

Dear Friends in Christ,

Throughout this past year, your elders have been reading through a book entitled *"The Tender Commandments"* by Ron Mehl. I think it's fair to say that one of the most misunderstood passages in all of Scripture is that of the Ten Commandments. Many people in our world today view these commandments as a restrictive list of 'don'ts' rather than a love message from God!

In the weeks to come we're going to take a closer look at each of the commandments. Many of the illustrations I will be using will come directly from Mehl's book. In addition, I'll also make use of the Heidelberg Catechism which does an excellent job of summarizing the heart of each command. May God bless us as we make our way together through this important part of His Word! In His Grace, Pastor John

1. Aug. 7 AM – *"Introduction to the Ten(der) Commandments"*
2. Aug. 14 AM – *"The Only God"*
3. Aug. 21 AM – *"The Pursuit of Empty Images"*
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9. Oct. 16 AM – *"What About Stealing?"*
10. Oct. 23 AM – *"Taming Our Tongues"*
11. Oct. 30 AM – *"True Contentment"*

Welcome to Mount Vernon
First Christian Reformed Church!
Pastor John Knoester
Aug. 21, 2022 — Morning Service – 10:30 AM

* Please stand in body or in spirit

*“Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.”*

Prelude

Welcome

* Opening Song of Praise: LUYH #532 v. 1-3 *“Be Still, for the Presence”*

1. Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.
Come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found; we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.
2. Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire; with splendor he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.
3. Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him; in faith receive from him.
Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.
Words and Music: David Evans (b.1957) ©1986, Kingsway's Thankyou Music,
admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing; CCLI# 678905

* Call to Worship

Leader: In your wisdom, O God,
you call us here to worship you.

People: We gather, alive to the Word of God.

Leader: You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant,
ready to listen and respond with heart, soul,
strength, and mind.

People: We listen, alive to the Word of God.

Leader: You call us to be always watchful
for your Word of wisdom,
sometimes startling and unexpected,
sometimes still and quiet,
but always dwelling among us.

People: We watch and wait for the Word of God.

* 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

* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

*"Come, bow before him now, with reverence and
fear."*

Announcements

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance: (Based on I John 1:5,7)

This is the message we have heard from God
and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God
there is no darkness at all.

If we walk in the light, as God is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

—from 1 John 1:5, 7, NRSV

God's Will for our Lives – Lord's Day 35 Q&A 96-98

Leader: Q. What is God's will for us in the second
commandment?

**People: A. That we in no way make any image of God
nor worship him in any other way
than has been commanded in God's Word.**

Leader: Q. May we then not make any image at all?

**People: A. God can not and may not be visibly portrayed
in any way.
Although creatures may be portrayed,
yet God forbids making or having such images
if one's intention is to worship them
or to serve God through them.**

Leader: Q. But may not images be permitted in churches
in place of books for the unlearned?

**People: A. No, we should not try to be wiser than God.
God wants the Christian community instructed
by the living preaching of his Word—
not by idols that cannot even talk.**

Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH #624 v. 1-3

“Not What My Hands Have Done”

1. Not what my hands have done
can save my guilty soul;
not what my toiling flesh has borne
can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do
can give me peace with God;
not all my prayers and sighs and tears
can bear my awful load.

2. Your voice alone, O Lord,
can speak to me of grace;
your power alone, O Son of God,
can all my sin erase.
No other work but yours,
no other blood will do;
no strength but that which is divine
can bear me safely through.

3. I praise the Christ of God;
I rest on love divine;
and with unfaltering lip and heart
I call this Savior mine.
My Lord has saved my life
and freely pardon gives;
I love because he first loved me,
I live because he lives.

Words: Horatius Bonar; Music: George William Martin; Public Domain; CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory: *“Holiness” – The Bible Project*

(Following the Offertory children are invited to come forward
for the Children’s Message)

Children’s Message: Mrs. Marjo Rouw

(Following the Children’s Message children ages 3-3rd 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.

Words and Music: Keith Getty / Stuart Townend; © 2005 Thankyou Music
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"In him no sin is found; we stand on holy ground."

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:1-6, Deuteronomy 4:15-20, John 4:19-26

Prayer of Illumination

Message: *"The Tender Commandments – Pursuing Empty Images"*

Time of Prayer

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #246 v. 1-4 *“God is Here”*

1. God is here! As we, your people,
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of your Spirit
into open minds and hearts.
2. Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the Word has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence as in speech,
here in newness and renewal
God the Spirit comes to each.
3. Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd’s flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.
4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day’s celebration,
all we have to give, receive;
we who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe.

