

Welcome to Mount Vernon First Christian Reformed Church!

Pastor Brad Diekema

February 18, 2024

Morning Service – 10:30 AM

Prelude

“Hallelujah What a Savior”

Welcome

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH # 567 “Here I Am to Worship”

1. Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness,
opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore you,
hope of a life spent with you.

Refrain

*Here I am to worship; here I am to bow down;
here I am to say that you're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.*

2. King of all days, oh so highly exalted,
glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came to the earth you created,
all for love's sake became poor.

Refrain

Bridge

*I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross.
I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross.*

Refrain

*Words and Music: Tim Hughes; acc. Ed Bolduc © 2001 Thankyou Music, admin.
EMICMGPublishing.com (excl.Europe which is admin. by Kingswaysongs CCLI #678905*

* Call to Worship:

Pastor Brad: Come to the Lord, who is rich in grace;
approach our God, who is full of mercy.

**People: We will praise God with all our heart
and glorify the name of the Most High forever.**

* Hymn of Praise: LUYH #578 "Forever"

1. Give thanks to the Lord our God and king;
his love endures forever.
For he is good, he is above all things;
his love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise!
2. With a mighty hand and outstretched arm;
his love endures forever.
For the life that's been reborn;
his love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise!
Sing praise, sing praise!

Refrain

*Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong,
forever God is with us, forever, forever.*

3. From the rising to the setting sun
his love endures forever.
And by the grace of God we will carry on;
his love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise!
Sing praise, sing praise!

Refrain

Words & Music: Chris Tomlin © 2001 worshiptogether.com Songs
(ASCAP)/sixsteps Music (ASCAP), admin.EMICMGPublishing.com CCLI
#678905

"Ruined sinners to reclaim"

* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

Announcements

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance

* Song of Response: LUYH #363 "Blessed Assurance: Jesus Is Mine

1. Blessed assurance: Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain

3. Perfect submission: all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

Refrain

Words: Fanny Crosby, 1873, P.D.; Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873, P.D. CCLI #678905

Children's Message –Marjo Rouw

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

Offering: General Fund

Offertory Video

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #754 vv 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.
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.
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

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“Man of sorrows— what a name for the Son of God”

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 52:13- 53:12

Prayer of Illumination

Message: **“The Via Dolorosa: The Man of Sorrows”**

Time of Prayer

* Song of Application: LUYH #170 “Man of Sorrows—What a Name”

1. Man of sorrows— what a name
for the Son of God,
who came ruined sinners to reclaim:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!
2. Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
in my place condemned he stood,
sealed my pardon with his blood:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

3. Guilty, helpless, lost were we;
blameless Lamb of God was he,
sacrificed to set us free:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!
4. He was lifted up to die;
“It is finished” was his cry;
now in heaven exalted high:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!
5. When he comes, our glorious King,
all his ransomed home to bring,
then anew this song we’ll sing:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Words: Philip P. Bliss, 1875, alt., P.D.

“Anew this song we’ll sing”

* Professing Our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 43 and 56

Q & A 43

Pastor Brad: What further benefit do we receive
from Christ’s sacrifice and death on the cross?

People: **By Christ’s power our old selves are crucified,
put to death, and buried with him,
so that the evil desires of the flesh
may no longer rule us, but that instead
we may offer ourselves as a sacrifice
of gratitude to him.**

Q & A 56

Pastor Brad: What do you believe concerning
“the forgiveness of sins”?

People: **I believe that God, because of
Christ’s satisfaction, will no longer remember
any of my sins or my sinful nature
which I need to struggle against all my life.
Rather, by grace God grants me
the righteousness of Christ
to free me forever from judgment.**

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH # 833 "There is a Redeemer"

1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Chorus:

*Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son;
and leaving Your Spirit 'til the work on earth is done.*

2. Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names;
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain.

Chorus

3. When I stand in glory, I will see His face;
there I'll serve my King forever, in that holy place.

Chorus

Words and Music: Melody Green (b. 1946)©1982 Birdwing Music(ASCAP)/BMG
Songs (ASCAP)/ Ears to Hear Music (ASCAP), admin. EMICMGPublishing.com
CCLI# 678905

* Postlude

Welcome! We invite all of you to praise God with hearts and hands and voices. Let us be mindful of the wonders God has given us. Come rejoice in God and together sing praises to His name. Reach out in warmth to all who have gathered in the house of the Lord. 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: February 18	Next Week: February 25
Sound:	Tim H.	Henry VZ
Projection:	France B.	Joel L.
Video:	Isaac D.	Caleb L.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

February 18, 2024

The deadline for announcements is Weds, 9:00 A.M. this week!!!

