

***Welcome to Mount Vernon
First Christian Reformed Church!
Pastor John Knoester
Oct. 2, 2022—Morning Service – 10:30 AM***

* Please stand in body or in spirit

“Sing to the Lord, sing his praise, all you peoples;”

Prelude

Welcome

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

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” v. 1-4

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

* Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 34 and Psalm 9)

Leader: O magnify the Lord with me.

People: Let us exalt God's name together!

Leader: We will give thank to you, O Lord,
with our whole heart;
We will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

**People: We will be glad and exult in you;
We will sing your praise to your name,
O Most High.**

* Song of Praise: LUYH #515 v. 1, 2, 4, 6

"Sing to the Lord, Sing His Praise"

1. Sing to the LORD, sing his praise, all you peoples;
new be your song as new honors you pay.
Sing of his majesty, praise him forever,
show his salvation from day to day.
2. Tell of his wondrous works, tell of his glory
till through the nations his name is revered.
Praise and exalt him, for he is almighty;
God over all, let the LORD be feared.
4. Give unto God Most High glory and honor;
come with your offerings and humbly draw near.
Worship the LORD in all beauty and splendor;
tremble before him with godly fear.
6. Let heaven and earth be glad; oceans, be joyful;
forest and field, exultation express.
For God is coming, the judge of the nations,
coming to judge in his righteousness.

Psalm 96; Words: Psalter, 1912, alt., P.D.; Music: Lowell Mason (1792-1872),
1830, P.D.; CCLI# 678905

* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

"New be your song as new honors you pay."

Announcements

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance:

Leader: The God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us.
The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us.
Be assured that God is with us even now, accepting, guiding, and forgiving.

People: Thanks be to God

God's Will for our Lives (Based on Philippians 2:1-4)

If then there is any encouragement in Christ,
any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit,
any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete:
be of the same mind, having the same love,
being in full accord and of one mind.
Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,
but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.
Let each of you look not to your own interests,
but to the interests of others.

—Philippians 2:1-4, NRSV

Song of Thanksgiving: "LUYH #334 v. 1-5

"May the Mind of Christ, My Savior"

1. May the mind of Christ, my Savior,
live in me from day to day,
by his love and power controlling
all I do and say.
2. May the word of God dwell richly
in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph
only through his power.
3. May the peace of God, my Father,
rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort
sick and sorrowing.

4. May the love of Jesus fill me
as the waters fill the sea.
Him exalting, self abasing:
this is victory.

Sing Acapella

5. May we run the race before us,
strong and brave to face the foe,
looking only unto Jesus
as we onward go.

Words: Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925, P.D.; Music: A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925 ©
Estate of A.C. Barham-Gould; desc. Emily R. Brink, 1986, © Faith Alive Christian
Resources; CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory: *"The Law"* – The Bible Project

* 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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*(Following this song children ages 3-3rd grade
are dismissed for Children and Worship)*

"Sing of his majesty, praise him forever,"

Scripture Readings: Exodus 20:13, Matthew 5:21-26

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"The Tender Commandments – Loving Our Neighbor"***

Time of Prayer

* Song of Application: LUYH #256 v. 1-4

"They'll Know We are Christians"

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
3. We will work with each other, we will work side by side.
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us all one.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Words: Peter Scholtes (b. 1938) © 1966, 1967 F.E.L. Church Publications, Ltd.,
assigned 1991 to Lorenz Corporation CCLI #678905

"Show his salvation from day to day."

* We Confess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 105-107

Leader: Q. What is God's will for you
in the sixth commandment?

People: **A. I am not to belittle, hate, insult,
or kill my neighbor— not by my thoughts,
my words, my look or gesture,
and certainly not by actual deeds—
and I am not to be party to this in others;¹
rather, I am to put away all desire for revenge.²
I am not to harm or recklessly endanger myself
either.³
Prevention of murder is also why government
is armed with the sword.⁴**

Leader: Q. Does this commandment refer only to murder?

People: **A. By forbidding murder God teaches us
that he hates the root of murder:
envy, hatred, anger, vindictiveness.¹
In God's sight all such are disguised forms
of murder.²**

Leader: Q. Is it enough then that we do not murder
our neighbor in any such way?

People: **A. No. By condemning envy, hatred, and anger
God wants us to love our neighbors
as ourselves,¹ to be patient, peace-loving, gentle,
merciful, and friendly toward them,²
to protect them from harm as much as we can,
and to do good even to our enemies.³**

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #257 v. 1,3,4,5,6 “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

1. Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.
3. We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.
4. When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.
5. This glorious hope revives
our courage by the way;
while each in expectation lives
and waits to see the day.
6. From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin, we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.

