

***Welcome to Mount Vernon  
First Christian Reformed Church!  
Pastor John Knoester  
Oct. 9, 2022—Morning Service – 10:30 AM***

\* Please stand in body or in spirit

*“God, who created hearts to love,”*

Prelude

Welcome

\* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #317 v. 1-3, 5

*“God, Who Created Hearts to Love”*

1. God, who created hearts to love,  
showering all blessings from above—  
Alleluia! Alleluia—  
give these, who come to you with praise,  
peace, love, and laughter all their days.

*Refrain*

Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia!

2. Jesus at Cana gave a sign,  
turning the water into wine:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Sign that continues as he said—  
love, living, risen from the dead.

*Refrain*

3. Spirit of God, be at their side:  
Wisdom and Comfort, Guardian, Guide.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Make of their hearts a resting place;  
in every trial, gentle grace.

*Refrain*

5. God, let our joyful singing be  
sign of our faith community.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Baptized in water, we are fed,  
sharing the living wine and bread.

*Refrain*

Words: M.D. Ridge © 1992 M.D. Ridge, admin. OCP Publications; OneLicense.net  
License #A-711218 Music: *Auserlesen Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesänge*,  
Cologne 1623, P.D. CCLI #678905

- \* Call to Worship: Based on Psalm 92:1-2

Leader: It is good to praise the Lord  
and make music to your name, O Most High,

**People: to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your faithfulness at night.**

- \* Hymn of Praise: LUYH #523 v. 1-3 *“Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid”*

1. Creator Spirit, by whose aid  
the world’s foundations first were laid,  
come, visit every pious mind;  
come, pour thy joys on humankind;  
from sin and sorrow set us free  
and make thy temples worthy thee.

2. O source of uncreated light,  
the Father’s promised Paraclete,  
thrice holy fount, thrice holy fire,  
our hearts with heavenly love inspire;  
come, and thy sacred unction bring  
to sanctify us while we sing.

3. Plenteous of grace, descend from high,  
rich in thy sevenfold energy;  
make us eternal truths receive  
and practice all that we believe;  
give us thyself that we may see  
the Father and the Son by thee.

*Words: Latin hymn, Veni Creator Spiritus, 9th c.; para. John Dryden, 1693, P.D.;*  
*Music: John B. Dykes, 1861, P.D.*

- \* God’s Greeting/We Greet Each Other

## "Showering all blessings from above"

Announcements

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance:

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him  
may not perish but may have eternal life.  
Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world  
to condemn the world, but in order that the world  
might be saved through him." —John 3:16-17, NRS

God's Will for our Lives (Based on Matthew 27:37-40)

Leader: What is the great and first commandment?

**People: Love the Lord your God with all your heart  
and with all your soul and with all your mind.**

Leader: What is the second commandment like it?

**People: Love your neighbor as yourself.**

Leader: What does this mean?

**People: Love is the fulfilling of the law.**

Leader: To what does this call us?

**People: To a life of faith working through love.**

Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH #17 v. 1-4 "*Beautiful Savior*"

1. Beautiful Savior! King of creation!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,  
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
2. Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
robed in flowers of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer;  
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

3. Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,  
bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels in the sky.

### **ACAPELLA**

4. Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
now and forevermore be thine!

Words: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1873, P.D;

Music: Schleissche Volkslieder, 1842, P.D.; CCLI# 678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

\* Song of Preparation: LUYH #315 v. 1-3

*"Where Love Is, God Abides"*

1. Where love is, God abides: and God shall surely bless  
a home where trust and care give birth to happiness.  
May we, O Lord, together prove  
the lasting joy of such a love.
2. How slow to take offense love is! How quick to heal!  
How ready in distress to know how others feel!  
May we, O Lord, together prove  
the lasting joy of such a love.
3. And when time lays its hand on all we hold most dear,  
and life, by life consumed, fulfills its purpose here:  
May we, O Lord, together prove  
the lasting joy of Christian love.

Words: Fred Pratt Green © 1970 Hope Publishing Company

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

*"Give these, who come to you with praise"*

Scripture Readings: Genesis 2:18-25, Exodus 20:14,  
Matthew 5:27-30, I Cor. 6:18-20

## Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“The Tender Commandments –  
God’s Fence Around Our Marriages”***

### Time of Prayer

\* Song of Application: LUYH #316 v. 1-5 *“When Love Is Found”*

1. When love is found and hope comes home,  
sing and be glad that two are one.  
When love explodes and fills the sky,  
praise God and share our Maker’s joy.
2. When love has flowered in trust and care,  
build both each day that love may dare  
to reach beyond home’s warmth and light,  
to serve and strive for truth and right.
3. When love is tried as loved-ones change,  
hold still to hope though all seems strange,  
till ease returns and love grows wise  
through listening ears and opened eyes.
4. When love is torn and trust betrayed,  
pray strength to love till torments fade,  
till lovers keep no score of wrong  
but hear through pain love’s Easter song.
5. Praise God for love, praise God for life,  
in age or youth, in calm or strife.  
Lift up your hearts, let love be fed  
through death and life in broken bread.

