

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
Pastor John Knoester
June 4, 2023

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

"We give thee but thine own,"

Prelude

Welcome

*** Opening Hymn: 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

***Call to Worship**

Leader: God has shown us the meaning of generosity
in the beautiful diversity of creation,
in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ,
in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit.

**People: God has abundantly blessed us and called us
to be a community that honors each other,**

Leader: To serve others with joy, to share our love
and material possessions.

**People: Let us rejoice in what we have been given
and in what is ours to give.**

* Hymn of Praise: LUYH #495 v. 1-3

"Come, All You People, Praise Our God"

1. Come, all you people, praise our God
and tell his glorious works abroad,
who holds our souls in life;
who never lets our feet be moved
and, though our faith has often proved,
upholds us in the strife.
2. We come with offerings to God's house,
and here we pay the solemn vows
we uttered in distress;
to him our all we dedicate,
to him we wholly consecrate
the lives his mercies bless.
3. Come, listen, all who fear the Lord,
while I with grateful heart record
what God has done for me;
I cried to him in deep distress,
and now his wondrous grace I bless,
for he has set me free.

PSALM 66; Words: Psalter, 1912, P.D.; Music: Charles H. Gabriel, (1856-1932),
P.D. CCLI #678905

* God's Greeting

* We Greet Each Other

"Whate'er that gift may be,"

Announcements

Installation of New Elders and Deacons – GH pg. 1004-1006

New Elders – Eliot Blom, Henry Van Zanten

New Deacons – Derek Blanken, Terry Dykstra

Song of Thanksgiving: *"Give Thanks"*

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich because of what
the Lord has done for us!"

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks, give thanks.

"Give Thanks" Henry Smith, ©1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music, CCLI# 678905

Call to Confession: Psalm 96:8-9 and Psalm 111:1

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.
Worship the LORD in holy splendor;
tremble before him, all the earth. —Psalm 96:8-9, NRSV
Let us give thanks to the Lord with all our being.
In the company of the upright,
let us honor God for the blessings and goodness
we have received. —based on Psalm 111:1

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance: Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

Leader: What then are we to say about these things?
If God is for us, who is against us?
He who did not withhold his own Son,
but gave him up for all of us,
will he not with him also give us everything else?
Who will bring any charge against God's elect?
It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn?
It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised,
who is at the right hand of God,
who indeed intercedes for us.
Who will separate us from the love of Christ?
Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine,
or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

**People: No, in all these things we are more than conquerors
through him who loved us.
For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

—Romans 8:31-35, 37-39, NRSV

God's Will for Our Lives: Romans 12:1

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you:

Take your everyday, ordinary life—

your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—
and place it before God as an offering.

Embracing what God does for you is the best thing
you can do for him. —Romans 12:1, TM

Offering

Offertory: *"Generosity" – The Bible Project*

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

* Hymn of Preparation LUYH #863 v. 1, 3-6

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

1. Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise,
let them flow in endless praise.
3. Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.

4. Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.
5. Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart—it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.
6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

Words: Frances R. Havergal, 1874, P.D.; Music: H.A Cesar Malan, 1827, P.D.; CCLI #678905

"All that we have is thine alone,"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 23:23-24, I Cor. 16:1-4, II Cor. 8:1-15,
II Cor. 9:6-11

Message: ***"Created to Worship – Our Offerings"***

Time of Prayer

"A trust, O Lord from thee."

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #877 v. 1-5
"We Give Thee But Thy Own"

1. We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord from thee.
2. May we thy bounties thus
as stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessest us,
to thee our firstfruits give.

3. To comfort and to bless,
to find a balm for woe,
to tend the lonely in distress,
is angels' work below.
4. The captive to release,
to God the lost to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace—
it is a Christlike thing.
5. And we believe thy Word,
though dim our faith may be;
whate'er for thine we do, O Lord,
we do it unto thee.

Words: William W. How, 1858, alt., P.D.

* We Profess our Faith: Our World Belongs to God – Art. 41-43

Leader: Joining the mission of God,
the church is sent with the gospel of the kingdom
to call everyone to know and follow Christ
and to proclaim to all the assurance
that in the name of Jesus there is forgiveness of sin
and new life for all who repent and believe.

**People: The Spirit calls all members to embrace
God's mission in their neighborhoods
and in the world:
to feed the hungry, bring water to the thirsty,
welcome the stranger, clothe the naked,
care for the sick, and free the prisoner.
We repent of leaving this work to a few,
for this mission is central to our being.**

Leader: In a world estranged from God,
where happiness and peace are offered
in many names and millions face confusing choices,
we witness— with respect for followers
of other ways— to the only one in whose name
salvation is found: Jesus Christ.

**People: In Jesus, God reconciles the world to himself.
God loves all creation; his compassion knows
no bounds.**

Leader: Jesus Christ rules over all.

