

***Welcome to Mount Vernon  
First Christian Reformed Church!***

***Pastor John Knoester***

**May 15, 2022 Morning Service – 10:30 AM**

\* Please stand in body or in spirit

*“Come, thou fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;”*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

\* Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 99)

Leader: The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble;  
he sits enthroned between the cherubim,  
let the earth shake.

**People: Great is the Lord in Zion; he is exalted  
over the nations.**

Leader: Let them praise your great and awesome name –

**People: He is holy.**

Leader: Exalt the Lord our God and worship  
at this footstool;

**People: He is holy.**

Leader: Exalt the Lord our God and worship  
at his holy mountain,

**People: For the Lord our God is holy.**

\* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #538 v. 1-4

*“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”*

1. Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
who wert and art and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, Holy, Holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,  
though the eye made blind by sin Thy glory may not see,  
only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

***Sing acapella***

4. Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name,  
in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and Mighty!  
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Words: Reginald Heber; Music: John B. Dykes;

Descant: David McK. Williams; Public Domain; CCLI# 678905

\* Reading of Psalm 67

\* Hymn of Thanksgiving: 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

\* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

*"Streams of mercy never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise."*

We Welcome New Members to our Church Family

- Derek and Heidi Blanken family – Introduced by Tim Van Hofwegen
- Terry and Mandi Dykstra family - Introduced by Greg Ackermann

Prayer of Thanksgiving – Led by Bob Pippel

Offering:

Offertory Video:

*(Following the conclusion of this video children ages 3-3rd<sup>rd</sup> grade  
are dismissed for Children and Worship)*

\* Song of Preparation: LUYH #755 v. 1-3 *"Speak, O Lord"*

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You  
to receive the food of Your holy word.  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
that the light of Christ might be seen today  
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
all Your purposes, for Your glory.
2. Teach us Lord full obedience,  
holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
in the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of power that can never fail;  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.
3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
that will echo down through eternity,  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built  
and the earth is filled with Your glory.

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*"Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above."*

Scripture Reading: Ruth 1:1-17

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"The Road to Nowhere"***

Time of Prayer

\* Song of Application: *"The Lord's My Shepherd" v. 1-3*

1. The Lord's my Shepherd I'll not want  
He makes me lie in pastures green  
He leads me by the still still waters  
His goodness restores my soul

*Chorus*

And I will trust in You alone  
And I will trust in You alone  
For Your endless mercy follows me  
Your goodness will lead me home

*Descant*

I will trust I will trust in You  
I will trust I will trust in You  
Endless mercy follows me  
Goodness will lead me home

2. He guides my ways in righteousness  
And He anoints my head with oil  
And my cup it overflows with joy  
I feast on His pure delights
3. And though I walk the darkest path  
I will not fear the evil one  
For You are with me  
And Your rod and staff  
Are the comfort I need to know

*Chorus*

And I will trust in You alone  
And I will trust in You alone  
For Your endless mercy follows me  
Your goodness will lead me home

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*"Praise the mount – I'm fixed upon on it  
– mount of God's unchanging love."*

\* We Confess our Faith: Our World Belongs to God st. 5-6

Leader: God holds this world in sovereign love.

He kept his promise, sending Jesus into the world.  
He poured out his Spirit and broadcast his news  
that sinners who repent and believe in Jesus  
can live and breathe and move again  
as members of the family of God.

**People: We rejoice in the goodness of God,  
renounce the works of darkness,  
and dedicate ourselves to holy living.**

Leader: As covenant partners, called to faithful obedience,  
and set free for joyful praise,  
we offer our hearts and lives  
to do God's work in his world.  
With tempered impatience,  
eager to see injustice ended,  
we expect the Day of the Lord.

**People: And we are confident that the light that shines  
in the present darkness will fill the earth  
when Christ appears.  
Come, Lord Jesus! Our world belongs to you.**

\* God's Blessing

\* Parting Praise: LUYH #43 v. 1-3 *"Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer"*

1. Guide me, O my great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but you are mighty;  
hold me with your powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore,  
feed me now and evermore.
2. Open now the crystal fountain,  
where the healing waters flow.  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,  
ever be my strength and shield,  
ever be my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
 bid my anxious fears subside.  
 Death of death, and hell's destruction,  
 land me safe on Canaan's side.  
 Songs of praises, songs of praises  
 I will ever sing to you,  
 I will ever sing to you.

