

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
Pastor Brad Diekema
July 23, 2023

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

“Breathe on me, Breath of God,”

Prelude

Welcome

*** Opening Hymn: LUYH #286 v. 1,2,4**

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God.
He, whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation’s walls surrounded,
thou may’st smile at all thy foes.
2. See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age.
4. Savior, since of Zion’s city
I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in your name.
Fading are the world’s best pleasures,
all its boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasures
none but Zion’s children know.

PSALM 87; Words: John Newton, 1779, alt., P.D.; Music: Franz Joseph Haydn
(1732-1809), 1797, P.D.; CCLI #678905

* Call to Worship:

Leader: The God of creation makes us one in body!

People: Let us join our hearts and voices in praise of the Lord!

Leader: The God of Christ makes us one in the Spirit!

People: Let us join our hearts and voices in praise of the Lord!

* Hymn of Praise: 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.

Psalms 96; Words: Psalter, 1912, alt., P.D.; Music: Lowell Mason (1792-1872),
1830, 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 One Another

"Fill me with life anew,"

Announcements

Serve Ministry Video

Upcoming Youth Service Project Update

Commissioning Litany:

Leader: Every day this week, you will have an opportunity to not only serve this community, but to also draw near to God through morning devotions, evening sessions, and small groups. You will also be asked to consider how you would answer Jesus' question, "What do you want?" Before you answer that question, listen to these things God wants for you.

People: God wants you to know that his love for you cannot be shaken and that nothing, absolutely nothing, can separate you from his love.

SERVE Team: Thank you Lord for your faithful, never-ending love. Help us to love as you love.

People: God wants you to know that you will not be serving in your own power, but by the power of the Holy Spirit that lives within you.

SERVE Team: Thank you Lord for your presence within us. Make us aware, daily, of power of the Spirit within us.

People: God wants you to know he has gone before you this week to prepare the way for the ministry you are going to do.

SERVE Team: Thank you Lord for preparing the way. Help us to go forward with confidence, relying on you.

People: God wants you to know that you can find all you will ever want or need. When you humbly come to him in faith, believing.

***SERVE Team: Thank you Lord for providing all we need.
Help us to trust you more and ourselves less.***

Leader: We commission you to go with the blessing
of this congregation and in the power of the Holy Spirit
to serve God, each other, and this community
in such a way that God's kingdom is experienced here
in this city.

Prayer for our Youth Service Team

Song of Response: Sing! #123 v. 1-3 *"Bring Forth the Kingdom"*

1. You are salt for the earth, O people:
salt for the kingdom of God!
Share the flavor of life, O people:
Life in the kingdom of God!

Refrain

*Bring forth the kingdom of mercy;
pray for the kingdom of peace;
work for the kingdom of justice;
hope for the city of God!*

2. You are a light on a hill, O people:
light for the city of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people;
shine for the kingdom of God!

Refrain

*Bring forth the kingdom of mercy;
pray for the kingdom of peace;
work for the kingdom of justice;
hope for the city of God!*

3. You are a seed of the Word, O people:
live for the kingdom of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,
grow in the kingdom of God!

Refrain

*"Bring Forth the Kingdom" Words and Music: Mary Haugen; based on Matt. 5:13-16, ©
1986, G.I.A. Publications. Use by permission. All rights reserved.
OneLicense.netLicense #A-711218*

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

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

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #754 v. 1-3, 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 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

"That I may love the way you love,"

Scripture Readings: I Peter 1:13-2:3

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Growing Up Into Salvation"***

Time of Prayer

"And do what you would do."

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #747 v. 1-3

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love,
and do what you would do.
2. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with yours,
to do and to endure.
3. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life
for all eternity.

Words: Edwin Hatch, 1878; Music: Robert Jackson (1840-1914) Public Domain

* We Profess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 54-55

Leader: Q. 54: What do you believe concerning
“the holy catholic church”?

**People: A. I believe that the Son of God
through his Spirit and Word,
out of the entire human race,
from the beginning of the world to its end,
gathers, protects, and preserves for himself
a community chosen for eternal life
and united in true faith.
And of this community I am and always will be
a living member.**

Leader: Q. 55: “What do you understand by
‘the communion of saints’?”

**People: A. First, that believers one and all,
as members of this community,
share in Christ and in all his treasures and gifts.

Second, that each member should consider it
a duty to use these gifts readily and cheerfully
for the service and enrichment
of the other members.**

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #943 v. 1-4

"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

1. God be with you till we meet again;
by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you:
God be with you till we meet again.
2. God be with you till we meet again;
'neath his wings protecting hide you,
daily manna still provide you:
God be with you till we meet again.
3. God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put his arms unfailing round you:
God be with you till we meet again.
4. God be with you till we meet again;
keep love's banner floating over you,
smite death's threatening wave before you:
God be with you till we meet again.

Words: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880, P.D.; Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906, P.D.

Postlude

Welcome to the House of the Lord! We have come to bring our worship to our God. May we do so in our singing, praying, giving, preaching and listening. May God be glorified. After the morning service all are invited to the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

Tech Team	Today: 7/23	Next Week: 7/30
Sound:	Henry VZ	Henry H.
Projection:	Maddie D.	Hannah VH
Video:	Emma S./Tim H.	Dick G.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements July 23, 2023

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Please pick up your copy of the new committee list on the shelf by the mailboxes!