Words: John Farrell, 1782, P.D.; Music: attr. Johann C. Nägeli, 1828, 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.

Tech Team	Today 10/2	Next Week 10/9
Sound:	Henry H.	Tim H.
Projection:	Tim H/France K.	Beth B.
Video:	Brandon S.	Dick G.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC

Bulletin Announcements

October 2, 2022

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

GEMS MAGAZINE DRIVE: Thanks to those who have already dropped off old magazines for us to use at our next meeting. Keep 'em coming! We have lots of girls so will need lots of magazines.

Welcome Baby Basket: **Luke and Bailey Visser** are expecting a baby boy in just a few weeks! There is a basket in the annex ready to be filled with gifts for him. Join in on the fun of welcoming and celebrating the newest addition to our church family!

SAVE THE DATE! We will be hosting our annual **Reformation Day Service on Sunday, October 30, at 6:30pm**. Our speakers will be **Rev. Nick Rosas** and **Rev. Gilbert Kim**. Pastor Rosas is the new full-time CRC pastor at Oak Harbor CRC, and Pastor Kim is the leader of Didachem Ministries that our classis currently supports. There will be a time of refreshments and fellowship following the service.

Adult Education Class: Sunday School for our children begins this coming Sunday (Sept. 18) and there will also be an opportunity for parents and other adults. This year's adult class will be led by Mr. Bob De Groot and Mr. Kevin Kok on the topic of **apologetics**. How do we as Christians respond to some of the hard questions and objections to our faith? Questions such as - Why is Jesus the only way? How can a good God allow evil to exist? Do faith and reason conflict? Participants are encouraged to bring their own questions and personal wrestling questions through the years. One of the best ways to model faith to the next generation is to be committed life-long learners ourselves. ... Class begins **at 9:30 AM in room 10** of the education wing. We hope to see you there!

Additional Staff Position: September 11 you received a letter from the church council updating you on the second staff position. The council

values your input and feedback and looks forward to receiving it. An electronic version of this communication can be accessed via the following link: <https://firstcrcmv.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/2nd-Staff-Communication-to-Congregation-09-07-22.pdf>

Worship Service YouTube Links:

September 25: <https://youtu.be/r5hheccrwoI>

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

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"*
4. Sept. 4 AM – *"Honoring God's Holy Name"*
5. Sept. 11 AM – *"Celebrating the Sabbath"*
6. Sept. 25 AM – *"Honoring Those in Authority Over Us"*
7. Oct. 2 AM – *"Loving Our Neighbor"*
8. Oct. 9 AM – *"Fencing Our Marriage"*
9. Oct. 16 AM – *"What About Stealing?"*
10. Oct. 23 AM – *"Taming Our Tongues"*
11. Oct. 30 AM – *"True Contentment"*

CALENDAR:

Greeters: Today: Greg & Beth Boon

Next Week, 10/9: Melba DK

Coffee Hosts: Today: Melba DK & Sarah Zastoupil

Next Week: Joe LeClair, Katie J., Elly C.

Worship Team: Julie S., Kayla & Ella VH

Next week, 10/9: TBD

Today - Choir Rehearsal following the morning service

Upcoming Dates to Notes:

Today - Choir Rehearsal following the morning service

Sunday – 10/9 at 6:30 p.m., Women's Bible Study

Tuesday – October 11 at 7:00 a.m.

Men's Bible Study at Shari's Restaurant

Dec. 2, 7 p.m. – Fountainview Choir Concert

RECOMMENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Come tour C.A.R.E. Medical Centers newly renovated facility! Friday, September 30, from 9am-4pm. 110N. 15th Street, Mount Vernon. Refreshments will be served.

Please Join C.A.R.E. Medical Center's Fundraiser for Life 2022 on October 21st. The keynote speaker is Dr. Anthony Levatino, a former abortion doctor. Admission is free, but please RSVP at 360-428-4777. Additional details are on the bulletin board by the kitchen.

Liberty Gospel Quartet will be in concert at Faith Community Church, 586 Birch Bay - Lynden Rd, Lynden, WA. 98264, on Saturday, October 15, 2022, at 6:00pm (doors open 5:00pm) Free Admission/Freewill Offering. Come early for some great gospel singing with Sunrise Gospel Quartet. Refreshments following the concert. Bring the most first-time guests and receive a free CD. For more info call Mary Ann at 360-224-4815. Hope to see you there!

CRC COMMUNICATIONS:

Calvin University Inauguration - Calvin University will inaugurate its 12th president on Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022. We invite you to join in person or watch online as we welcome Dr. Wiebe Boer and celebrate the legacy and future of Calvin. The ceremony will take place at 4:00pm Eastern in the Van Noord Arena (Calvin's campus, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA). Visit calvin.edu/go/inauguration for information, a schedule of events, and a link to the livestream.

