry may begin smoothly.

Friday March 25 - *ReFrame: Prayer ministry*

"My wife has Alzheimer's," a man named Scott recently shared with our prayer team. "I am struggling with whether it's time to place her in a full-time memory care unit as her condition has made it more challenging to care for her at home." Pray for Scott as he and his family navigate this difficult decision.

Saturday March 26 - *Candidacy Committee: Preparation*

Please ask God to uphold in his mighty strength all who are preparing for candidacy, giving them clarity of mind in their studies and servant-hearted love for his church as they engage in ministry formation experiences.

Sunday March 27 - Resonate: Haiti

Give thanks for Resonate partner IMPACT clubs in Haiti. In the past year, Haiti has experienced earthquakes, a presidential assassination, and a hurricane. But communities are seeing God at work through the young people who are part of IMPACT clubs and in the ways they are serving their neighbors. May God's hope spread in this country.