Words: st. 1-4 Fred Pratt Green, 1977, © 1979 Hope Publishing Company; st. 5
Henrietta Ten Harnsel © 1979 Hope Publishing Company; Music: J. Wyeth’s
Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813, P.D.; CCLI #678905

*"Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here."*

* We Confess our Faith: Apostles Creed

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.

**He ascended to heaven and is seated
at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen. —Apostles' Creed**

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #965

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1709, P.D.; Music: Traditional Black Gospel; CCLI #678905

* Postlude

Welcome! The prophet Isaiah proclaimed: “With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation” (Isaiah 12:3). We welcome all who are present today and invite everyone to drink of Christ’s “living water,” which can quench our spiritual thirstiness forever. 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 8/21</i>	<i>Next Week 8/28</i>
Sound:	Mardy S.	Henry VZ
Projection:	Beth B.	Tim H./Franchesca K.
Video	Tim H./Franchesca K.	Dick G.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin

Announcements

August 21, 2022

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Sunday Morning Worship! Throughout this past summer several of our worship leaders have invited the congregation to move closer to the front and to each other. There are several important reasons and benefits for this request: (1) The singing sounds even more amazing when we are closer together. (2) Our shut-ins who receive DVD's of the service get to see more of their church family as the videos usually only incorporate the front area of the church. (3), It's easier for visitors and/or those arriving late to find a seat as the back of the church is now less full. In light of these benefits and as we begin a new church season - both the worship committee and elders would like to graciously encourage the congregation to continue this practice. Our hope is that we will begin to naturally fill up the front of the church first and that in the future the back will be filled up as well!

New Member! At its August 15 meeting the council warmly received the membership of **Luke Visser** from the United Reformed Church of Burlington, WA.. We currently plan to publicly introduce Luke to the congregation on an exciting future Sunday date. On that Sunday we will also have the opportunity to celebrate the baptism of **Bailey Visser** (Luke's wife) and Lord willing, a healthy newborn baby. In the meantime, when you have the opportunity, please welcome both Luke and Bailey Visser to our church family!

Church Committee Lists: The new church committee lists have been finalized by the executive committee and are available to be picked up on the shelf in the breezeway! We did our best to honor any requests to be added, or removed, from a committee. In addition, we also took the liberty of appointing some of our new members to certain committees, as well as those who have recognizable gifts. If you are not currently on a committee, but would like to be added to one - there is still time! Please let either Beth or Pastor John know as soon as possible. Thanks again to all those who willingly offer to use their gifts for the life of Christ's church!

Education Committee Meeting: The new church season is fast approaching! In fact, we hope to begin Sunday School on Sunday, September 18! **Our next committee meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 28 in the council room shortly following the morning service.** Those currently on the committee, or recently assigned, should be on the lookout for an email this coming week. If

you are an interested parent, prospective teacher, etc. - you are certainly invited to join us too!

Worship Service YouTube Link for

August 14: <https://youtu.be/92To6CWPrSc>

First CRC offers the option to give your offerings online, including setting up automatic and reoccurring donations. For information on this and other ways to give please check the "Give" page on the church's website: https://firstcrcmv.com/?page_id=1509.

Thank you to our family of God at First CRC for all your prayers, cards, words of encouragement and comfort, and meals these past few months of Dennis' journey with cancer. Words cannot begin to express our appreciation - we just thank God for you. **Melba and Michelle; Bradley and Crystal; Peter, Tricia, Lincoln and William Cisneros; and Nathan and Valerie, Victor, James and Naomi De Kok**

CALENDAR:

Greeters: This morning - Tim & Heather Van Hofwegen; Next week – Hank & Sylvia VZ

Coffee Hosts: This morning – Dick & Linda Gudmunson; Next week – Clarence & Eleanor Klunder

Worship Team: This Morning – Stan B.

Next Week – TBD

Upcoming Dates to Note:

Men's Bible Study: Tuesday, August 30 at 7:00 am at Shari's Restaurant

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RECOMMENDED ANNOUCEMENTS:

At-home Faith Practice Reflection Tip - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Service: Read John 13:3-5, 12-14 and ponder or discuss the following questions. If you were one of the disciples, how do you think you would have felt when Jesus, the Son of God, began to wash your feet? Embarrassed? Unworthy? Awed? Other? In what specific ways can we follow Jesus’ example of servanthood, both individually and as members of a faith community? Whose “feet” might you need to “wash”? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject)

Heading Off to Campus? - As you study, experience a multitude of perspectives and worldviews, and develop new relationships, why not also be part of a diverse community that gathers together to grow in faith and to engage God’s world? There are over 35 CRC Campus Ministries on campuses across North America, comprised of students, faculty, and staff. To find out if there is one on your campus please check www.resonateglobalmission.org/campus-ministry/partner-campus-ministries No campus ministry at your school? You can also locate a nearby CRC here: crcna.org/church-finder For more information about our unique ministries, please contact us at campusministry@crcna.org