Indispensable in God's Eyes - Check out the kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. God says something very important about those of us who are weak. He says we are indispensable. How can you make someone who is different from you feel indispensable today? Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Groundwork: God Always Cares and Never Leaves - What's one thing we can be sure of in life? That it will change. Whether change is expected or not, it can still be unsettling. Join Groundwork as we study James 1:16-17, Malachi 3:6, Lamentations 3:22-23, Mark 4:35-41, and Jeremiah 29:11 to remind us of God's constant nature for encouragement in the midst of life's inevitable changes. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Today Is All Nations Heritage Sunday - On All Nations Heritage Sunday we celebrate the multicultural church of Christ. You can support ethnic minority leadership in the church by giving to the All Nations Heritage Scholarship Fund provided by the CRC Office of Race Relations. It provides financial assistance for students of various ethnic minorities who attend universities affiliated with the CRC. Please designate your offering today or give online at: crcna.org/Race/Give

At-home Faith Formation Tip - Thankfulness is an important faith practice. Each day between now and Thanksgiving, notice the things in your life that you can give thanks for. Write those things on slips of paper and collect them in a jar or box to read during your Thanksgiving celebration. Also visit tinyurl.com/ThanksPsalms for some beautiful Psalm printables you can use to decorate your Thanksgiving table. (Tip from Faith Formation; bit.ly/CRCFaithFormation)

CRCNA Position Openings - The Christian Reformed Church has immediate full-time openings for: a Donor Relations Manager based in Grand Rapids, MI, with Resonate Global Mission, and a Church and Customer Service Connector (Bilingual) anywhere in North America with CRCNA Ministry Support Services. For more details and to apply visit www.crcna.org/jobs



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.

NEW REQUESTS:

Please pray for **Ryanne** and her family. Ryanne's sister **Karen Rutgers**, of Lynden, passed away unexpectedly on Sept. 18. On Tuesday this week, Ryanne received the sad news that another sister, **Vonda Hall**, of Oak Harbor, is not expected to live beyond a few weeks and has been accepted into hospice care. Ryanne says, "Many tears and crying during this difficult time. Pray for God's care and loving hands for me and family. Our trust and hope is in God's hands." *Thank you, Ryanne VanderPol*

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please continue to pray for **Kevin Wigboldy** as he recovers from his stem cell transplant.

Please continue to pray for **Michael Hendricks**. He is home with his wife and three children. Please pray that God will continue with the healing by way of the therapies. The biggest concern right now is his vision.

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 September 26 - *Communications: All Nations Heritage Week*

This week we celebrate the diversity of people and stories that make up the Christian Reformed Church, looking forward to the reality of the “great multitude . . . from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb” (Rev. 7:9). Pray for a spirit of unity and joy as we learn, reflect, and anticipate together.

Tuesday September 27 - *World Renew: Cambodia*

Please pray for the people of Cambodia. Inflation is high, and the government needs to find extra funding to support poor and vulnerable families during this difficult time. Pray also for peace and stability in Asia, considering the conflict in Myanmar, the tension between China and Taiwan, and uncertainty in the south China region.

Wednesday September 28 - *ReFrame: Indonesia*

A young man named Vanno recently joined one of ReFrame’s listener communities in Indonesia. “At first I felt doubtful,” Vanno shared, “but I found new friends who filled their time with things that were beneficial for building spiritual life.” Pray that the young people in this community may grow to know and love God to live a life that reflects God’s love.

Thursday September 29 - *Resonate: West Africa*

Give thanks for God’s work in the Teacher’s Garden, a resource center for Christian education in West Africa begun by Resonate missionaries Sosthene and Kara Maletoungou. Lydia recently became a Christian through this resource center! Ask God to continue working through this ministry.

Friday September 30 - *Justice ministries: Healing*

Today is the annual National Day of Truth and Reconciliation in Canada. Please pray for Indigenous peoples burdened by intergenerational trauma, and for the church as it seeks to live out a better way forward. Pray also for participants in the intentional learning journey of Hearts Exchanged.

Saturday October 1 - *ReFrame Ministries: English ministry*

Pray with Didi, who recently shared a request with our prayer team: "Pray for my son; he is a substance user and has really gone astray. He has been stealing all my stuff at home. I want God to give us peace as a family and to help us deal with this matter."

Sunday October 2 - *Race Relations: All Nations Heritage Sunday*

Psalm 133:1 exclaims, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" Join with CRC churches in celebrating All Nations Heritage Sunday. Pray for All Nations Heritage scholarship recipients, a diverse group of student leaders pursuing their educational goals at higher learning institutions affiliated with the CRCNA.