Just a friendly reminder: If you use Beth's office, please leave it as you found it. Thank you!

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

Meet-n-Greet Dessert Nights with Pastor Brad: There are still nights open, so feel free to still sign up!



There are new copies of **Today's Christian Living** in the hallway by the Missionary Bulletin Board.

If you are a long-time visitor of our church and would like to be assigned a mailbox, please let Beth know! Brad Diekema is our newest resident at box number 25. Call Beth at 360-336-2405 or email her at www.secretary@firstcrcmv.com.

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!**

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”*

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:

July 16: <https://youtu.be/DcC8EDZWhi4>

Calendar:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts today: John & Dena K., Henry & Pam VZ

Greeters/Coffee Hosts next week, 7/30: Dave & Nancy V., Hank & Sylvia VZ

Children in Worship:

Today: Darrel L., Laruen VB

Next Week: Heidi B., Maddy D.

Worship Team:

Today: Mandi D., Eliot B., Heidi B.

Next Week, 7/30: Greg & Beth B., Emmalyn S.

Upcoming Dates to Note:

Saturday, July 29 noon-4pm: Neighborhood "Block Party"

Sunday, Sept. 24, 2:00pm: Skagit County Crop Hunger Walk

Saturday, Dec. 3: FountainView Choir and Orchestra

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:



Heather Village, a Christian retirement community in Mount Vernon, has an opening for a Maintenance Supervisor. This position is responsible for the day-to-day maintenance operations of the buildings and grounds in the community. To qualify, a candidate must be a Christian and have good interpersonal skills. An ideal candidate would have a working knowledge of electrical and plumbing systems, carpentry and painting skills, and would be expected to be available for on-call emergencies. This is a full-time position that could be shared between two people; pay is dependent on experience. For more information or to submit a

resume or list of qualifications, please contact the Heather Village Manager by mail at Heather Village, 925 Heather Circle, Mount Vernon WA 98273 or by email at hvoffice2021@gmail.com prior to July 15, 2023.

CRC COMMUNICATIONS:

Groundwork: Holy People, God's Wisdom, And The Power Of The Cross - The Corinthian church was full of imperfect believers sorting out the impact of their faith on how they lived in the world. Join our Groundwork conversation as we examine 1 Corinthians 1-2 and hear Paul's reminder to return back to the basics and the heart of the gospel message. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

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: Trusting God - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. In Genesis 22:1-13, God tested Abraham's trust in a major way. As Abraham followed God's command, he might have wondered what God was doing, but because Abraham knew who God was and how much God loved him and his family, he trusted God's plan. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Bible story podcast "God's Promise to Abraham."



How can
we
PRAY
for you?

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:

Please pray for **Jill Rouw and the entire Rouw family**. The service for Rinie will be on Monday, July 31 at 1:00 pm. There will be a reception afterwards at Rozenaarde.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please keep **Judy Velasquez** in your prayers. She is home, but is still waiting to have her heart procedure. Please pray for patience that all will be fulfilled in God's timing!

Please continue to pray for **Juli Oostra, Grace Feddema and Trudy Van Dyke**

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.

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 and for **Margaret VanderPol** as she will require another surgery.

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*** with family in Grandview, WA.

OTHER REQUESTS: (CRC Communications)

Monday July 17 - *World Renew: Global food crisis*

In recent years, progress made toward food security has been blocked by conflict, drought, and factors related to the pandemic. We are working to alleviate some of this struggle through food distribution and food-security programs. Pray that God will continue providing for his children through the generosity of his people.

Tuesday July 18 - *Diaconal Ministries Canada: Coaches*

Please pray for our diaconal coaches who work in each classis across Canada, equipping and empowering deacons to animate their congregations to transform communities with the love of Christ. May they faithfully serve our Lord and his church in this capacity (Rom. 12:11).

Wednesday July 19 - *Resonate: Nigeria*

Resonate missionaries ask you to pray for Nigeria in the midst of political tensions. A cash shortage has also made it difficult for people to buy food and other necessities. Pray for peace, asking God to provide for these people's needs.

Thursday July 20 - *GEMS Girls' Clubs: Rest and renewal*

Please pray for GEMS leaders as they take time this summer to rest and refresh. May God inspire and strengthen them to keep sharing in the mission to bring girls into a living, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ. Join us in praising God for using GEMS in this mission for 65 years.

Friday July 21 - *Thrive: Pastor and Church Support: Changes*

Please pray for pastors who have accepted new calls and are moving with their families to begin serving in new communities. Also pray for churches that are now without pastors, asking God to work in and through them as they search for a new pastor.

Saturday July 22 - *ReFrame: Family Fire*

A woman whose husband had an extramarital affair asked, "Pray that God will heal me from the excruciating pain and sadness for all that's been lost. This betrayal has cost me so much. . . . My heart is shattered, my soul is crushed, and my spirit is so broken."

Sunday July 23 - *Resonate: Ukraine*

"Please continue to pray for peace and justice in Ukraine—and in all of the countries where LCC students come from," said Resonate missionaries Benjamin and Tricia Groenewold Van Dyk, who serve with LCC International University in Lithuania. "The future of the political situation in the region continues to be uncertain."