

# **Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!**

**Pastor John Knoester**

**September 10, 2023**

**10:30 A.M. Worship Service**

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

*"Amazing love that welcomes me,  
the kindness of mercy"*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

**\* Call to Worship: Psalm 105:1-3**

*"Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;  
Make known among the nations what he has done.  
Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.  
Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those  
who seek the Lord rejoice."*

**\* Sung Call to Worship: 10,000 Reasons**

*Chorus:*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;  
worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul;  
I'll worship Your holy name.*

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,  
it's time to sing your song again.  
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,  
let me be singing when the evening comes.

*Chorus*

2. You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.  
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;  
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

*Chorus*

3. And on that day, when my strength is failing,  
the end draws near, and my time has come;  
still, my soul will sing Your praise unending  
ten thousand years, and then forevermore!

*Chorus*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;  
worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul;  
I'll worship Your holy name.*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;  
worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul;  
I'll worship Your holy name.*

*Worship Your holy name.  
Worship Your holy name.*

*Words and Music by Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman; ©2011 Thankyou  
Music/Said and Done Music/sixsteps Music/SHOUT! Music Publishing; All rights  
reserved. CCLI #678905*

\* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

\* Song of Praise: "Is He Worthy"

**Verse 1 Soloist, (Congregation Response)**

Do you feel the world is broken (We do)  
Do you feel the shadows deepen (We do)  
But do you know that all the dark  
Won't stop the light from getting through, (We do)  
Do you wish that you could see it all made new (We do)

**Verse 2 Soloist, Congregation Response**

Is all creation groaning (It is)  
Is a new creation coming (It is)  
Is the glory of the Lord  
To be the light within our midst (It is)  
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this (It is)

**Chorus 1 All**

Is anyone worthy, Is anyone whole  
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll  
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave  
He is David's Root  
And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave

Is He worthy, Is He worthy  
Of all blessing and honor and glory  
Is He worthy of this  
He is

**Verse 3 Soloist, Congregation Response**

Does the Father truly love us (He does)  
Does the Spirit move among us (He does)  
And does Jesus our Messiah  
Hold forever those He loves (He does)  
Does our God intend to dwell again with us (He does)

**Chorus 2 All**

Is anyone worthy, Is anyone whole  
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll  
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave  
He is David's Root  
And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave

From ev'ry people and tribe every nation and tongue  
He has made us a kingdom and priests  
To God to reign with the Son  
Is He worthy, Is He worthy  
Of all blessing and honor and glory  
Is He worthy, Is He worthy  
Is He worthy of this  
He is! He is!  
Is He worthy? Is He worthy?  
He is! He is!  
He is worthy! He is worthy!  
He is!

CCLI Song # 7108951, Andrew Peterson | Ben Shive, © 2018 Capitol CMG Genesis  
(Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Junkbox Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG  
Publishing), Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Jakedog Music  
(Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) *For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All  
rights reserved [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License # 678905*

“That bought with blood,  
wholeheartedly my soul undeserving”

\* Call to Confession:

Our God is merciful and compassionate,  
slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.  
He is close to all who call on Him in truth,  
listening to their cries for help, and offering them salvation.

So let's bring our confession to God,  
knowing that he will hear our prayers and forgive.

(Based on Psalm 145: 8, 18-19)

Sung Prayer of Confession: *"God, You're So Good"*

1. Amazing love that welcomes me  
The kindness of mercy  
That bought with blood wholeheartedly  
My soul undeserving

*Chorus*

*God You're so good, God You're so good  
God You're so good, You're so good to me*

2. Behold the cross age to age  
And hour by hour  
The dead are raised the sinner saved  
The work of Your power

Bridge

I am blessed I am called  
I am healed I am whole  
I am saved in Jesus' name  
Highly favored anointed  
Filled with Your pow'r  
For the glory of Jesus' name

3. And should this life bring suffering  
Lord I will remember  
What Calvary has bought for me  
Both now and forever

CCLI Song # 7105729 Brett Younker | Brooke Ligertwood | Kristian Stanfill | Scott Ligertwood ©KPS 1.0 (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) SHOUT! Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License # 678905

## The Assurance of God's Pardon

\* Song of Response: *"Wonderful, Merciful, Savior"*

1. Wonderful merciful, Savior,  
precious Redeemer and Friend;  
Who would have thought that a Lamb  
could rescue the souls of men?  
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