Words: Brian Wren (b. 1936) © 1983 Hope Publishing Company

Music: English folk melody; arr. © 2001 faith Alive Christian Resources; CCLI  
#678905

*“Peace, love, and laughter all their days.”*

\*We Confess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 108-109

Leader: Q. What does the seventh commandment  
teach us?

People: **A. That God condemns all unchastity,  
and that therefore we should thoroughly  
detest it and live decent and chaste lives,  
within or outside of the holy state of marriage.**

Leader: Q. Does God, in this commandment,  
forbid only such scandalous sins as adultery?

People: **A. We are temples of the Holy Spirit,  
body and soul, and God wants both  
to be kept clean and holy.  
That is why God forbids all unchaste actions,  
looks, talk, thoughts, or desires,  
and whatever may incite someone to them.**

\* God's Blessing

\* Parting Praise: LUYH #302 v. 1-2 *"Hear Our Praises"*

1. May our homes be filled with dancing,  
may our streets be filled with joy.  
May injustice bow to Jesus  
as the people turn and pray.

*Refrain*

*From the mountain to the valley,  
hear our praises rise to you.  
From the heavens to the nations,  
hear our singing fill the air.*

2. May your light shine in the darkness  
as we walk before the cross.  
May your glory fill the whole earth  
as the water over the seas.

*Refrain x2*

Words and Music: Reuben Morgan © 1998 Hillsong Publishing (APRA), admin.  
US & Canada at [EMICMGPublishing.com](http://EMICMGPublishing.com); 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.

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"*

Tech Team	Today 10/9	Next Week 10/16
Sound:	Tim H.	Henry VZ
Projection:	Beth B.	Hannah VH
Video:	Dick G.	Tim H./France K.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

# First CRC

## Bulletin Announcements

### October 9, 2022

#### OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

**Welcome Baby Basket:** This will be the last week to bring gifts in for the Visser family. Don't miss out on welcoming our newest little member!

**WE'RE BRINGING IT BACK!** Yes, the **First CRC Chili Cookoff and Pumpkin Carving Contest** hosted by our own Youth Group is **BACK ON THE CALENDAR** for **October 28, from 6-8pm**. If you love to make chili, bring a pot to be judged by your fellow church family. If you just love to EAT chili, come and eat! For the pumpkin carving contest, please bring your own pumpkins and creativity for this fall extravaganza!! Always an evening of fun and sometimes very spicy tongues!



**If you are in an educational position or working with children** in our church, please put **November 6** on your calendar for a **SAFE CHURCH TRAINING/ POSSIBLE POTLUCK** after the morning service. We would like to get as many as possible to attend this informational training so we can get it done in one shot.

**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.

**Worship Service YouTube Links:** October 2: <https://youtu.be/kj76R9wiFUo>

*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](https://firstcrcmv.com/?page_id=1509)*



### **CALENDAR:**

***Greeters:*** Today: Melba DK, Jill R.

Next Week, 10/16: Mardick & Jill S.

***Coffee Hosts:*** Today: Joe LeClair, Katie J., Elly C.

Next Week, 10/16: Randy & Peggy B.

**Worship Team:** Julie S., Adriana & Tessa S.

Next week, 10/16: Sheri L., Heidi B., Kiera L.

**Today** - Choir Rehearsal following the morning service

**6:30 pm** – Women’s Bible Study

### **Upcoming Dates to Notes:**

**Today** - Choir Rehearsal following the morning service

**Wednesday, October 12, 7-9pm** - Cadets

**Sunday – 10/23 at 6:30pm** Women’s Bible Study

**Tuesday – October 11 at 7:00am**

Men’s Bible Study at Shari’s Restaurant

**Oct. 28, 6-8pm** – Youth Group Chili Cookoff/Pumpkin Carving Contest

**Oct. 30, 6:30pm** – Reformation Service here

**Nov. 6, following the am Service** – Safe Church Training

**Nov. 9, 5-7pm** – Cadet Pancake Dinner (No reg. mtg)

**Dec. 2, 7 pm** – Fountainview Choir Concert

### **RECOMMENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Please Join C.A.R.E. Medical Center’s Fundraiser for Life 2022 on October 21<sup>st</sup>.** 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**

**Family Fire** - 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.

**Who is Welcome** - Check out the kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Our churches are homes too. They are a home for our church family, a place where we learn about and worship God. How can you help your church family members feel like they belong today? Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and check out all the new content.

