

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
Guest Pastor Doug Fakkema
June 11, 2023

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

*"We sing the mighty power of God
that made the mountains rise,"*

Prelude

Welcome

*** Opening Hymn: LUYH #10 v. 1-3**

"We Sing the Mighty Power of God"

1. We sing the mighty power of God
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.
We sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day;
the moon shines full at his command,
and all the stars obey.
2. We sing the goodness of the Lord
that filled the earth with food;
he formed the creatures with his word
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how your wonders are displayed,
where'er we turn our eyes,
if we survey the ground we tread
or gaze upon the skies.
3. There's not a plant or flower below
but makes your glories known,
and clouds arise and tempests blow
by order from your throne;
while all that borrows life from you
is ever in your care,
and everywhere that we can be,
you, God, are present there.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1715, alt. P.D.; Music: traditional English; CCLI #678905

* Call to Worship

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

**People: Sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise.**

Leader: All the earth worships you;

People: They sing praises to you, sing praises to your name.

* Hymn of Praise: LUYH #19 v. 1-5

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

Refrain

*Christ, our Lord, to you we raise
this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

2. For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light,

Refrain

3. For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind’s delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight:

Refrain

4. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,

Refrain

5. For yourself, best gift divine,
to the world so freely given,
agent of God’s grand design:
peace on earth and joy in heaven,

Refrain

*Christ, our Lord, to you we raise
this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

Words: Folliot S. Pierpont, 1864, alt., P.D.; Music: Conrad Kocher, 1838; adapt.
William H. Monk, 1861, P.D.; CCLI #678905

*God's Greeting

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: May the love of God the Father,
and the grace of Jesus the Son,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be and abide with us all.

People: Amen!

* We Greet Each Other

*"That spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies."*

Announcements

Call to Confession: Based on Romans 8:39

We know that nothing is able to separate us
from the love of God in Jesus Christ.
Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance: Psalm 103:8-13

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion for his children,
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

—Psalm 103:8-13, NRSV

God's Will for Our Lives: Colossians 3:12-15

As the chosen of God, then, the holy people
whom he loves, you are to be clothed in heartfelt compassion,
in generosity and humility, gentleness and patience.
Bear with one another; forgive each other
if one of you has a complaint against another.
The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same.
Over all these clothes, put on love, the perfect bond.
And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts,
because it is for this that you were called together in one body.
Always be thankful. —Colossians 3:12-15, NJB

Hymn of Response: LUYH #624 v. 1-3

"Not What My Hands Have Done"

1. Not what my hands have done
can save my guilty soul;
not what my toiling flesh has borne
can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do
can give me peace with God;
not all my prayers and sighs and tears
can bear my awful load.
2. Your voice alone, O Lord,
can speak to me of grace;
your power alone, O Son of God,
can all my sin erase.
No other work but yours,
no other blood will do;
no strength but that which is divine
can bear me safely through.
3. I praise the Christ of God;
I rest on love divine;
and with unfaltering lip and heart
I call this Savior mine.
My Lord has saved my life
and freely pardon gives;
I love because he first loved me,
I live because he lives.

*Words: Horatius Bonar; Music George William Martin; Public Domain;
CCLI #678905*

Offering

Offertory – CRC Ministry Video

* Hymn of Preparation LUYH #754 v. 1-5

“Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak”

1. Lord, speak to me that I may speak
in living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought, so let me seek
your erring children, lost and lone.
2. O lead me, Lord, that I may lead
the wandering and the wavering feet.
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed
your hungry ones with manna sweet.
3. O teach me, Lord, that I may teach
the precious truths which you impart.
And wing my words that they may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart.
4. O fill me with Thy fullness, Lord,
until my very heart o'erflows
in kindling thought and glowing word,
your love to tell, Thy praise to show.
5. O use me, Lord, use even me,
just as you will, and when, and where
until your blessed face I see,
your rest, your joy, your glory share.

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal; Music: Robert Alexander Schumann

© Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

*“We sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day;”*

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:31-2:1

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“The Gospel in Creation”***

Time of Prayer

*“The moon shines full at his command,
and all the stars obey.”*

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #21 v. 1-3

“This is My Father’s World”

1. This is my Father’s world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father’s world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.
2. This is my Father’s world; the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker’s praise.
This is my Father’s world; he shines in all that’s fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me everywhere.
3. This is my Father’s world; oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father’s world; why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King, let the heavens ring!
God reigns; let the earth be glad.

