

***Welcome to First Christian  
Reformed Church!***  
**January 15, 2023 ♦ 10:30 A.M. Worship Service**  
***Pastor John Knoester***

\* Please stand in body or in spirit.

*“That word above all earthly powers,  
no thanks to them abideth”*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

\* Call to Worship:

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his host!

Praise him, sun and moon;

praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens,

and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord,

for he commanded and they were created.

He established them for ever and ever;

he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.”

Psalm 148:1-6, NRSV

*The Worship Sourcebook*, A.1.2.1— The Worship Sourcebook, 2nd  
Edition (<http://www.faithaliveresources.org/Products/420021/the-worship-sourcebook.aspx>)

\* Sung Call to Worship: 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

\* Song of Praise: LUYH #553 v. 1,3,4 *“How Great Thou Art”*

1. O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed;

*Refrain*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

3. But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin;

*Refrain*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
how great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

4. When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"

*Refrain*

*Words and Music: Stuart K. Hine, 1949, © 1949, 1953, The Stuart Hine Trust, USA  
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EMICMGPublishing.com; CCLI #678905*

*"The Spirit and the gifts are ours  
through him who with us sideth"*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Sung Prayer of Confession: LUYH #627 v. 1,3,4 *"Just As I Am"*

1. Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
3. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
4. Just as I am, thy love unknown  
has broken every barrier down;  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

The Assurance of God's Pardon

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

\* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #770 v. 1-4 *"In Christ Alone"*

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
this cornerstone, this solid ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My comforter, my all in all,  
here in the love of Christ I stand.
2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh,  
fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones He came to save.  
'Til on the cross as Jesus died,  
the wrath of God was satisfied.  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid;  
here in the death of Christ I live.
3. There in the ground His body lay,  
light of the world by darkness slain;  
then, bursting forth in glorious day,  
up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
for I am His and He is mine,  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
this is the power of Christ in me;  
from life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no human plan,  
can ever pluck me from His hand;  
'til He returns or calls me home,  
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

*"In Christ Alone"* Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend,  
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CCLI# 678905

*(During the singing of the last verse children ages 3-3rd grade  
are dismissed for Children's Worship)*

*“Let goods and kindreds go,  
this mortal life also,  
the body they may kill”*

Scripture Readings: Luke 4:31-44

Prayer of Illumination

Message:

***“The Life and Ministry of Jesus - A Life of Authority and Power”***

Time of Prayer

*“God’s truth abideth still; His kingdom is forever!”*

\* Hymn of Application: LUYH #776 v. 1-3

*“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”*

1. A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing;  
our helper he, amid the flood  
of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe  
does seek to work us woe;  
his craft and power are great,  
and armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.
2. Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing,  
were not the right Man on our side,  
the Man of God’s own choosing.  
You ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is he;  
Lord Sabaoth his name,  
from age to age the same;  
and he must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils filled,  
 should threaten to undo us,  
 we will not fear, for God has willed  
 his truth to triumph through us.  
 The prince of darkness grim,  
 we tremble not for him;  
 his rage we can endure,  
 for lo! his doom is sure;  
 one little word shall fell him.

\* God's Blessing

\* Parting Praise: LUYH #776 v. 4 *"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"*

4. That Word above all earthly powers—  
 no thanks to them—abideth;  
 the Spirit and the gifts are ours  
 through him who with us sideth.  
 Let goods and kindred go,  
 this mortal life also;  
 the body they may kill:  
 God's truth abideth still;  
 his kingdom is forever!

Words: based on Psalm 46, Martin Luther, 1529; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1852, P.D.; Music: Martin Luther, 1529, alt.; harm. Johann s. Bach (1685-1750), P.D.; CCLI #678905

Postlude

Tech Team	Today 1/15	Next Week: 1/22
Sound:	Henry H.	Mardick S.
Projection:	Beth B.	Hannah VH
Video:	France B.	Tim H.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

# First CRC

## Bulletin Announcements

### January 15, 2023

#### **OUR CHURCH FAMILY:**

**Sunday School resumes next week, Jan. 22!**

The **Women's Bible Study** will be meeting Sunday evening, Jan 22, to finish up their series of studies.

**Ministry Associate Update:** Shortly following our **January 22** morning service the council would like to give a brief update of where we are at in the search for a ministry associate. Christian Reformed Church policy is such that ultimately any 'call' to a pastoral position needs to come from the entire church body. Thus, for the purpose of transparency we would like to use this time to update you on the recent interviews that took place, answer any questions congregational members might have, and then share with you the likely 'next steps' in the process. We anticipate this being about a **30-45 minute meeting** and our hope is that as many congregational members as possible are able to attend. We will not be voting on anything and so if only mom can attend so dad can go fire up the grill and feed the children – that would be just fine (Personal experience suggests that moms are usually much better communicators to the rest of the family than dads are). We look forward to hopefully seeing you at the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup>! - Pastor John for the Council of First CRC

**Worship Service YouTube Links:** January 8: <https://youtu.be/XENGFOWPgCw>

*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)*

**GEMS CHRISTMAS IN JANUARY PARTY!** GEMS Girls, you won't want to miss our belated Christmas party at our next meeting! Although we had to postpone it due to severe winter weather, we wouldn't want to miss a minute of the fun. So, grab those baby gifts, a dozen Christmas snacks per family, and your fun holiday attire and join the fun on JANUARY 18 from 6:30-8:30pm. We'll turn the calendar back and party! See you there!



