

Easter Sunday Service

April 9, 2023

HE IS NOT HERE

He is risen

MATTHEW 28, 6



Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

April 9, 2023 – Easter Morning

* Please stand in body or in spirit

“Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia!”

Prelude

Ministry of Music: Choir – “Christ Is Risen Today”

Easter Story (from Balcony): Matthew 28:1-10

* Easter Hymn: LUYH #182 v. 1-5 *“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”*

1. Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia!
All creation, join to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia!
Sing, O heavens, and earth, reply: Alleluia!
2. Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise; Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!
3. Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Once he died, our souls to save; Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!
4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head; Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise; Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia!
5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to you by both be given; Alleluia!
Risen Christ, triumphant now; Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow. Alleluia!

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt., P.D.; Music: Lyra Davidica, 1708, P.D.;
CCLI #678905

* Welcome

* Call to Worship and Easter Greeting:

Leader: Christ the Lord is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Leader: Glory and honor, dominion and power,
be to our God forever and ever!

People: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Leader: God has made us alive with Christ!

People: Death has been swallowed up in victory!

Leader: O sing unto the Lord, for he has done
excellent things.

* Hymn of Response: LUYH #199 v. 4

"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

4. Alleluia! Now we cry
to our Lord immortal,
who, triumphant, burst the bars
of the tomb's dark portal;
Alleluia! With the Son,
God the Father praising;
Alleluia! Yet again
to the Spirit raising.

*Words: John of Damascus (ca. 675-749); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.,
P.D.; Music: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1872, P.D.; CCLI #678905*

Leader: Grace be to you and peace, from him who is
and who was and who is to come,
and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,
the firstborn of the dead, and the Ruler of kings
on earth.

People: Alleluia, Amen!

* Mutual Greetings with the Historic Christian Testimony:

(Congregation members are encouraged to greet one another
with the following words: *"The Lord is risen! The Lord is risen indeed!"*)

* Easter Songs of Praise:

◆ LUYH #186 v. 1-3 “*Low in the Grave He Lay*”

1. Low in the grave he lay—
Jesus, my Savior;
waiting the coming day—
Jesus, my Lord.

Refrain

*Up from the grave he arose,
with a mighty triumph o’er his foes.
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
and he lives forever with his saints to reign!
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!*

2. Vainly they watch his bed—
Jesus, my Savior;
vainly they seal the dead—
Jesus, my Lord.

Refrain

3. Death cannot keep its prey—
Jesus, my Savior;
he tore the bars away—
Jesus, my Lord.

Refrain

Words and Music: Robert Lowry, 1874, alt, P.D.; CCLI #678905

◆ LUYH #181 v. 1-3 “*See What a Morning*”

1. See, what a morning, gloriously bright,
with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;
folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light,
as the angels announce, “Christ is risen!”
See God’s salvation plan,
wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,
fulfilled in Christ the Man,
for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

2. See Mary weeping, “Where is he laid?” —
as in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb.
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name;
it’s the Master, the Lord, raised to life again!
The voice that spans the years,
speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,
will sound ’til he appears
for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

3. One with the Father, Ancient of Days,
through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty.
Honor and blessing, glory and praise
to the King crowned with power and authority.
And we are raised with him;
death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered.
And we shall reign with him,
for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

*Words and Music: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend © 2003 Thankyou Music (PRS),
admin. worldwide at EMICMGPublishing.com excluding Europe admin. by
Kingswaysongs; CCLI #678905*

“All Creation Join to Say; Alleluia!”

Announcements

Ministry Update: OPOP (One Parish, One Prisoner)
– Greg Boon, Linda Gudmunson

We Give of Our Gifts: General Fund

Offertory

*(Following offertory the children are invited forward
for the children’s message)*

Children’s Message – Marjo Rouw

*(Following the children’s message children ages 3-3rd grade
are invited to attend Children and Worship)*

* Song of Preparation: LUYH #192

"Oh, How Good is Christ the Lord" (2x)

Oh, how good is Christ the Lord!

On the cross he died for me.

He has pardoned all my sin.

Glory be to Jesus.

Glory be to Jesus!

Glory be to Jesus!

In three days he rose again.

Glory be to Jesus.

