

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

Pastor John Knoester

November 13, 2022 Morning Service – 10:30 AM

***Please stand in body or in spirit**

"I will rise from waters deep"

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

* Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 91:2 and Romans 10:9,1)

Leader: Let us worship God.

**People: He is our refuge and our fortress,
our God, in whom we trust.**

Leader: Let us confess with our mouths,
"Jesus is Lord," and believe in our hearts
that God raised him from the dead.

**People: "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord
will be saved."**

Leader: Let us call upon our true God,
believing him in our hearts,
confessing him with our mouths,
worshipping him in spirit and in truth.

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #560 v. 1-3 *"We Praise You, O God"*

1. We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.
2. We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;
through life's storm and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'ertake us, you never forsake us.
And with your help, O Lord, our battles we win.

3. With voices united our praises we offer;
our songs of thanksgiving to you we now raise.
Your strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us.
To you, our great Redeemer, fore'er be praise!

Words: Julia C. Cory, 1902, alt., P.D.; Music: a. Valerius, Nederlandtsch
Gedenckclandk, 1626, P.D.; CCLI# 678905

* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

"Into the saving arms of God."

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance: (Based on Titus:4-8)

When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,
he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done,
but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing
of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit whom he poured out
on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that,
having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs
having the hope of eternal life.

God's Will for our Lives: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 65-66

Leader: Q. It is through faith alone that we share in Christ
and all his benefits: where then does that faith
come from?

People: **A. The Holy Spirit produces it in our hearts¹
by the preaching of the holy gospel,²
and confirms it by the use of the holy sacraments.³**

Leader: Q. What are sacraments?

People: **A. Sacraments are visible, holy signs and seals.
They were instituted by God so that by our use
of them he might make us understand
more clearly the promise of the gospel,
and seal that promise.¹
And this is God's gospel promise:
to grant us forgiveness of sins and eternal life
by grace because of Christ's one sacrifice
accomplished on the cross.²**

Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH #800 v. 1-2

“What the Lord Has Done in Me”

1. Let the weak say I am strong.
Let the poor say I am rich.
Let the blind say I can see.
It’s what the Lord has done in me.

Refrain x2

*Hosanna, hosanna
to the Lamb that was slain.
Hosanna, hosanna,
Jesus died and rose again.*

2. Into the river I will wade.
There my sins are washed away.
From the heaven’s mercy stream
of the Savior’s love for me.

Refrain x2

We Celebrate the Baptism of Bailey Visser and Garrett Samuel Visser

Scriptural Promises

Response of Faith and Covenant Vows

Invitation

Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH #800 v. 3 *“What the Lord Has Done in Me”*

3. I will rise from waters deep
into the saving arms of God.
I will sing salvation songs.
Jesus Christ has set me free.

Refrain x2

*Hosanna, hosanna
to the Lamb that was slain.
Hosanna, hosanna,
Jesus died and rose again.*

Words and Music: Reuben Morgan © 1998 Hillsong Music Publishing (APRA),
admin. in the US and Canada EMICMGPublishing.com; CCLI #678905

Baptism

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offering: First Offering: General Fund Second: Benevolence Fund

Offertory Song Video

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

"I will sing salvation songs,"

Scripture Readings: I Peter 1:22-25a, Galatians 3:26-29, and
I Corinthians 11:23-26

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"The Means of Grace"***

Time of Prayer

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #795 v. 1-4

"We Know that Christ is Raised"

1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.
Alleluia!
2. We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life
as living members of a living Christ.
Alleluia!
3. The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's power shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God, the Three in One.
Alleluia!
4. A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe, restored and whole, will sing:
Alleluia!

Words: John B. Geyer, 1967, alt., © 1969 John B. Geyer; Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852-1924); P.D.; CCLI# 678905

*(During the singing of this hymn the children will be returning from Children
and Worship and the elders are invited forward to serve communion)*

"Jesus Christ has set me free."

We Celebrate Communion Together

Declaration of God's Invitation and Promises

(Based on Luke 13:29, 24:30-31)

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!
People will come from east and west, from north and south,
and sit at the kingdom of God.

When our risen Lord was at the table with his disciples,
he took the bread, and blessed and broke it,
and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened
and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table.

Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast
that he has prepared.

Summary of Scriptural Teaching: (Based on HC Q&A 79)

Leader: Christ calls the bread his body and the cup
his blood, or the new covenant in his blood.