**CALENDAR:**

***Greeters:*** Today - Hank & Sylvia VZ  
Next Week 1/22: John & Judy Velasquez  
***Coffee Hosts:*** Today – Hank & Sylvia VZ  
Next Week 1/22: Clarence & Eleanor K.

**Children in Worship:**

Today - Heather & Ella VH  
Next Week 1/22: Tm & Hannah VH

**Worship Team:**

Today: None  
Next week 1/22: Eliot B., Heidi B., Kayla, Ella VH

**Upcoming Dates to Note:**

**Jan. 17: 7:00 a.m.** Men's Bible Study at Shari's Restaurant  
**Jan. 18:** GEMS Christmas Party  
**Jan. 22: Sunday School Resumes!!**  
**Jan. 22:** Ladies Bible Study  
**Jan. 25:** Cadets  
**Feb. 5:** Monthly Potluck Luncheon



**CRC COMMUNICATIONS:**

**Word Power MLK Day**- Check out the new kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Did you know words have power? Your words. Your neighbor's words. Everybody's! Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. knew that. He used his word power to help people see each other as equals, no matter their skin color. Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) like the The Bible in One Year Plan.

**Groundwork: Look At What God Has Done**- We all experience transitions and seasons in life. Join Groundwork as we study Joshua 3-4 to let stories of God's faithfulness and deliverance of the past assure us that he is still delivering us through the transitions of our lives yet today. Listen now at [Groundworkonline.com](http://Groundworkonline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Are Your Records up to Date?** - World Renew moved to new offices last year! Please help us save forwarding costs, staff time, and postal fees so more of your support can be directed to ministry. Update your mailing records now to reach us at our new home: World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Dr. SW, Byron Center, MI 49315-7400. Thank you!



How can  
we  
**PRAY**  
for you?

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:**

**Trudy Van Dyke** was transferred to Life Care Sedro-Woolley and will likely remain there for a few weeks. Please keep her in your prayers as she makes this adjustment.

Continue to pray for healing and strength for **Sally Reehorn**.

Keep **Marilyn Cooke** in your prayers. She has bone spurs and is wearing a boot currently to see if it will help heal them. If not, surgery will be done. Pray for healing for Marilyn.

**Alice De Vries** home now and is slowly but surely recovering from her recent mini-strokes. At the present time she would prefer phone visits over in-person visits. She is very grateful for all the many encouraging cards that have been sent and prayers offered on her behalf. Please pray for a full recovery for Alice in the weeks ahead!

Please continue to keep **Adelaida Vega** in your prayers as she recovers from gall bladder surgery and continues to fight her cancer.

Please pray for **Terry's mom, Jeanne Beezhold**, as she has been 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.

Continue to pray for **Maxine Greidanus and Shirley Boonstra** 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; ***Hank & Anjean VanderVeen*** at ***The Bridge*** in Mount Vernon; ***Sally Reehoorn*** at Creekside in Burlington; ***Bev Van Slageren*** at family in Grandview, WA.

### **OTHER REQUESTS: (CRC Communications)**

#### **Monday January 9 - *World Renew: Training Opportunities***

Inflation has the greatest impact on our global neighbors who earn barely enough to get by. Through training, people can diversify their livelihoods. Pray for community members who seize training opportunities, many of whom become trainers themselves. May they be encouraged as they help others in their communities learn skills like beekeeping, sewing, and fish farming.

#### **Tuesday January 10 - *Resonate: Ontario***

Guelph Campus Ministry, a Resonate partner in Ontario, hosts weekly community dinners for students. "Community dinner remains the main entry point, or first stop, for students who are connecting with Christian community," said Sara DeMoor, campus minister. Pray that students will experience the love of Christ through these dinners.

**Wednesday January 11 - Calvin Theological Seminary: Classes and preparations**

Pray for January Term classes, for students who are traveling, and especially for new students preparing to begin their studies in the spring semester. Pray for health and safety for all.

**Thursday January 12 - ReFrame: India**

Harahita leads her church in worship planning and reading from the Bible during Sunday worship services. She recently began sharing our Hindi devotional book, Dainik Bhojan, with her congregation. Pray for the people in her church who are beginning a new habit of reading devotions outside of Sunday worship.

**Friday January 13 - World Renew: Peace and justice**

Last month we participated in 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. The World Health Organization estimates that one in three girls and women worldwide experience abuse because of their gender, and that number is likely higher due to various stigma. Praise God for the men and women striving to bring an end to this injustice.

**Saturday January 14 - Resonate: Europe**

Resonate missionaries serving among people from a Muslim background in Europe ask for prayer for a woman at their church, who says she wants to see a sign from God before she commits to Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit to continue working in this woman's heart.

**Sunday January 15 - Disability Concerns: Lament and hope**

Each of us is made in God's image and for his glory. We lament ways in which we have perpetuated ableism in our lives and churches, excluding essential parts of the body of Christ for the sake of our own ease or comfort. We grieve that so many of our churches are not safe and accessible for all. Pray that through the Holy Spirit working in us, all people will be valued and find belonging in Christ and his church.