Words: Puerto Rican folk hymn, P.D.; Music Puerto Rican folk hymn; harm.
Dale Grotenhuis (1931-2012), 1985, ©1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources;
CCLI #678905

"Raise your Joys and Triumphs Hgh; Alleluia!"

Scripture Readings: John 20:1-18 and Revelation 22:1-6

Prayer of Illumination

Easter Message: ***"The Tree of Life"***

Easter Morning prayer concluded with the Lord's Prayer

Leader: O Christ, in your resurrection,
the heavens and the earth rejoice. Alleluia!
By your resurrection you broke open
the gates of hell and destroyed sin and death.

People: Keep us victorious over sin.

Leader: By your resurrection you raised the dead
and brought us from death to life.

People: Guide us in the way of eternal life.

Leader: By your resurrection you confounded
your guards and executioners
and filled the disciples with joy.

People: Give us joy in your service.

Leader: By your resurrection you proclaimed
good news to the women and apostles
and brought salvation to the whole world.

People: Direct our lives as your new creation.

Leader: God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. From the waters of death you raise us with him and renew your gift of life within us. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. We pray all this in the Name of Jesus who Himself taught us to pray, saying together...

**People: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts as we also
have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.
For yours is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.**

“Sing, O Heavens, and Earth Reply: Alleluia!”

* Song of Response: *“Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)”*

1. One day when Heaven was filled with His praises,
One day when sin was as black as could be,
Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin,
Dwelt among men. My example is He.
The Word became flesh and the light shined among us,
His glory revealed.

Chorus

*Living, He loved me. Dying, He saved me.
Buried, He carried my sins far away.
Rising, He justified freely forever.
One day He's coming; Oh, glorious day,
Oh, glorious day.*

2. One day they led Him up Calvary's mountain.
One day they nailed Him to die on a tree.
Suffering anguish, despised and rejected,
Bearing our sins, my Redeemer is He.
The hands that healed nations, stretched out on a tree
And took the nails for me.

Chorus

3. One day the grave could conceal Him no longer.
One day the stone rolled away from the door.
Then He arose; over death He had conquered.
Now He's ascended, my Lord evermore.
Death could not hold Him,
the grave could not keep Him, from rising again.

Chorus

Bridge

One day the trumpet will sound for His coming.
One day the skies with His glory will shine.
Wonderful day, my Beloved One, bringing.
My Savior, Jesus is mine.

Final Chorus

*Living, He loved me. Dying, He saved me.
Buried, He carried my sins far away.
Rising, He justified freely forever.
One day He's coming; Oh, glorious day,
Oh, glorious day, glorious day, oh, glorious day.*

"Glorious Day", Words & Music by Mark Hall & Michael Bleaker;
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Music; All rights Reserved. Used by permission. CCLI # 678905

* We Profess our Faith: Apostles Creed

Leader: Let us join together in love,
and with one heart and one voice
profess the faith of the church
at all times and in all place.
Saying together,

**All: 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 Parting Blessing

* Closing Hymn: LUYH #365 v. 1,3 *"I Serve a Risen Savior"*

1. I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;
I know that he is living, whatever people say;
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,
and every time I need him he's always near.

Refrain

*He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me
along life's narrow way.
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know he lives?
He lives within my heart.*

3. Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian,
lift up your voice and sing
eternal hallelujahs
to Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek him,
the help of all who find;
no other is so loving,
so good and kind.

Refrain

*Words and Music: Alfred H. Ackley, 1933, © 1933 Homer A. Rodeheaver, ren.
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Postlude

Easter Welcome! He is risen! In the mighty name of our living Lord, we welcome you to this Easter service celebration. May you feel Christ's presence. Hear His Word proclaimed and be blessed and renewed. After the worship service, we invite you to join us in the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

Tech Team	Today: 4/9	Next Week: 4/16
Sound:	Mardy S.	Henry VZ
Projection:	Tim H.	Hannah VH
Video:	Brandon S.	Tim H.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC

Bulletin Announcements

April 9, 2023

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Easter Lilies & Bibles in the sanctuary were donated in memory of: Harry & Ida Annema, Jim Bollema, Rev. Harold DeGroot, Owen DeVries, Raymond DeVries, Bill & Marge Eskes, Les Faber, Pete & Pauline Faber, Stan & Grace Faber, Andy & Gay Folkertsma, Leo & Josina Greidanus, Gary Haagsma, Hank Haagsma, Kendal Haagsma, Stanley Haagsma, John & Helena Haarsma, Vonda Hall, Ellsworth & June Jungquist, Greg Klunder, Jim Klunder, John & Tess Klunder, Gretta Knudsen, John & Grace Kuipers, Jack & Gertrude McKee, Betty Postma, Greg Postma, Dick Reitsma, Paul Roorda, Mark & Katie Rouw, Otto Rouw, Karen Rutgers, Carmen Buss Sesin, Hilda Greidanus Siebert, Betty Stevens, Max & Willy Stevens, Ted & Hattie TeSelle, Clarence Vander Griend, Sr., Reka Vander Griend, Lona Vander Griend, Vikki Valentine (Vander Griend), Lyle & Evelyn Vander Pol, Wayne Vander Pol, Henry & Alida Vander Pol, Keith Vander Pol, Klaas & Patricia Van Zanten, Lori Visser, Eldon & Fern Wichers.

Movie Night on April 21 has been postponed due to MVC having their spring play on that evening. Keep your eyes peeled for a new date to come!

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

PLEASE HAVE ANY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS OR PRAYER GUIDE ITEMS TO BETH BY 9AM THURSDAY MORNINGS TO GET THEM INCLUDED IN THE PAPER AND EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS. THANK YOU!

Worship Service YouTube Links: April 2: <https://youtu.be/1V1nCbKk5wc>

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts today:

Melba & Michelle DK, Brandon & Julie S.

Greeters/Coffee Hosts next week, 4/16:

Wayne & Rhea D, Karen S.

Children in Worship:

Today - Alyssa A., Emmalyn S.

Next Week 4/16: Heidi B., Isaac D.

Worship Team:

Today: Henry & Pam VZ

Next Week: Eliot B., Heidi B., Kayla & Ella VH

This week:

April 12, 7-9pm: Cadets

April 10, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

April 11: 7:00 am Men's Bible Study at Shari's Restaurant

Upcoming Dates to Note:

April 16: Women's Bible Study, 6:30pm

April 23: GEMS Sunday

May 19, Friday, 6:00pm: Taste of Latin America

June 4: Church Potluck!

July 29, Saturday: Neighborhood "Block Party"

Dear Friends,

Have you ever noticed that the Bible is book-ended by trees? In the beginning of the Bible there is a tree in the Garden of Eden that God commands our first parents not to eat from. Unfortunately, Satan uses that tree and puts a lie in our heart. As a result, the world filled with enmity and pain.

At the end of the Bible we observe another tree – the Tree of Life. The picture here is that of a restored Eden. A place where God's people may eat freely as they dwell in a city full of peace and joy.

In between these two trees are several others important trees that help tell the biblical story of God's plan of redemption. In fact, in Jesus Christ, God even uses a tree (the cross) to remove the lie in our heart. ... May God shower His grace upon us as we make our way through the *trees of Scripture* this Lenten season.

In His Grace, - Pastor John

1. Feb. 19 - *"The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil"* (Genesis 2-3)
2. Feb. 26 – Pastor Brad Diekema
3. March 5 - *"Like a Cedar of Lebanon"* (Hosea 14 and II Corinthians 2:12-17)
4. March 12 – *"Zacchaeus and the Sycamore Tree"* (Luke 19:1-10)
5. March 19 – *"The Kingdom of Heaven is Like a Mustard Seed"* (Matt. 13:31-35)
6. March 26 – *"The Ingrafted Branches of an Olive Tree"* (Romans 11:13-24)
7. April 2 – *"Parades and Palm Branches"* (Zechariah 9:9-13, John 12:12-19)
8. April 7 – *"The Tree of Crucifixion"* (Galatians 3:10-14, I Peter 2:23-25)
9. April 9 – *"The Tree of Life"* (John 20:1-18, Rev. 22:1-6)
10. April 16 – Guest Pastor
11. April 23 – GEMS Sunday
12. April 30 - *"Of Rocks and Trees"* (Luke 6:43-49)

CRC COMMUNICATIONS:

World Renew US Tornado Response - In the last four weeks, five severe storm systems have struck homes and businesses from Texas to Wisconsin. Some areas in Rolling Fork, MS, and Little Rock, AR, were destroyed by EF3 or EF4 tornadoes. At least 57 people died. World Renew DRS is preparing to respond in affected communities by offering roof repair, tree removal, needs assessments, reconstruction, and hope. Please continue to pray for those who are struggling, and please give generously to World Renew DRS to assist those who need it most. Click to donate at worldrenew.net, call 800-552-7972, or send your check made out to World Renew DRS, with "DRS Spring Storms 2023" in the memo line to: World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Drive, Byron Center, MI, 49315.