Glocal Mission Podcast - How do we join God's mission locally and globally? That's what Resonate leaders Rich Braaksma and Nalini Sukanandam aim to discover in this podcast, interviewing regional leaders and people doing awesome things (church planters, campus ministers, lay leaders, etc.) in a variety of contexts! Just five episodes in, this podcast in its infancy is already uncovering oodles of insight

and inspiration. Plug in your earbuds and join us as we meet ministry leaders from around North America living out the gospel in their own contexts. Check it out at <https://anchor.fm/glocalmission>

Love Your Difficult Neighbor - Check out the kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. God isn't only concerned with who's right. He wants us to "...try to live at peace and help each other have a strong faith" (Romans 14:19). Is there someone you need to try to make peace with this week? Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Prayers of Comfort for a Grieving Heart - "Prayers of Comfort for a Grieving Heart," shares words for your pain and helps you find God's comfort. Download this 31-day prayer guide from the ReFrame Prayer Ministry. It's yours free at connect.reframeministries.org/prayers-of-comfort

Groundwork: The Beatitudes: A Kingdom Perspective on People Who Are Blessed - The values of God's kingdom are completely unlike the values of our world. Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 5:1-12 to seek a kingdom perspective on who is blessed and how we should be, or become, if we want to reflect the kingdom of God in our own lives. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.



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

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Kevin Wigboldy: Kevin has been discharged! God is good. Kevin is very excited to be home and enjoy some fresh air/sunshine! We are all feeling incredibly thankful and blessed. He is feeling much better and his blood counts continue to improve, but he still struggles with severe back and hip pain at night making it difficult to sleep. His immune system is extremely compromised so there are strict activity and dietary guidelines he'll follow as he transitions home. He will also require multiple visits a week to City of Hope for continued monitoring as he recovers. Thank you all for your relentless love, support & prayers.

Please continue to pray for **Rinie Rouw**.

Please continue to pray for **Michael Hendricks** as he recovers from his heart surgery.

Continue to pray for **Shirley Boonstra, Maxine Greidanus** and **Adelaida Vega** as they continue to fight their cancer.

SHUT INS: *Nell Annema and Marion Ekkelkamp* at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley; *Marcella DeVries* at Bethany Lutheran in Everett, *Marjean DeGroot* at Mountain Glen in Mount Vernon; *Mary Koopmans* at Where the Heart is in Burlington; *Hans & Aileen Meishke* at Kenmore Living in Kenmore, WA, *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 August 15 - ReFrame: India

Brijesh, a recent college graduate, says that the ReFrame messages he listens to touch his heart, reminding him to slow down and seek God each day. Pray that Brijesh and other Christians in India will continue to connect with God in their lives.

Tuesday August 16 - Resonate: Ukraine

Please continue to pray for Resonate missionaries who are ministering with many people displaced from their homes in Ukraine. Ask for God's comfort and encouragement for those who are grieving, and for God's peace and protection where there is fighting.

Wednesday August 17 - Raise Up: TLT: Worldwide

Pray for shared vision, open doors, removal of obstacles, and clear conversations so that strategic partnerships with Timothy Leadership Training (TLT) may help to equip international church leaders. May church leaders who do not have access to formal training be edified, equipped, and affirmed in their calling to serve Jesus and the church.

Thursday August 18 - ReFrame: North America

Pray for Lona, a Prayer Team member, who writes, "The past two years have been extremely difficult; I lost my full-time job during the pandemic in 2020. . . . But a few weeks ago I was offered a full-time temporary job with full benefits, working close to home. Praise God! Pray that this temporary job will turn into a permanent one."

Friday August 19 - *World Renew: World Humanitarian Day*

Today is World Humanitarian Day, when partners across the humanitarian spectrum advocate for the survival, well-being, and dignity of people affected by crises. This year's focus is on climate emergency. May our world's leaders act to reverse the effects of climate change affecting the world's most vulnerable people.

Saturday August 20 - *Resonate: West Africa*

A Resonate missionary in West Africa asks for prayer for a local Christian school, in which most of the students come from families that practice Islam: "Pray for wisdom in how to share Christ with our students and their families."

Sunday August 21 - *Justice ministries: Day of Justice*

On this annual Day of Justice in the CRC, pray that the church will answer the call of Isaiah 1:17 to do justice. May the church learn to do what's right, defend the marginalized, care and serve in the local community, and work for just systems. Lament the injustices you see, and ask God to show the church his path forward.