People: **Christ has good reasons for these words.
He wants to teach us that as bread and wine
nourish our temporal life,
so too his crucified body
And poured-out blood truly nourish our souls
for eternal life.**

Leader: But more important, he wants to assure us,
by this visible sign and pledge,
that we, through the Holy Spirit's work,
share in his true body and blood as
surely as our mouths receive these holy signs
in his remembrance,

People: **and that all of his suffering and obedience
are as definitely ours as if we personally
had suffered and paid for our sins.**

Preparing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Invitation

Distribution: *(As the elements are being served)*

1. LUYH #529 *"Gather Us In" v. 1-4*

1. Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Words and Music (G ATH ER US IN 10.9.10.10 D): Marty Haugen
© 1982 G IA Publications, Inc.

2. LUYH #840 *"Behold the Lamb"* v. 1-3

1. Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
slain for us- and we remember
the promise made that all who come in faith
find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this Bread of Life,
and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of peace
around the table of the King.

2. The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ,
torn for you- eat and remember
the wounds that heal; the death that brings us life
paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this Bread of Life,
and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of love
around the table of the King.

3. The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
shed for you- drink and remember
He drained death's cup, that all may enter in
to receive the life of God.
So we share in this Bread of Life,
and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of grace
around the table of the King.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup:

Take, eat, remember and believe that the body of our Lord Jesus Christ was given for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.

Take, drink, remember and believe the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ was shed for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.

Response of Praise and Prayer

Worthy is the lamb, who was slain, to receive power
and wealth and wisdom and strength,
and honor and glory and praise!

Song of Response: LUYH #840 v. 4 *“Behold the Lamb”*

4. And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
to respond - and to remember
our call to follow in the steps of Christ
as His body here on earth.
And as we share in His suffering,
we proclaim Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven
around the table of the King.

“Behold the Lamb” Words and Music: Keith and Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend; ©2006, Kingsway’s Thankyou Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing; CCLI #678905

* God’s Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #859 v. 1-4 *“Be Thou My Vision”*

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art-
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father; thine own may I be,
thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.
3. Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only first in my heart,
high king of heaven, my treasure thou art.
4. High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Words: Irish hymn, 8th c; tr. Mary E. Byrne; vers. Eleanor H. Hull; Music: Irish melody; arr. Jack Schrader; © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. CCLI#678905

* Postlude

This morning, we will commemorate Jesus' death and resurrection as we celebrate the Lord's Supper. By faith, Jesus' death fully covers all our sin and by His resurrection power He gives us everlasting life. May Christ's Spirit strengthen us in faith, hope, and love as we draw near to Christ Jesus through His Spirit. *The Lord's Supper is a table of grace. All those who have received the grace of Christ and confess Him as Lord and Savior of their life are warmly invited to participate. Yet, know too that there is also 'grace' from this community of faith for those who do not yet confess Christ as Lord. And if that's the case then we encourage you not to partake until you have the genuine desire to receive God's grace and are ready to proclaim Christ as your Lord.* 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 11/13	Next Week 11/20	Thanksgiving Eve
Sound:	Henry VZ	Henry H	Tim H.
Projection:	Maddie D.	Hannah VH	Beth B.
Video	Tim H.	Dick G.	France K.
Offering:	General Fund 2 nd offering: Benevolence Fund	General Fund	See Bulletin Insert

First CRC

Bulletin Announcements

November 13, 2022

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

This morning we celebrate the baptism of both **Bailey** and little **Garrett Visser** AND communion as well.



A Program of Prison Fellowship

Future Angel Tree Co-coordinators

Needed! Every year we have the opportunity to provide approximately Christmas gifts to approximately 25-35 children in the valley whose parent is currently incarcerated. This ministry could not have happened without the leadership of Sylvia Van Zanten who has been the coordinator of it for many years. Sylvia has graciously agreed to help coordinate this

ministry one more year, but would like to have 1-2 other individuals to take the reigns next year. If interested, please contact the church office, or Sylvia directly.

*It is getting to be time for **Angel Tree** again. Last year we ran out of names and since some of you missed out on the opportunity to buy a gift it was decided to have more names available. **Angel Tree** is a program of Prison Fellowship that serves incarcerated parents by providing a pathway for strengthening and restoring their relationships with their children and families. As a church, this gives us the opportunity to share Christ's love by purchasing a Christmas gift for each child which is given on the parent's behalf. Each child receives a gift valued at around \$25.00. On November 27 following the service, Angel Tree tags with the child's name, age and suggested gift ideas will be available for you to pick up. Any questions? Call Sylvia Van Zanten at 360-386-7442.*

Christmas Blessing Project!: It's back!!! This year's neighborhood blessing project is going to be a "Christmas Brownie Mix." A Christmas greeting, recipe, and a brief invitation to our Christmas services will be attached to the jar. The goal is to assemble and deliver 200 jars to our neighbors on **Saturday, December 10**. Assembly will begin at **9 AM** with delivery to the neighborhood to take place immediately after. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to spend some time serving together and if last year was any indication - it's a lot of fun! ... In the meantime, the following (see below) are some of the ingredients needed for this year's project. Please take the time to sign up accordingly on the lists in the Fellowship Hall and bring the ingredients to church no later than Sunday, Dec. 4. Thank you!