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Beth will be on vacation this month from Feb. 22-Feb. 29. Please get your announcements or Prayer Guide items to her this week by Weds., Feb. 21 at 9 AM. Thank you! Sylvia Van Zanten will be taking her place in the office.

Don't miss next Sunday's potluck! We will be meeting to enjoy delicious food (brought by you) on Feb. 25 after the service. Please bring a main dish *and* a side dish or dessert to share!

There will be a new Women's Bible Study starting soon! There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall today so we know how many books to order. Our new Bible Study will be "Gideon" by Pricilla Shirer – "Your weakness, God's strength. Encouraging you to recognize your weakness as gifts given specifically by God to experience His strength in your life."

Attention Choir members: Choir will begin rehearsing TODAY after the service.. Join us as we prepare beautiful music for Lent and Easter!

🎵 🎵 To God be the glory! 🎵 🎵

Contact Joni Beezhold with any questions.

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:

February 11, 2024:

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

The "Via Dolorosa" ("Sorrowful Way") refers to the path that Jesus took on the way to his crucifixion in the old City of Jerusalem. During this Lenten season, we will use the image of the Via Dolorosa as we journey with Jesus to the cross. We will travel back to Isaiah 53 where the coming Messiah is given the title Man of Sorrows. We will look at various stories where the theme of sorrow and tears play an important role. May God bless us during this Lenten season as we journey with our Savior to the cross.

In His Grace, Pastor John and Pastor Brad

Tentative Sermon Schedule

1. February 18: Isaiah 52:13- 53:12— "The Via Dolorosa: The Man of Sorrows"
2. February 25: Matthew 2:13-18--"The Via Dolorosa: The Slaughter of the Innocents"
3. March 3: TBD
4. March 10: TBD
5. March 17: TBD
6. March 24: Palm Sunday
7. March 31: Easter Sunday

Calendar:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts:

Randy & Peggy B., Marjo R.

Greeters/Coffee Hosts next week, Feb. 25:

Bob DG, Keith & Jean R., Simon LC

Worship Team:

Today: Henry, Pam & Sylvia VZ, Emmalyn, Nellie VDH Next Week, Feb. 25: Sheri L., Mandi D., Kiera L, France B.

Nursery:

Today: Kayla VH & Adriana S.

Next Week, Feb. 25: Angela S., Nellie VDH

Children in Worship:

Today: Sheri L., Nellie VDH

Next Week, Feb. 25: Tim H., Myra VDB, Isaac D.

This Week:

Feb. 25 at 6:30 p.m. - Ladies Bible Study

Feb. 25: Potluck! Please bring a main dish and a side dish or dessert to share!

Upcoming Dates to Note:

Feb. 27, 7:00am – Men’s Bible Study at IHOP’

Mar. 5, 7:30pm: Dordt University Choir will be here at First CRC!

Mar. 13, 6:30pm: Cadets Pinewood Derby at MVC Elementary Gym

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:

Summer Family Fun and Inspiration - Cascade Family Bible Camp – July 4-8 – Warm Beach Camp, near Stanwood, WA. Singles, couples, families and seniors -

fellowship and worship together in a beautiful setting; enjoy dynamic speakers to challenge and refresh your daily walk; camp with your tent or RV, or choose from a variety of lodging accommodations with meals included. Swimming, mini golf, tennis & basketball courts, volleyball, bocce, ropes course, rockets and so much more! Childcare and fun programs for your kids <https://cascadefamilybiblecamp.org/registration-info> or contact rona718@hotmail.com, dean@lithocraft.com if you have questions.

‘First Timer’ discounts are available for those who haven’t attended in the past!

The Dordt University Concert Choir from Sioux Center, Iowa, invites you to a concert on Tuesday, March 5 at 7:30 PM at Mt. Vernon First Christian Reformed Church. This free concert is part of a spring tour with performances scheduled in Montana, Washington, British Columbia, Idaho, and South Dakota. Directed by Dr. Ryan Smit, the Dordt University Concert Choir will perform a wide variety of music including hymn arrangements; spirituals; songs from other cultures; standards of the choral repertoire by Sweelinck and Hassler; and newer modern works by Shawn Kirchner, Jake Runestad, Dan Forrest, Elaine Hagenberg, Kim André Arnesen, Patrick Vu, and others. The concert is free, with a freewill offering received to help defray tour expenses.