**People: To follow this Lord is to serve him
wherever we are without fitting in,
light in darkness, salt in a spoiling world.**

* Benediction

* Doxology: LUYH #947 *"We Receive Your Blessing"*

1. We receive Your blessing; we receive Your grace,
as we walk in the light shining from Your face.
May the peace that You give change the way that we live.
We receive Your blessing as we leave this place.
2. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, you heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and praise the Holy Ghost.

Repeat Song

We receive your blessing as we leave this place.

Words & Music: Grace Moes & Natasha Moes

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Postlude

Welcome! The psalmist wrote: "I will exalt you, my God and King. I will praise your name forever and ever" (Psalm 145:1). With a similar attitude, let us praise God joyfully. 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: 6/4	Next Week: 6/11
Sound:	Henry VZ	Mardick S.
Projection:	Tim H/Isaac D.	Beth B.
Video:	Brandon S.	Tim H./Emmalyn S.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC

Bulletin Announcements

June 4, 2023

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

The Back to School Blessing is back on! Stay tuned for future announcements.

If you were not here this past Sunday, we had the pleasure of listening to Mr. Steve Gumear and Jon Peerbolt and their ministry, NOVI, that works with children in war torn countries, specifically the Ukraine. The link to last week's service is: <https://youtu.be/EdLQEHQbrGs>. If you would like more information on this ministry or would like to contribute, here are some links that will be helpful.

Contributions to fund this work can be made here: <https://www.novi.ngo/donate>

To receive monthly updates, subscribe here: <https://www.novi.ngo/join-us>

For more information about methods and philosophy, go here: <https://www.novi.ngo/what-we-do>

If you want to stay current on work and the inspiring stories of transformation happening, join our social media conversation:

YouTube channel: The Novi Community or <https://www.youtube.com/@TheNoviCommunity>

Facebook: The Novi Community or <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100081560344771>

Instagram: The Novi Community or <https://www.instagram.com/thenovicommunity/>

Twitter: @novicommunity

Web site: www.novi.ngo

Checks made payable to The Novi Community can be sent to:

The Novi Community

PO Box 3673

Midland, TX 79702

An office desk is needed for the church for Brad's office. If anyone has a desk available, please contact Mardick at 360-630-9162.

Congratulations to Our Graduates:

8th grade: Franchesca Bill, Maddie Dykstra, Caleb Link, Joel Link, Tessa Speck, Lauren Vander Bosch;
12th Grade: Jacob Blanken, Lila Faber, Rayahna Oostra, Hannah Van Hofwegen, Caitlin Vander Kooy; College: DJ Droog.



Church Potluck: Our next church potluck will be held on Sunday, July 2 following the morning service. Brad Diekema will be here so this will be a good time to welcome him. Come and join us.

June 11 AM Service / 2023 Synod: Please extend a warm welcome next week Sunday morning (June 11) to Pastor Doug Fakkema of Anacortes CRC who will be proclaiming God's Word to us... In addition, please pray for Elder Darrel Lagerwey and Pastor John who will both be representing Classis Pacific Northwest at this year's Synod meeting in Grand Rapids, MI (June 8-15). If interested in following this year's Synod - the following is a copy/paste of an announcement received from Grand Rapids: "Plenary sessions will be available via the live Synod webcast, as well as archived so that people can tune in later. These features can be accessed quickly and easily through www.crcna.org/synod, starting June 9. Don't forget to sign up for Synod News for yourself, your family, and church. Simply go to www.crcna.org/subscribe and enter your email address."

Join Our
BLOCK PARTY

Summer Block Party! Mark your calendars accordingly for **Saturday, July 29** as that will be the date of our summer block party! Darrel L. is already exploring new games and water entertainment for this year's event and Kristi S. is already making food preparations. In addition, there is always a need to help set things up, serve during the event, and take things down at the end. Please contact Mardick S. if you would like to help out accordingly. Otherwise, we encourage you to invite your friends to join us on **Saturday, July 29!**

Don't forget to be filling your C.A.R.E. Medical Center (formerly Pregnancy Choices) Baby to turn it in here at church on Father's Day!

First CRC offers the option to give your offerings online, 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

Worship Service YouTube Links:

May 28: <https://youtu.be/EdLQEHQbrGs>

Dear Friends,

The 'short answer' to why God creates, saves, and sustains us is for the praise of His glory. In other words, you and I were **created to worship!** That's the primary purpose not only of our individual lives, but also as a church. Together, we are called to worship our Triune and living God!

This being said, when it comes to corporate worship, it's fair to ask **why** do we worship the way that we do? What is the main purpose of some of our specific liturgical elements on Sunday morning? What are some of the biblical and theological reasons for why we do them?

In the months to come, I plan to do a general survey of Reformed worship itself as well as teach on some of the specific liturgical elements themselves. The hope, of course, is that better understanding will lead to even deeper appreciation and gratitude for the very reason we are created, saved, and sustained in Christ. May God bless this study in the weeks to come!