Words: William Williams, 1745; st. 1 tr. Peter Williams, 1771, alt; st. 2-3 tr. William Williams, 1772, alt., P.D.; Music: John Hughes, 1907, P.D.; CCLI# 678905

**\*Postlude**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever" (Psalm 118:1). We **welcome** everyone to this hour of worship! Let us offer our gratitude and praise to our Creator. May this be a time of inspiration and joy for us all. 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 5/15</i>	<i>Next Week 5/22</i>
Sound:	Tim H.	Henry H.
Projection:	Devin VZ	Hannah VH
Video	Brandon S.	Dick G.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

# First CRC Bulletin Announcements

**May 15, 2022**

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

**New Members Sunday!** This morning we officially welcome and celebrate two new families as members to our church! At your convenience, please take the time to warmly welcome **Derek & Heidi Blanken** and their children, Jacob, Landon, Nolan, and Sadie. Please also welcome **Terry & Mandi Dykstra** and their children Maddie and Isaac. Welcome to the First CRC church family and we look forward to partnering in ministry with you in the months and years ahead!

**Save the Date - Summer Block Party!** Are your children ready to experience Mr. Lagerwey's latest water toy purchases? Are you looking for a nice afternoon of fellowship, games, and conversation with neighbors and friends? If so, make sure to mark **Saturday, July 23** on your calendar accordingly for our annual summer block party! Hamburgers, hot dogs, corn hole, water fun, other lawn games, etc. will all be provided. Congregational members are encouraged to invite their neighbors and friends. We're looking forward to a great afternoon together and we hope to see you there!

**Congregational Meeting:** Save the date! **Monday, May 23 at 7pm** is the date for our annual Congregational Meeting. Our annual church budget will be presented for approval and informational reports from various church committees will be presented. The Council presents the following three nominees for the office of elder (2 open spots): Eliot Blom, Darrel Lagerwey, and Dave Visser. The Council presents the following four nominees for the office of deacon (3 open spots, 1 spot for only a one year term): Brad De Kok, Cody See, Mardick Stevens, and Jon Vander Kooy. If you have any questions about any items on the agenda, please contact your district Elder prior to the Congregational Meeting. Absentee ballots can be placed in Beth's mailbox by her office door.



**Worship Service YouTube Link:** May 8: <https://youtu.be/DUwL7CLuSPs>

**BAKERS NEEDED:** About six desserts for our GEMS Mother/Daughter night on Wednesday, May 18. Baker's choice! Please contact Marjo if you are able to help us out or if you have questions. We're planning an exciting GEMS Cruise as we bring our year to a close.

**Christian Education Fund:** Pledge forms are in your mailboxes for the 2022-2023 school year. The cost of the ministry for the 2022-2023 school year is \$132,310.00. Please return your pledge forms in mailbox #85. Also please remember to pay your pledges for the current school year. In order for the Christian Education Fund to continue we need to fulfill our pledges for both school years by May 31. If you have any questions regarding your pledges, please contact **Katie Jungquist**, 428-3818.

*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.*

**Church Night at the Mariners Game!** Congregational members are invited to go see the Seattle Mariners take on the Los Angeles Angels on **Friday, June 17 at 7:10 PM!** The game itself will be followed by a Fireworks show approximately fifteen minutes after the game. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Fellowship Hall beginning on Sunday, May 8. **The cost of the tickets is \$12 a piece** and can be paid for and picked up in person at the church office beginning in early June. Please note that you will be responsible for your own transportation to and from the game itself, but you are encouraged to make arrangements to ride together. Looking forward to a fun night together as a church family!

**CALENDAR:**

**Greeters:** This morning – **Greg & Tish Ackermann;**

Next week – **Greg & Beth B.**

**Coffee Hosts:** This morning – **Mardick & Jill Stevens;**

Next week – **John & Judy Velasquez**

**Children's Worship:** This morning –Next week –

**Worship Team: This Morning** – Eliot B., Heidi B., France K., Nellie VDH

**Next Week** – Henry, Pam & Sylvia & Devin VZ

**Upcoming Dates to Note:**

**GEMS Mother/Daughter Evening: May 18, 6:30pm**

**Congregational Meeting: May 23, 7pm**

**Mariners Game: Friday, June 17, 7:10pm**

**ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT**

We are pleased to announce that **Keepers of the Faith**, a gospel singing music group will be returning to Whatcom County. This group of believers has been faithfully proclaiming the word of God through their testimony of music for a number of years and has been an encouragement to so many. The live concert will be at **Nooksack Valley Reformed Church**, Sunday night, **May 15** at 6:30pm. Doors open at 5:30pm. The church is located at 602 East 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Nooksack, Wa. 98276. Free admission/freewill offering. Refreshments following. For more information call Donna at 360-966-6165. Also please mark your calendars for Liberty Gospel Concert, October 15, 6:00pm at Faith Community Church, Lynden. Details to follow. More info...360-224-4815

**My Weakness. God's Strength.** - Check out the new kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Is there people about it? In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul didn't boast about some great thing he did, but about his weakness. Some translations of the Bible refer to Paul's problem as "a thorn in [his] flesh." Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and check out all the new content.