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

Kids Corner: Easter: A New Beginning - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. This week's devotion explores the story of the Women at the Tomb. They were friends of Jesus who experienced deep sorrow when he died, but became the first people to share the good news of Jesus' resurrection! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Bible story podcast "The Women at the Tomb."

Groundwork: The Anticipation of Holy Saturday and the Thrill of Easter Sunday - Holy Saturday is a day to reflect on Christ's death before celebrating his resurrection on Easter Sunday. Join our Groundwork as we study John 19:38-20:23, Luke 23:55-24:47, and Matthew 28:16-20 to discuss the events of these holy days and remember again the unexpected, mind-blowing thrill of our salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. Listen now at Groundworkonline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Resonate Global Mission

Your Gift to Resonate Will Go Twice as Far - As we celebrate our Savior who is the Resurrection and the Life, let's go out with joy in our hearts to join God's mission! This Easter, you can help Christian Reformed church planters, missionaries, and campus ministers live out the good news by making a gift to Resonate while your gift will go twice as far! Find out how at www.resonateglobalmission.org/Double!



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:

Adelaida Vega will be going into hospice care in the days to come. Michelle says, "the doctor cannot do any more chemo for her because the chemo is not working. Her cancer is growing bigger and there is nothing they can do." The family is remaining positive that Adelaida can still get around and do some of the things she wants to do. They are very grateful for all the prayers, calls and visits from the congregation and ask to please continue to pray for them during this time.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please continue to pray for healing for **Margaret Vander Pol**.

Please continue to pray for healing for **Marilyn Cooke's** foot and for her grandson, who is fighting depression.

Continue to pray for **Adelaida Vega, 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 Meischke*** at Kenmore Living in Kenmore, WA, ***Adrianna Swanson***, and ***Clarence Vander Griend*** at Home Place in Burlington; ***Trudy Van Dyke*** at *Where the Heart Is*. ***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 April 3 - Resonate Global Mission: Uganda

Karen and Moses Lubbers-Odel, Resonate missionaries in Uganda, give thanks for two young men who recently gave their lives to Christ! Please pray for these men as they grow in their relationship with Jesus.

Tuesday April 4 - Indigenous Christian Fellowship: Training

Teaching our children is an immense challenge for every generation. Indigenous Christian Fellowship is developing Home Fire Teachings as a mixed-media resource for helping Indigenous and non-Indigenous families teach their children well. Pray that this project will be a blessing for building healthy families for generations to come.

Wednesday April 5 - ReFrame: Brazil

Pray for strength for Rev. Hernandes Lopes as he leads ReFrame's Portuguese ministry in Brazil. In this role he records hundreds of video messages each year and visits churches across Brazil, where he shares God's Word in congregations that often lack biblical preaching.

Thursday April 6 - Resonate: Cambodia

Give thanks for 41 people who were baptized in Cambodia! Please pray for Pastor Neang and his wife as they continue to lead the church in their village. Pray that the Holy Spirit brings more people into relationship with Christ.

Friday April 7 - Communications: Good Friday

In the hymn "Go to Dark Gethsemane" James Montgomery encourages us, "Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet, mark the miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete: 'It is finished!' hear him cry." As you reflect today, pray that people around the world will embrace the Savior who died for us and rose again.

Saturday April 8 - World Renew: Malawi

The rainy season in Malawi has brought flash floods, destroying homes and gardens. With increased food prices and the devaluation of the nation's currency, people are struggling, resulting in civil unrest. Please pray that Malawians can grow enough food, that the government will lead with wisdom, and that corruption and abuse of power will end.

Sunday April 9 - Resonate: Easter

Today we give thanks for the hope we have in Jesus. Please pray for our denomination as we work together to spread the gospel. Ask the Holy Spirit to work in and through Resonate missionaries, campus ministers, church planters, and other ministry leaders. Please pray for our congregations as they support and engage in mission in our neighborhoods and throughout the world.