Words: Maltbie D. Babcock (1858-1901) P.D.; Music: English; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard (1852-1930), P.D.; CCLI #678905 Music (TERRA BEATA 6.6.8.6 D): English; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard (1852-1930), P.D.

* We Profess our Faith: Apostles Creed

**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 Blessing

* Doxology: LUYH #659 v. 1-4 *"Nearer, Still Nearer"*

1. Nearer, still nearer, close to thy heart,
draw me, my Savior, so precious thou art.
Fold me, O fold me close to thy breast;
shelter me safe in that haven of rest,
shelter me safe in that haven of rest.
2. Nearer, still nearer, nothing I bring,
naught as an offering to Jesus, my King—
only my sinful, now contrite heart;
grant me the cleansing thy blood doth impart,
grant me the cleansing thy blood doth impart.
3. Nearer, still nearer, Lord, to be thine,
sin with its follies I gladly resign,
all of its pleasures, pomp and its pride;
give me but Jesus, my Lord crucified,
give me but Jesus, my Lord crucified.
4. Nearer, still nearer, while life shall last,
till safe in glory my anchor is cast;
through endless ages, ever to be
nearer, my Savior, still nearer to thee,
nearer, my Savior, still nearer to thee.

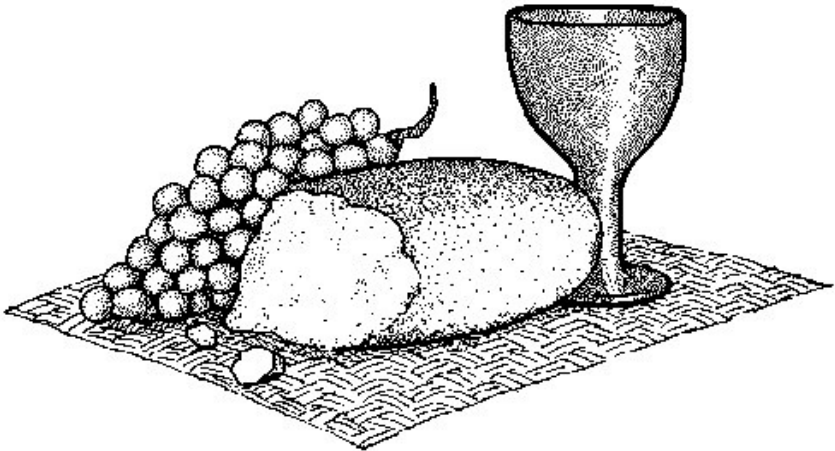
Words and Music: Lelia N. Morris (1862-1929), P.D.; CCLI# 678905

Postlude

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever" (Psalm 118:1). We **welcome** everyone to this hour of worship! Let us offer our gratitude and praise to our Creator. May this be a time of inspiration and joy for us all. 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.

Next Week is Communion Sunday!

*God meets us in the sacraments,
holy acts that call for our response...
In the supper our Lord offers
the bread and cup to believers to
guarantee our share in his
death and resurrection,
and unite us to him and to each other.*



*We take this food gladly,
announcing as we eat
that Jesus is our life
and that He shall come again
to call us to the Supper of the Lamb.*

From: *Our World Belongs to God* (PH – pg. 1031)

***Come share the fellowship
of the forgiven!***

Tech Team	Today: 6/11	Next Week: 6/18
Sound:	Mardick S.	Mardy S.
Projection:	Beth B.	Maddie D.
Video:	Tim H./Emmalyn S.	France B.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund; Benevolence Fund

First CRC

Bulletin Announcements

June 11, 2023

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

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

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.

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 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!

Christian Education Fund:

The cost of the ministry for the 2023-2024 school year is \$123,810.00. Please return your pledge forms in mailbox #85 by June 30. Extra pledge forms are on the shelf by the mailboxes.

Thank you to all those that pledged and paid in the amount of \$123,527.00 for 2022-2023 school year by May 31, 2023.

If you have any questions regarding how the Christian Education Fund works or regarding your pledge, please contact Katie Jungquist.