**Follow: Jesus on the Shore** - The disciples' story of meeting Jesus on the shore helps us recognize that Jesus is in the ordinary and that he's willing to fellowship with us right where we're at. Join Groundwork as we study John 21 to learn how keeping our focus on the resurrected Jesus and his simple command for us to follow him cultivates our faith. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Thank You from World Renew** - Thank you for your compassion and generosity. Your gift to World Renew's Free A Family® program is

helping to equip women around the world with the training and tools needed to support their families on the journey towards flourishing. Thank you for supporting Moms of Hope as they support their families. To learn more about the Free A Family program, go to: [worldrenew.net/free-a-family](http://worldrenew.net/free-a-family)

**Faith Practice Reflection Tip** - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Prayer: Read Psalm 130 and ponder or discuss the following questions. At what times in your life have you felt that you were in “the depths”? Were you able to pray during those times? Why or why not? The psalmist seems to experience despair and hope simultaneously. What role does hope play in our prayers—and in other parts of our faith formation? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject](http://bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject))

happy  
birthday

**This past Thursday, May 12,  
our church turned 80 years old!  
Happy Birthday, First CRC!**

People to be remembered with prayers, cards, letters & words of encouragement. Call the church office at (336-2405) or e-mail: [secretary@firstcrcmv.com](mailto:secretary@firstcrcmv.com) by 9:00 am Thursday of each week with your prayer items.



**NEW REQUESTS:**

Please remember to keep **Hank Van Zanten** in your prayers as he prepares to undergo outpatient surgery this coming Friday. Pray for God's peace as he prepares for the surgery itself. Pray too for those who will be performing the surgery and for it to be successful. Thank you!

**CONTINUING REQUESTS:**

**Jack and Trudy Van Klaveren's** son **Gerrit** and his wife **Karissa** are expecting a baby May 16. They just found out the baby has a heart problem and will need open heart surgery right after being born. The Van Klaveren's are asking for your prayers as they navigate this difficult time in their lives.

**Maxine Greidanus** has a malignant tumor in the right lung. Biopsy results are still being awaited at this time with a plan for treatment to be made shortly afterward. Please keep Maxine and Larry in your prayers during these challenging times.

Thank you for your continued prayers for my brother, **Kevin**. He is happily back home after a week of chemo treatments and is feeling very strong and healthy. Pray that Kevin will stay cancer free until his transplant. Pray for the amazing person who is willing to donate his bone marrow. What a gift! - **Joni**

**Shirley Boonstra's** latest CT scan shows much improvement! She will require only one more chemo treatment and then start hormone therapy on May 25. Praise God for this good news!

Please continue to keep **Dennis De Kok** in your prayers. Please pray for the chemo to do the job it's intended to do and for strength and good spirits for Dennis and the whole DeKok family.

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 May 9 - *Resonate: Michigan*

Please pray for student interns and leaders of the campus ministry at Grand Valley State University, a Resonate partner in Michigan. These students are passionately following Christ and discipling other students on campus.

Tuesday May 10 -*Raise Up: Timothy Leadership Training: Learning*

Please continue to pray that Timothy Leadership Training may support local pastors and leaders in difficult areas worldwide. Pray for leaders' wise use of training materials, deep encouragement, and joy in spite of suffering. May God be exalted through these training events and materials.

Wednesday May 11 - *ReFrame: Japan*

Yamato has been listening to our Japanese programs about prayer, and he recently shared, "Thank you for your great broadcast. I want to change from a self-centered way of life to a God-centered way of life through prayer." Pray that Yamato will continue to practice praying and grow in his faith.

Thursday May 12 - *Calvin Theological Seminary: Graduates*

More than 60 students will be graduating this month. Rejoice with our graduates and their families and the churches and others who have supported them. Pray for them as they transition to ministry positions, further studies, or other places where God may lead them.

Friday May 13 - *Resonate: Philippines*

Resonate missionaries Charles and Hensel Oh in the Philippines are building relationships with children in their neighborhood. Ask the Holy Spirit to work through these relationships to bring these children and their families into a relationship with Christ.

Saturday May 14 - *World Renew: Southern Africa*

In Zambia, we are assisting partner organization RCZ Diaconia Response in planning a large new phase of work to help the communities we serve. Please pray that this work in community engagement and planning develops plans in line with the communities' needs, and give thanks for God's continued blessings on our staff, partners, and participants.

*Sunday May 15 - Safe Church Ministry: Families*

Today is International Day of Families. Please pray for Safe Church Ministry as we work with congregations to help create safe communities that can respond with compassion and walk with families facing domestic abuse, empowering persons who have been victimized to take steps toward safety. May churches be safe spaces where vulnerable members of each family may worship without fear or concern.