Ingredients Needed:

- Flour: 8 - 10lb bags
- Brown Sugar: 56lbs of brown sugar = 28 2 lb bags
- Sugar: 13 - 5 lb bags
- Salt: 2 26oz containers
- Baking soda: 2 1/2 boxes
- Cocoa: 28 8oz containers
- Milk chocolate chips: 27 12oz bags
- Semi-sweet chocolate chips: 27 12oz bags

Join us at the First Christian Reformed Church as we celebrate the birth of Christ through music! Fountainview Academy Orchestra and Singers from Lilllooet, BC, will be sharing a live concert at 7:00 PM on December 2nd. You won't want to miss this enchanting evening of modern Christmas hymns and classic carols! Admission is free, and the Orchestra and Choir can't wait to see you there! The venue address is: 701 W Blackburn Rd, Mount Vernon, WA.

Hank and Anjean Vander Veen's New Address:
The Bridge at Mount Vernon, Room 105
301 S. LaVenture Road
Mount Vernon, WA 98274

Worship Service YouTube Links:

AM Service 11/13: N/A due to technical issues

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

THERE IS NOW A SERMON AUDIO SECTION on the website where you can listen to or download sermons. The current series is now available as well as the 2 other sermons that were preached during this period that were not in the sermon series. To access this new section, click on the "**Worship**" menu link and then select "**Sermons**".

PLEASE CLAIM ME!!

If you are missing an towels or potholders from the chili cookoff they are on the table by the kitchen! Please take them home before they become a permanent fixture!

CALENDAR:

Greeters: Henry & Sharon Kuipers

Next Week, 11/20: Keith & Jean Rasmussen

Coffee Hosts: Keith & Jean Rasmussen

Next Week, 11/20: John & Judy Velasquez

Worship Team: Greg & Beth B., Mandi D., France K., Nellie VDH

Next week, 11/20: Eliot B., Heidi B., Kayla VH, Ella VH

Thanksgiving: Henry & Pam VZ, Sylvia VZ

Today:

Baptism of Bailey and Garrett Visser and Communion

Choir Practice following the service

6:30pm Women's Bible Study

This Week:

GEMS Father/Daughter Night! 6:30pm at the MVCS Elementary School gym.
\$1 entry fee.

Upcoming Dates to Notes:

Tuesday – November 15 at 7:00am

Men's Bible Study at Shari's Restaurant

Dec. 2, 7 pm – Fountainview Choir Concert

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Save the date! Back by popular demand! Hear the acclaimed NOËL ensemble in concert and celebrate the wonder of a medieval Christmas with Celtic and classical harps, flute, strings, and poetry. A freewill offering benefits New Earth Recovery. Warm yourself with song and story, support men and women in recovery, and prepare your heart for the season!

**Tuesday December 6, 2022 @ 7:00 pm Bethany Covenant Church
1318 S. 18th Street Mount Vernon, WA 98274**

CRC COMMUNICATIONS:

Tour the Biblical Lands of Israel - March 6 – March 17, 2023.

Experience a refreshing renewal of your faith, and gain a deeper understanding of the Bible, as you tour the biblical lands with teaching host, Pastor Peter Tuininga, and Sindbad Tours of Israel. See many of the biblical places (Jerusalem, Galilee, Caesarea, Jericho, and much more), and gain spiritual and historical insights which will make the Bible come alive for you. For complete information, cost, and registration, go to toursofisrael.wordpress.com or call Peter Tuininga: 1 289 877 8433 or e-mail: peter.tuininga@gmail.com

At-home Faith Formation Tip - “Wondering questions” are an excellent way to engage kids (and people of all ages!) with Scripture. For example, after you read the creation story, ask open-ended questions like “I wonder what it looked like when God created the stars?” “I wonder what it would be like if there were no predators in our world?” “I wonder what you would feel like if you were the first person in God’s creation?” (Tip from Faith Formation; bit.ly/CRCFaithFormation)

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. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

Grandpa, Tell Me God's Story - Check out the kids’ devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Let’s tell the stories of God’s faithfulness to the people around us. Whether we are young or old, let’s share the good news of Jesus. Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Christmas Hope and the Women in Jesus' Family Tree - is a five-part Bible study podcast series and ebook from Groundwork exploring the stories of Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary. Through their experiences, we hear the message that no matter how broken we may feel, Jesus Christ came into our world to conquer sin, the root cause of our brokenness. Get it when you subscribe to Groundwork at groundworkonline.com/christmashope