### *Chorus*

*You are the One that we praise,  
You are the One we adore,  
You give the healing and grace  
our hearts always hunger for,  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

2. Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,  
Spirit we long to embrace;  
You offer hope when our hearts  
have hopelessly lost the way,  
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

### *Chorus*

3. Almighty, infinite Father,  
faithfully loving Your own;  
Here in our weakness You find us  
falling before Your throne,  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

### *Chorus*

Words and Music by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse; ©1989 Word Music, LLC (a div. of Word Music Group, Inc.); CCLI# 678905

*(During the singing of the last verse the children are invited forward  
for the Children's Message)*

Children's Message – Mrs. Marjo Rouw

*(Following the Children's Message - children ages 3- 3rd grade are  
dismissed for Children's Worship)*

Offering: LUYH #746 v. 1-3 *"Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God"*

1. Holy Spirit, living Breath of God,  
breathe new life into my willing soul.  
Bring the presence of the risen Lord  
to renew my heart and make me whole.  
Cause your Word to come alive in me;  
give me faith for what I cannot see;  
give me passion for your purity;  
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.
2. Holy Spirit, come abide within,  
may your joy be seen in all I do.  
Love enough to cover every sin,  
in each thought and deed and attitude.  
Kindness to the greatest and the least,  
gentleness that sows the path of peace.  
Turn my striving into works of grace;  
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.
3. Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,  
giving life to all that God has made,  
show your power once again on earth,  
cause your church to hunger for your ways.  
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;  
lead us on the road of sacrifice,  
that in unity the face of Christ  
may be clear for all the world to see.

*"Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God"; Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend; ©2006 Thankyou Music, CCLI# 678905*

*"God, You're so good, Oh God, You're so good"*

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"TULIP FAITH - Adopted by God"***

Time of Prayer

*"God, You're so good, You're so good to me"*

\* Hymn of Application: LUYH #690 v. 1-4

*"I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Grace"*

1. I know not why God's wondrous grace  
to me he has made known,  
nor why, unworthy, Christ in love  
redeemed me for his own.

*Refrain*

*But "I know whom I have believed,  
and am persuaded that he is able  
to keep that which I've committed  
unto him against that day."*

2. I know not how this saving faith  
to me he did impart,  
nor how believing in his Word  
wrought peace within my heart.

*Refrain*

3. I know not how the Spirit moves,  
convincing us of sin,  
revealing Jesus through the Word,  
creating faith in him.

*Refrain*

4. I know not what of good or ill  
may be reserved for me,  
of weary ways or golden days,  
before his face I see.

*Refrain*

*Words: based on 2 Timothy 1:12, Daniel W. Whittle, 1883; P.D.;  
Music: James McGranahan, 1883, P.D.; CCLI # 678905*

\* God's Blessing

\* Parting Praise: *"Benediction"*

1. May the peace of God our heav'nly Father,  
and the grace of Christ the risen Son,  
and the fellowship of God the Spirit  
keep our hearts and minds within His love.

*Chorus*

*And to Him be praise for His glorious reign,  
from the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.  
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain:  
Christ eternal the King of kings.*

2. May this peace which passes understanding,  
and this grace which makes us what we are,  
and this fellowship of His communion  
make us one in spirit and in heart.

*Chorus (2x)*

*Final Ending:*

*Christ eternal the King of kings.*

*Keith Getty / Stuart Townend, © 2005 Thankyou Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing) All rights Reserved. CCLI # 678905*

\* Postlude

<b>Tech Team</b>	<b>Today: 9/10</b>	<b>Next Week: 9/17</b>
Sound:	Tim H.	Henry VZ
Projection:	France B.	Tim H.
Video:	Isaac D.	Brandon S.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund



# First CRC

## Bulletin Announcements

### **September 10, 2023**

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

**Last Chance to get into the church directory is tomorrow! If you have a new picture or any changes, please send them to Beth TODAY so she can put them in TOMORROW. Thank you!**

**Thank you:** The Rouw family feels privileged to have so many supportive friends in our church community. We thank you for helping us walk through our grief with your support, prayers and words of condolence and encouragement. We will never forget the church's expressions of love and honor for Rinie.

A stylized, cursive 'thank you' graphic in black ink, positioned to the right of the 'Thank you' paragraph.

