

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

**Pastor John Knoester**

**May 22, 2022 – Ascension Sunday, Morning Service – 10:30 AM**

\* Please stand in body or in spirit

*“Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne;”*

Prelude

Opening Video: Ascension Day

Welcome

\* Opening Song of Praise: *“Behold our God”* v. 1-3

\* Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 47:5-8)

Leader: God has ascended amid shouts of joy;  
the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets.

**People: Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

Leader: For God is the king of all the earth;  
Sing to him a psalm of praise.

**People: God reigns over the nations;  
God is seated on his holy throne.**

\* Hymn of Praise: LUYH #223 v. 1-4 *“Crown Him With Many Crowns”*

1. Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne;  
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own;  
awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee  
and hail him as thy matchless King  
through all eternity.

2. Crown him the Lord of life,  
who triumphed o'er the grave,  
who rose victorious in the strife  
for those he came to save;  
his glories now we sing  
who died and reigns on high,  
who died eternal life to bring,  
and lives that death may die.
  
3. Crown him the Lord of love;  
behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above,  
in beauty glorified;  
no angels in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bend their burning eyes  
at mysteries so bright.
  
4. Crown him the Lord of years,  
the potentate of time,  
creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
for thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.

Words: sts. 1, 3, 4 Matthew Bridges, 1851; st. 2 Godfrey Thring, 1874, alt., P.D.;  
Music: George J. Elvey, 1868, P.D.; CCLI #678905

\* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

*"Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own;"*

Announcements

Call to Confession (Based on Romans 8:39)

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance: (Based on I John 2:1-2)

Hear the good news of the gospel:

If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ, the righteous;

and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,

and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the world.

In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

God's Will for our Lives: The Ten Commandments

\* Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #224 v. 1-4 *"Rejoice, the Lord is King"*

1. Rejoice, the Lord is King!

Your Lord and King adore.

Rejoice, give thanks and sing  
and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice.

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

2. His kingdom cannot fail;

he rules o'er earth and heaven;

the keys of death and hell  
to Christ the Lord are given.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice.

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

3. He sits at God's right hand

till all his foes submit,

bow down at his command,

and fall beneath his feet.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice.

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

4. Rejoice in glorious hope;

for Christ, the Judge, shall come

to gather all his saints

to their eternal home.

We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;

the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

Words: Charles Wesley, 1744, alt., P.D.' Music: John Darwall, 1770; desc. Sydney  
H. Nicholson (1875-1947), P.D.; CCLI #678905

Offering:

Offertory:

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

\*Song of Preparation: LUYH #227 v.1-4 *"He is Lord"*

1. He is Lord, he is Lord,  
he is risen from the dead, and he is Lord!  
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord.
2. He is King, he is King,  
he will draw all nations to him; he is King!  
And the time shall be when the world shall sing  
that Jesus Christ is King.
3. He is Love, he is Love,  
he has shown us by his life that he is Love!  
All his people sing with one voice of joy  
that Jesus Christ is Love.
4. He is Life, he is Life,  
he has died to set us free, and he is Life!  
And he calls us all to live evermore,  
for Jesus Christ is Life.

Words: st. 1 Marvin Frey © 1977 Marvin Frey; sts. 2, 3, 4 anonymous;  
Music: Marvin Frey © 1977 Marvin Frey; harm. Dale Grotenhuis (1931-2012); ©  
1987 Marvin Frey CCLI #678905

*"Awake my soul, and sing of him who died for thee"*

Scripture Reading: Ruth 1

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Bottom of the Barrel Grace"***

Time of Prayer

\* Hymn of Application: 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

*“And hail him as thy matchless King for all eternity.”*

\* We Confess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 49

**Leader:** Q. How does Christ’s ascension to heaven benefit us?

**People:** **A. First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father.**

**Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself.**

**Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge.**

**By the Spirit’s power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God’s right hand.**

\* God's Blessing

\* Parting Praise: LUYH #219 v. 1,3,4,5 *"Jesus Shall Reign"*

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
does its successive journeys run,  
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
  
3. People and realms of every tongue  
dwell on his love with sweetest song,  
and infant voices shall proclaim  
their early blessings on his name.
  
4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns:  
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,  
the weary find eternal rest,  
and all who suffer want are blest.
  
5. Let every creature rise and bring  
the highest honors to our King,  
angels descend with songs again,  
and earth repeat the loud amen.

PSALM 72; Words: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt., P.D.; Music: John Hatton, (1710-1793, P.D.); CCLI #678906

\*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.

Tech Team	Today 5/22	Next Week 5/29
Sound:	Henry H.	Henry VZ
Projection:	Hannah VH	Tim H./France K.
Video	Dick G.	Devin VZ
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

# First CRC

## Bulletin Announcements

**May 22, 2022**

### **OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

**Congregational Meeting: Tomorrow Night at 7pm** is the date for our annual Congregational Meeting. 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.

**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!

**Thanks** to those of you who have sent cards, expressed concerns, and prayed for Hank over the last 3 months.

We are very thankful to God that the surgery was a success, and that no cancer was found. "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23

- **Hank & Sylvia Van Zanten**

*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.*

**Worship Service YouTube Link:** May 15: <https://youtu.be/sdmlnSQnXoo>

**Christian Education Fund:** Please don't forget to submit your pledge forms for the 2022-2023 school year. In order for the fund to continue the cost of the school year of \$127,755.00 needs to be pledged by May 31, 2022. Return the pledge forms in mailbox #85. If you have any questions please contact Katie Jungquist at 428-3818.