CRC COMMUNICATIONS:

Kids Corner: Names of God: The Lord Is My Peace - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Can you think of a time when you did not feel worthy enough to do something? Maybe you thought, "Why did they pick me?" or "There's someone else better than me." If so, you know exactly how Gideon felt in Judges 6:11- 24. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's Lent and Easter Collection.

Groundwork: Why Jesus Had To Die On A Cross - We begin the season of Lent by slowing down and remembering why Jesus Christ's awful death was necessary. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 3:14-15, Romans 5:12-17, Isaiah 10:1-3, Habakkuk 1:2-4, and Jeremiah 31:31-34 to reflect on scriptures that answer the question: "Why did Jesus have to die on a cross?" Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Wendell Berry wrote, "Rats and roaches live by competition under the laws of supply and demand; it is the privilege of human beings to live under the laws of justice and mercy." Which laws in your community promote justice, mercy, and human flourishing? Which do not? Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

Festival of Faith And Writing - The Calvin Center for Faith and Writing invites you to attend the Festival of Faith & Writing, April 11-13, on the campus of Calvin University. The Festival features over 70 speakers, including plenary speakers Anthony Doerr, Yaa Gyasi, and Tracy K. Smith. Visit our website to see our full roster of fabulous speakers, purchase tickets, or to learn more. Questions? Reach out to ccfw@calvin.edu.

World Renew DRS Sunday is Next Week - The damage from a tornado, flood, or hurricane is overwhelming for people who have lost their belongings – but you can help. Join us for World Renew DRS Sunday on February 25, 2024. Your prayers and financial support provide vital services for those in need. Visit worldrenew.net/drs, call 800-848-5818, or email drs@worldrenew.net to give or learn more.



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.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Maxine Greidanus will be entering into hospice care. She and Larry are so thankful for all your prayers and words of encouragement and covet your continuing prayers and loving support throughout the coming weeks and months ahead.

Please continue to pray for **Trudy Van Klaveren** as she recovers from her recent knee replacement surgery.

Continue to remember the families who have recently lost loved ones. May God be close to each one of them as they mourn their loss.

Please continue to pray for **Juli Oostra's** platelet levels!

SHUT INS: *Nell Annema and Marion Ekkelkamp* at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley; *Shirley Boonstra* at Country Meadow Village in Sedro-Woolley, *Marjean DeGroot* at Mountain Glen in Mount Vernon; *Mary Koopmans* at Where the Heart is in Burlington; *Hans Meischke* at Kenmore Living in Kenmore, WA, *Adrianna Swanson*, and *Clarence Vander Griend* at Home Place in Burlington; *Hank 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 February 12 - Thrive: Worship

Please pray for your congregation's worship leaders and planners. Lent can become an exceptionally busy time in preparation for Holy Week. Ask God to fill worship leaders and planners with energy, give them joy in their work, and provide ample times of rest.

Tuesday February 13 - Resonate: South Korea

Resonate missionaries Jeannie and Joel Huyser are helping to start a Christian school in South Korea. They ask for prayer for the enrollment

of students and the recruitment of teachers. Pray that this school may be a strong faith community where students and families can be equipped as followers of Jesus.

Wednesday February 14 *Communications: Ash Wednesday*

As we enter the season of Lent, ask God to guide us in seeking him through prayer, reading the Bible, reflection, and fasting. Pray that as we draw closer to God, he will draw us and others to himself.

Thursday February 15 - *World Renew: Peace and protection*

In some regions where World Renew serves, political instability and extremist groups present challenges. Pray for discernment as we strive to work toward justice and mercy in these areas, and may the Prince of Peace reign even in situations that seem hopeless. Praise God that he is able to do what seems impossible to us.

Friday February 16 - *ReFrame: Today devotions*

Elise, a reader of the Today daily devotions, recently shared that she feels herself growing distant in her relationship with God. Pray for Elise and others who feel this way. Pray that these devotions and other faith-forming resources will offer spiritual insights for Elise and others who are going through spiritual valleys.

Saturday February 17 - *Resonate: Cohorts*

Pray for young adults who are serving with Resonate's Cohort programs in Detroit, Central America, Europe, and the Middle East. Ask God to work through the Cohort experience to help shape these young leaders to his calling for their lives.

Sunday February 18 - *Centre for Public Dialogue: Justice and Hope Sunday*

Lent gives us space to grieve the many injustices that we see in the world. Praise God that we are not left in Lent but are also a resurrection people. The Centre for Public Dialogue (Canada) helps to point out injustices in public policy and works toward shalom in these areas. Pray for this work as Lent begins.