**There are new copies of Today's Christian Living on the shelf in the hallway.**

**Please join us** for the kick-off Women's Bible Study Hosted Dessert Social on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 at church. We will discuss and decide our Bible Studies and calendar for the upcoming year.

**2023 Skagit Crop Walk** is scheduled for Sunday, September 24, 2:00pm. Meet at the MVC School parking lot adjacent from the church. Go online to donate! Search for 2023 Crop Hunger Walk. Type in team name: First CRC Mt. Vernon Feat First in the search box located in the upper right corner of the web page and it will take you directly to the donation page.

**We received an email regarding a free grand piano** this past week. If you are interested or know of someone who can use a grand piano, please let Beth know ASAP so she can let the donor know. Thank you.

**Worship Service Volunteers!** The current worship service volunteer schedule runs through the end of October. However, near the end of September a new schedule will be made for the months of Nov., 2023-April, 2024. We are always on the lookout to include new volunteers for singing, scripture readers, sound, projection, and video! If interested, please contact Beth by Sunday, Sept. 24. If you would like to be removed from the list this would be the time to reach out to her as well. Thank you!

**The Men's Bible Study** will be resuming Tuesday, September 12. Join us at Shari's in Burlington at 7 am. We will be starting to visit about the book of Romans. If anyone has any questions please reach out to Greg B.

**Hymnbooks:** We currently have about 100 blue Psalter Hymnals and 100 red Power and Praise songbooks **FREE** for the taking in the Fellowship Hall.

**Did you forget to sign up** for the meet and greet with Pastor Brad, or you couldn't because of all those fun summer activities? No worries! Pastor Brad is always up for meeting, whether over a cup of good old liquid sunshine (coffee), a meal, or dessert. Feel free to reach out to Pastor Brad to set something up! You can reach Pastor Brad via email: [brad.diekema@gmail.com](mailto:brad.diekema@gmail.com). By phone: (616) 570-4771.

**Come see and hear Corrie Ten Boom!** Heather Village Community Center is sponsoring Susie Boer, as she brings Corrie Ten Boom alive with her true-to-life impersonation skills. September 22, 1:00pm. Refreshments are provided, donations welcomed. Please call Marjo Rouw at 360-428-5693 to let her know you **ARE** planning to attend.

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](https://firstcrcmv.com/?page_id=1509)

## **Worship Service YouTube Links:**

September 3: <https://youtu.be/R-HkOLD9vhw>

**Education Ministry Need:** The Sunday School year is fast approaching and plans are being made. First CRC has a legacy of children's education ministry and we want to keep it going. Teaching the truths of scripture to our youth is one of the most important ways that we respond to God's call. We have many opportunities to serve. We have Sunday School classes for all ages on Sunday morning. We also have our Children in Worship ministry every Sunday for kids 3-3rd grade. We have been blessed with faithful teachers for many years, but we can always use new people to help carry the load. There is no training needed, we have the materials and the kids. All that is required is a desire to share the Bible with our kids. Please reach out to Pastor John, Tim Van Hofwegen, Eliot Blom, or Beth with any questions or to indicate your willingness to get plugged in.

Dear Friends,

The acrostic T.U.L.I.P. is often used to describe the five main points of Calvinism - Total Depravity, Unconditional Election, Limited Atonement, Irresistible Grace, Perseverance of the Saints. The 'history' of this acrostic arose out of the political and theological turmoil taking place in the Netherlands in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. In fact, one of our confessions – The Canons of Dort – was specifically written as a result of this turmoil.

Yet, for those who encounter it for the first time the Canons can be a little confusing and perplexing. Thus, in recent decades, many Reformed theologians have been using F.A.I.T.H. as a summary acrostic instead. In a nod to both the historical and the more recent acrostics – I'll use both as we make our way through each of these five main points of Reformed theology.

The following is a tentative schedule of our study. May God bless us as we make our way through these treasured doctrines together. In His Grace, - Pastor John

1. August 27 – TULIP Faith: Human Nature and our Fallen Humanity
2. September 10 – TULIP Faith: Adopted by God
3. September 17 – TULIP Faith: Intentional Atonement
4. September 24 – TULIP Faith: Transformed by the Holy Spirit
5. October 1 – TULIP Faith: Held by God

**Calendar:**

**Greeters/Coffee Hosts today:** Derek & Heidi B., Darrel & Sunee L.

**Greeters/Coffee Hosts next week, 9/17:** Henry & Sharon K., Cody & Angela S.

**Children in Worship:**

Today: Sheri L, Rhyson O.