Tentative Sermon Schedule:

1. May 7 – *"God's Church, Not Ours"*
2. May 14 – *"Keeping Sunday Special and Biblical Guidelines for Worship"*
3. May 21 – *"Liturgy, Scripture, and Preaching"*
4. June 4 – *"Our Offerings"*
5. June 18 – *"Sacraments"* (Communion Sunday)
6. June 25 – *"Prayer"*
7. July 30 – *"Confession & Assurance"*
8. Aug. 6 – *"Music"*
9. Aug. 13 – *"Professing our Faith / Creeds"*
10. Aug. 20 – *"Benediction"*

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts today:

John & Judy V.

Greeters/Coffee Hosts next week, 6/11:

Henry & Jayne H., Jason & Shelby VK

Children in Worship:

Today: Only God knows

Next Week: Ditto

Worship Team:

Today: Greg & Beth B., Emmalyn S., France B.

Next Week: Henry & Pam VZ, Kayla & Ella VH

This Week:

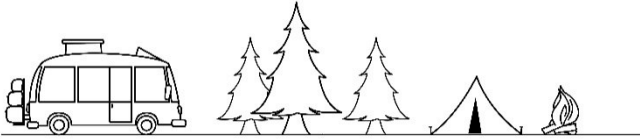
Tuesday, June 6, 7:00am Men's Bible Study at Shari's Restaurant

Upcoming Dates to Note:

July 2: Church Potluck! Brad Diekema will be here.

July 29, Saturday: Neighborhood "Block Party"

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:



Cascade

Family Bible Camp (July 6-10): Registration is all online again this year and is easier than building and launching a rocket with your seven-year-old! Sign up now before it's too late!

CRC COMMUNICATIONS:

Kids Corner: Walking Through Grief - Check out the new kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. What can you do when grief is hard? In Psalm 27:5, David says that God protects you and keeps you safe. What are some things to remember when grief feels unbearable? Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Liz and Friends episode "The Long Goodbye."

Groundwork: God Cares and Will Provide; Trust Him - Our Creator God cares for us and promises in Scripture to provide for our needs. Join Groundwork as we study Nehemiah 9:6, Psalm 145:15-16, Matthew 6:25-34, and Philippians 4:10-13 to learn about God's providence. Together we'll discuss what believing these promises looks like in how we pray and live both in times of need and times of plenty. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.



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.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Trudy Van Dyke suffered a heart attack on May 26 and is recovering. Please pray for continued healing and renewed strength in the weeks to come.

Update on **Juli Oostra**: Juli is home with a still very low, but steadily rising platelet count. She is very weak and requests no visitors for now. Thank you for continued prayer on her behalf and also for the family.

Please pray for **Marilyn Cooke's** 3-year-old grandson, who broke his legs this past week on a trampoline and pulled one leg out of the socket. Please continue to pray for her 13-year-old grandson who is fighting depression, and for Marilyn's pain in her right foot. It has been worse recently.

Please keep **Adelaida Vega** in your prayers as she enters hospice care. Pray for **Michelle and Darin** and their family as they enter this time.

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 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 May 29 - Chaplaincy and Care: Memorial Day (U.S.)

On this day in the United States we remember men and women who gave up their lives in service to their country. We pray for those who have been left behind—friends and family who grieve and may feel abandoned in their grief. We live in the hope that one day all wars will cease when Christ comes again.

Tuesday May 30 - ReFrame: Burkina Faso

Hortense, a ReFrame radio listener in Burkina Faso, asks for prayers because she is tempted to commit suicide after her husband recently left her and their child. Pray for ReFrame's partners as they guide her and find resources for her.

Wednesday May 31 - Resonate: Neighborhoods

Pray for members of our churches who are part of Go Local, a Resonate ministry that equips people to join God at work in their neighborhoods. Pray for relationships among neighbors that are forming, and ask the Holy Spirit for opportunities to share the gospel.

Thursday June 1 - Race Relations: Red Dress Campaign

May 5 was a day to create awareness about Indigenous missing and murdered girls and women in North America. Participants wore a red dress and painted a red hand over their mouth to depict the silence of the media, law enforcement, and government agencies on this issue. Please pray for families whose daughter, sister, aunt, or mom is missing from their circle. Pray that our churches may grow in awareness of and raise their voices against this injustice.

Friday June 2 - World Renew: Clean water

For one-third of the global population clean water is a dream that remains out of reach. World Renew helps communities establish safe, consistent water sources and teaches families sanitation and hygiene practices. Please pray for all who do not have access to clean water. May God purify, protect, and multiply their water sources so that their communities may thrive.

Saturday June 3 - Resonate Global Mission: Community

Give thanks that international students have found community through the Dinner Church that Leah De Vos, a Resonate mission network developer, hosts in her home. These students are curious about the gospel. Ask the Holy Spirit to continue drawing them into a relationship with Jesus.

Sunday June 4 - Worship: Synod 2023

We are grateful for the many prayers being offered for Synod 2023, which begins on Friday, June 9. CRC Worship asks that you pray for