**Groundwork: God's Perfect Peace** - How do we find the strength to say "it is well with our souls," even when our circumstances leave us feeling uncertain or anxious? Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Isaiah 26:3-4, Jeremiah 6:13-14, and Numbers 6:22-26 to better understand the truth of God's perfect peace and discover how we can experience it for ourselves, even when our lives aren't very peaceful. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Help Survivors of Hurricane Ian** - World Renew Disaster Response Services is making plans to respond to Hurricane Ian in southwest Florida. Ian is one of the top 5 storms to hit Florida in the last 100 years along with Andrew, Charley, Wilma, and Irma. Many homes are underwater from heavy rain and historic storm surge. You can help by praying for those most affected and by giving generously to World Renew at [worldrenew.net/donate](http://worldrenew.net/donate), calling 800-552-7972, or mailing your check made out to World Renew DRS, with Hurricane Ian Response 2022 in the memo line to: World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Drive, Byron Center, MI, 49315-7400.

**Restorative Practices Training** - Learn how to design and facilitate proactive listening circles for a variety of topics and occasions at our two-day training in Restorative Practices for Faith Communities. CRCNA staff members Andrew Oppong and Eric Kas of Social Justice and Safe Church will partner to offer the training at the CRCNA offices (1700 28th St. SE) in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on October 27-28th (a Thursday/ Friday), and will introduce participants to FaithCARE's framework and vision for restorative congregations. The cost of this training is \$100 and includes lunch. Learn more at [network.crcna.org/biblical-justice/restorative-practices-faithcare-training](http://network.crcna.org/biblical-justice/restorative-practices-faithcare-training)

**Safe Church October Domestic Violence Awareness Webinar with Selah Empowers** - National domestic violence awareness month happens in October in the U.S. and in November in Canada. On Thursday, October 13th, 12pm (Eastern) Safe Church is hosting a webinar with Selah Empowers. Selah offers support that empowers lives and homes. It was started out of Heritage Christian Reformed Church in Byron Center in 2018 when its leadership recognized the need to offer help through the church for those victimized by abuse. To find out more and register, visit: <https://bit.ly/SCwebinarselah>

**Thank You for Giving** - The CRC Office of Race Relations would like to thank you for offering up your tithes and prayers on All Nations Heritage Sunday last week (Oct. 2nd). If you did not have a chance to give at that time, please consider donating now to this special ministry and their Race Relations multicultural scholarship fund: [crcna.org/Race/Give](http://crcna.org/Race/Give)



People to be remembered with prayers, cards, letters & words of encouragement. Email the office at [secretary@firstcrcmv.com](mailto: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:**

Please continue to pray for **Ryanne VanderPol** and her family as they mourn the lost of Ryanne's sister **Karen** and grieve for dear sister **Vonda**, who passed just this past Sunday.

Thank God that **Greg Ackermann** is home and recovering from his infection!

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 October 3 - *Resonate Global Mission: Philippines*

Resonate missionaries Stan and Bessie Kruis ask you to pray for the Christian Reformed Church in the Philippines. Ask God to continue to work in and through this denomination.

Tuesday October 4 - *World Renew: Gender justice*

God sees each one of us as a “whole person”— his imagebearer created with inherent value. But during times of social upheaval such as the pandemic, women and girls in many developing countries face increased gender-based injustices, making them even more economically vulnerable than usual. May God give us wisdom as we strive to achieve justice for all.

Wednesday October 5 - *Indigenous Christian Fellowship: Healing*

We serve a community haunted by the legacy of residential schools in Canada; most of the survivors of those institutions live in Saskatchewan. That legacy is painfully evident in the violence, addictions, mental health, and even suicides of survivors and their children and grandchildren. Pray for healing and for the Holy Spirit’s help in ministry with Indigenous peoples.

Thursday October 6 - *ReFrame: Japan*

Pray for Taka and other people who are unable to access print devotions and yet have been able to receive audio devotions from our partners around the world. “I praise the name of the Lord,” Taka shared. “My day begins with your devotional program. I am completely blind due to glaucoma, but I am able to walk with gratitude and joy, thanks to the Word of God.”

Friday October 7 - *Resonate: Training*

Give thanks for a fruitful Educational Care training led by Resonate missionary Mark Wiersma and his team of local facilitators. Pray for the educators who participated as they put into practice what they have learned.

Saturday October 8 - *World Renew: West Africa*

Areas where our partners work continue to experience many attacks from violent extremist organizations. Our West Africa ministry team is exploring the possible use of radio to reach more people while minimizing large gatherings and travel because of terrorism in the area. Please continue to pray for safety for our partners and for the communities affected by violence.

Sunday October 9 - *Women's Leadership: Development*

As a new season of learning begins this fall, pray for women to take time for personal reflection, reading, study, growth, and relationships. It's not uncommon for women to neglect their development while they focus on ensuring that family members, church members, and coworkers have everything they need to succeed in the year ahead. May women be drawn to God and his Word for strength, encouragement, and spiritual growth.