Groundwork: Understanding God's Judgement - Judgment and consequences can feel unfair and mean. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Ezekiel 14 and 22 to better understand God's judgment: where it comes from, what it means, why it's necessary, and why it's also a source of grace. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Free Advent Devotion: Prepare the Way - Join World Renew, Resonate, and CRCNA Social Justice as we reflect on what it means to "prepare the way for the Lord" in the midst of injustice, conflict, and creation that groans. Sign up to receive reflections every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in Advent at crcna.org/advent

Give Thanks and Share Hope on Thanksgiving Day - In two weeks, we will join World Renew and Free A Family® participants in giving thanks to God for the generosity that is helping hungry families to journey away from poverty and injustice. Through our Free A Family offering on Thanksgiving Day, you share Christ's hope with families through climate-adaptive agriculture and income-generation, community health support, and peace and justice training to encourage learning and healing. For more information, go to: worldrenew.net/free-a-family

Chaplaincy Sunday is Next Week, November 20 - Join with churches throughout the CRCNA in celebrating Chaplaincy Sunday on November 20. Search the website: crcna.org/Chaplaincy for great resources on how you can support and provide for these front line workers.

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

NEW REQUESTS:

Please keep **Shirley Boonstra** in your prayers. She is still wrestling with significant anxiety, but also greatly missing her church family and friends. She loves to receive phone calls (360-421-7319) and even better - 'in-person' visits. If she's not visiting family out of the area - she hopes to be with us at our Thanksgiving Eve service on Wednesday, Nov. 23. Please pray that she can join us for worship on that night. Offers to chauffeur her are pastorally encouraged!

A prayer of thanksgiving that yesterday **Maxine Greidanus** received good news regarding her PET results. The results indicate less cancer and the need to only do light chemo treatments every 3 weeks now. Maxine and Larry are incredibly grateful for this news and give thanks to God for His faithfulness to them!

Our sympathies and condolences to the **Kermit and Julie Houck** family. Judy Houck (Kermit's mother) passed away last week. Please keep the entire Houck family in your prayers in the days and weeks to come.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please pray for **Terry's mom, Jeanne Beezhold**, as she has been recently diagnosed with a form of lung cancer. Remember her especially on Wednesdays when she has her chemotherapy treatments at the Skagit Regional Health Cancer Care Center in Mount Vernon.

Please keep **Hank and Anjean Vander Veen** in your prayers as they get settled into The Bridge and adjust to new surroundings.

Thank you for your continued prayers for my brother **Kevin Wigboldy**. He recently celebrated 100 days since his bone marrow transplant. He refers to it as "new life" which is so true as he has a refreshed purpose and hope!

THANK YOU! The family of **Michael Hendricks** would like to thank everyone for all their prayers and concerns. He is undergoing therapy for his eyesight, and it is gradually improving.

Continue to pray for **Adelaida Vega** as she continues to fight 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 November 7 - *Kuyper College: New year*

Please offer prayers of gratitude and praise with us for an excellent start to the school year. Please pray also for the growing impact of Kuyper as a work college as we equip students with opportunities to learn, work, and serve in their chosen fields. Pray for successful preparations and student recruitment this year as we launch a new athletic program in Fall 2023.

Tuesday November 8 - *ReFrame: India*

Pray for Vidya and Rajesh, a couple who were recently baptized in northern India. "Rajesh is addicted to alcohol, and this causes a lot of problems in their family," shared one of our partners in India. "They are in pain, but in the past year God has been bringing them peace as they have grown in relationship with him."

Wednesday November 9 - *Resonate: Campus ministry*

Give thanks for student leaders at Resonate partner campus ministries. These young leaders are discipling and mentoring students and helping to organize and run events. Ask the Holy Spirit to work in and through them for kingdom transformation on their university campuses.

Thursday November 10 - *World Renew: Disaster Response Services (DRS)*

Hurricane Ian was one of the top five storms to hit Florida in the past 100 years. Many homes were left underwater from heavy rain and historic storm surge. World Renew DRS is working with partners to gather information and prepare for a long-term recovery response. Ask for God's peace and provision for families affected by the storm.

Friday November 11 - *Communications: Veterans Day/Remembrance Day*

Today we acknowledge the service and sacrifices of men and women who have served our nations in a variety of ways. Pray for the families and loved ones of people who died in military service, for all who are serving now, and for all whose lives are affected by conflict and war.

Saturday November 12 - *Justice ministry: Day of Prayer*

Tomorrow is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. Afghanistan is one of the most dangerous places for a Christian to live, especially since the Taliban took over the government in 2021. Ask God to strengthen Christians facing persecution there and in many other parts of the world.