**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!

### **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

### **CALENDAR:**

**Greeters:** This morning – **Greg & Beth Boon;**

Next week – **Shirley Boonstra & Elly Cuperus**

**Coffee Hosts:** This morning – **John & Judy Velasquez;**

Next week – **Dennis & Melba DeKok**

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

**Next Week** – Bob DG, Juli O., Kiera L.



**Upcoming Dates to Note:**

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

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

**RECOMMENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Join us in Praying for Synod 2022** - Synodical delegates, church leaders, and CRCNA members across the continent are praying for Synod 2022. Please join us! Prayer gatherings for synodical delegates are scheduled for May 11 and May 25. We will post prayer guides on the Network each time so that you can pray with us at a time that works for you as families, individuals, church councils, small groups, and others. Need some prayer points to pray through now? Find the April 27 prayer guide at <https://network.crcna.org/prayer/prayer-guide-synod-psalm-13>

**Ascension Day: Jesus Now in Heaven** - Check out the new kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). In Acts 1, we read about the last moments of Jesus' time on earth. He told his disciples what he wanted them to do next, and then he left. Why did Jesus have to leave? What could be good about Jesus going? Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and check out all the new content.

**Groundwork: Sharing Your Faith Makes Disciples** - Participating in evangelism can be an intimidating, but Jesus commands us to share our faith. Join Groundwork as we demystify ideas of evangelism by studying the stories of Jesus ascension to heaven in Luke 24:46-53, Acts 1:6-11, and Matthew 28:16-20 to discover what Jesus' command is, what it means, and what it looks like in our lives today. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://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](http://familyfire.com). Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

**Elder and Deacon Online Training Course (Free)** - Are you a leader or incoming Elder/Deacon at your church? Register now to take the Thriving Essentials virtual training in June at no cost (limit 25 persons). The two, 2 hour-long Zoom sessions on June 2 and 9 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](http://crcna.org/Thrive)

**Send Us Your Church Life Photos** - Send us your photos of the church at work or at worship! If you attend a CRC church and like taking photos, we'd love to see photos of your church in action: worshipping, engaging with the neighborhood, gardening...anything that brings church members together. We hope to share these photos on our Facebook page, on the homepage of the CRCNA website, on the Deacons' Offering Calendar, and in other ways that showcase some of the many faces of the CRC. (For that reason, please ensure that you have permission from the people in the photo to share it.) Send your photos to [Communications@crcna.org](mailto:Communications@crcna.org)

**Faith Practice Reflection Tip** - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Prayer: Read Mark 9:14-24 and ponder or discuss the following questions. This father's utterance, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" is an honest prayer. He's not trying to impress Jesus; he's asking Jesus to meet him where he is. In what areas of your faith do you experience doubt? How is doubt handled in your church family? Is there room for people to experience both belief and unbelief as they grow in faith? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject](http://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@firstcrcmv.com](mailto:secretary@firstcrcmv.com) by 9:00 am  
Thursday of each week with your prayer  
items.

**CONTINUING REQUESTS:**

**Jack and Trudy Van Klaveren's** son **Gerrit** and his wife **Karissa** are expecting who 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** had various tests done this week and is awaiting results. 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 16 - Resonate: Michigan**

Give thanks for the many individuals and families who have found a church home at City Hope GR, a Resonate church plant partner in Michigan. City Hope is a church where people of all abilities can worship, serve, and grow together. Pray that more churches will also work toward becoming more accessible.

#### **Tuesday May 17 - Pastor Church Resources: Synod**

Many churches will be sending delegates to Synod 2022 in just a few weeks. Pray that they may be open to the Spirit's leading, engage in thoughtful conversations, respect and honor each other, and have the strength and energy needed for a very full week. Pray also for pastors and church leaders as they continue in ministry after significant decisions have been made at synod.

**Wednesday May 18 - *World Renew: West Africa***

Our West Africa Ministry Team celebrated International Women's Day with a presentation on trauma healing work for survivors of gender-based violence and a solidarity walk. As a result, the local executive chairman pledged his and the local government's support to ending discrimination against women and girls. Though insecurity and poverty persist, we praise God for supportive, positive impacts on people's lives.

**Thursday May 19 - *Resonate: Dominican Republic***

Resonate missionaries Steve and Sandra Brauning ask you to pray for ongoing church planting in the Dominican Republic. Please ask God to provide resources and raise up leaders.

**Saturday May 21 - *Resonate: Central Asia***

A Resonate missionary serving in Central Asia works with men at a rehabilitation center. He teaches them about the gospel and disciples them. Please pray that these men, wherever they are in their faith journey, will continue to learn more about Jesus.

**Sunday May 22 - *ReFrame: Indonesia***

Pray that ReFrame's Indonesian ministry partners will continue to reach more people like Eny with their devotional materials. Eny watches Kata-kata Wasiat ("Testament Words"), a short video program that accompanies a monthly devotional booklet. "Thank you for your words and reflections," Eny shared. "You are strengthening my soul."