Next Week: Heather VH, Nellie VDH

**Worship Team:**

Today: Mandi D., Sheri & Kiera L.

Next Week, 9/17: Stan B., Julie, Adriana & Tessa S.

**This Week:**

Tuesday, Sept 12, 7am: Men's Bible Study, Shari's Restaurant

**Upcoming Dates to Note:**

**Wednesday, Sept. 20, 6:30pm:** GEMS Registration Night

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

**Sunday, Sept. 24, 7:00pm:** Women's Bible Study Dessert Social

**Oct. 1:** Communion

**CRC COMMUNICATIONS:**

**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](http://familyfire.com). Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

**Kids Corner: Angels Around Us** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). When you read the Bible and find out that there are angels around us, how do you picture them? Do you think they have a glowing, heavenly light shining on them? Or majestic wings like the ones on Christmas ornaments? Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) like the KC's Liz and Friends Podcast "At Your Service."

**Groundwork: When Our Faith Defines Our Character** - Daniel knew what it was like live in a cultural context that was not welcoming to his faith practice. Join Groundwork as we study Daniel 1. Together we'll discuss the challenges he faced and witness what God can do when we let our faith and not our context define our character. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.



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:**

Please pray for **Greg and Tish Ackermann** and the whole family as they mourn the loss of Greg's mother Gerry. The funeral will be this Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> at 1 at Faith.

Pray for **Keith Rasmussen** as he continues to have tests to determine the cause of his illness.

Pray for continued healing for **Margaret VanderPol** as she recovers from her back surgery.

Please continue to pray for the Vega and Kuiper families.

Please keep **Juli Oostra** in your prayers for stable platelet levels.

Please continue to pray for **Grace Feddema** and **Trudy Van Dyke**.

Please continue to pray for **Marilyn Cooke** and her family members.

**Greg Boon's mother, Yvonne Boon**, has had great news in that she has no bad "blast" cells left in her marrow and she has a very high percentage of donor cells that have grafted with her cells.

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*; *Grace Feddema and Sally Reehoorn* at Creekside in Burlington; *Bev Van Slageren* with family in Grandview, WA.

**OTHER REQUESTS: (CRC Communications)**

Monday September 4 - *Communications: Labor Day*

Thank God for the gifts of paid and unpaid work to do, creating space for us to serve in ways that help others, bring meaning, and glorify God in our lives and throughout the world.

Tuesday September 5 - *Resonate Global Mission: Cambodia*

Resonate missionaries Ly Chhay and Navy Chann-Chhay ask for prayer that the gospel may take root among Indigenous communities in Cambodia. Pray for the leaders and churches they are working with. Ask God for wisdom, guidance, and opportunities to share the gospel.

Wednesday September 6 - *ReFrame Ministries: Puerto Rico*

Pray for Christians like Juanita in Puerto Rico who regularly read devotions from our Spanish ministry partners. "Thank you for encouraging our hearts and bringing us closer to God's Word," Juanita shared. "May God bless you always."

Thursday September 7 - *World Renew: Haiti*

The people of Haiti have been facing political instability, gang violence, and cholera outbreaks. Homicide and kidnapping rates have increased dramatically. Pray for the security of World Renew staff in Haiti and for the recruitment process of a new director. Praise God that, despite the many challenges and heartbreaks, many program participants are finding greater opportunities to succeed.

Friday September 8 - *Calvin Theological Seminary: New academic year*  
It's the start of a new academic year. We rejoice in the enrollment of new students. Pray for new and returning students from around the world as they transition to the educational demands and opportunities of the new year ahead.

Saturday September 9 - *Thrive: Pastor and Church Support: Mentoring*  
Please join us in praying for strong one-on-one and peer-mentoring relationships for our pastors. Pastors who regularly meet with a mentor or peer group report increased resilience (leading to longevity in ministry) and personal support (contributing to well-being). Pray for pastors and ministry leaders who feel isolated in their role, location, or community. Ask God also to surround pastor spouses and families with friends and support systems.

Sunday September 10 - *Resonate: Mission Emphasis Week begins*  
As we celebrate Mission Emphasis Week, please pray that our denomination may engage in mission "to every town and place" (Luke 10:10). Ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom, guidance, and open doors for spreading the good news in our communities and throughout the world.