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:

June 4: <https://youtu.be/IMSeZGyfKW4>

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:

Henry & Jayne H., Jason & Shelby VDK

Greeters/Coffee Hosts next week, 6/18:

Tim H., Jon & Catherine VDK

Children in Worship:

Today: Only God knows

Next Week: Ditto

Worship Team:

Today: Henry & Pam VZ, Kayla & Ella VH

Next Week: Men's Group

This Week:

Plenty of Nuthin'

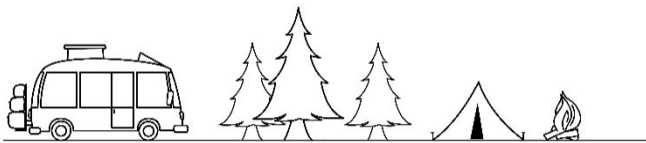
Upcoming Dates to Note:

Tuesday, June 20, 7:00am Men's Bible Study at Shari's Restaurant

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:

You are making a difference! On behalf of the ministries of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, thank you for your gifts to ministry shares. Your support enables congregations to do so much more to further God's Kingdom than any one church could do alone. Our denomination could not impact the world through missions, media, and church development without your incredible and faithful support. Thank you! To discover more visit crcna.org/ministryshares.

Kids Corner: What Does God Want Me to Do Right Now? - Check out the new kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. What if God, the Creator of the universe, promised to give you whatever you wanted? That's right! Anything you could want or imagine. What would you ask for? Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the KC eBook "Helping Kids Find Their Role in God's Story."

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.

Groundwork: Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be Your Name - Jesus teaches us to open our prayers by acknowledging who we're talking to. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study the beginning of the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9 and examine Scripture to better understand what we mean and what we're asking when we pray "Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name." 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@firstcrmv.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 is now receiving hospice care. Please pray for continued healing and renewed strength in the weeks to come.

Please continue to pray for **Juli Oostra**: She is home and asks for prayers for her body to fight whatever is attacking her system. Pray that her platelet levels will increase so that she can have more energy and get back to good health. Thank you for continued prayer on her behalf and also for the family.

Please continue to pray for **Marilyn Cooke's** 3-year-old grandson, her 13-year-old grandson, 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** while she continues fighting cancer.

SHUT INS: *Nell Annema and Marion Ekkelkamp* at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley; *Shirley Boonstra* at Country Meadow Village 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 June 5 - *World Renew: Creation care*

A growing number of churches are connecting with the Climate Witness Project (CWP), a joint ministry of Social Justice and World Renew. The CWP network provides resources for education, worship, energy stewardship, and advocacy, equipping churches with tools for creation care. Today, on World Environment Day, we praise God for these efforts and pray that creation care will continue to grow in North America.

Tuesday June 6 - *ReFrame Ministries: Russian ministry*

Pray for young people like Inna who recently attended a conference led by ReFrame's Russian ministry partners. Inna shared that because of the conference she feels emboldened to bring up her Christian faith in conversations with nonbelieving friends and in social media posts.

Wednesday June 7 - Resonate: Michigan

“Pray for students who are moving on from Western Michigan University, bringing all they’ve experienced here back to their homes around the world,” ask campus ministers from International Campus Ministry.

Thursday June 8 - Safe Church: Discussions

Please pray for discussions about the Code of Conduct at synod in the coming week, asking that we may not lose sight of survivors and others harmed by abuse in the church who now struggle to trust ministry leaders. Pray that our conversations lead us as a denomination to recommit ourselves to use our power and influence to bless others for the sake of God’s kingdom.

Friday June 9 - Communications: First day of synod

Pray that delegates and advisers gathered at Synod 2023 in Grand Rapids, Mich., may have meaningful and grace-filled dialogue and seek God’s guidance in all decisions made. Pray for all church leaders and members as they interact with and implement these decisions. May God’s will be done and his name be glorified.

Saturday June 10 - ReFrame: Japan

Praise God for working in the lives of people like Tetsu, who listens to broadcasts from ReFrame’s partners in Japan. “Guided by God,” Tetsu shared, “I learned about your radio program, and now I am attending a church. I always look forward to Sundays. The brothers and sisters who gather at church are also kind and happy. I was able to be baptized because of your broadcast.”

Sunday June 11 - Candidacy Committee: Candidates

We invite you to rejoice with us in God’s faithful provision of 30 new candidates who are ready to be ordained as ministers of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church! Please ask God for wisdom and discernment as they make decisions about ministry opportunities, and for enduring peace and strength for their journey in ministry.