

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
March 17, 2024 – Fifth Sunday of Lent
Pastor John Knoester

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

“Man of sorrows – what a name”

Prelude

Welcome

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #170 v. 1-5

“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.

* Call to Worship

Leader: 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.**

* Prayer of Invocation

* Hymn of Praise: LUYH #174 v. 1-3 *"I Stand Amazed"*

1. I stand amazed in the presence
of Jesus, the Nazarene,
and wonder how He could love me,
a sinner, condemned, unclean.

Chorus

*How marvelous, how wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous, how wonderful
is my Savior's love for me!*

2. He took my sins and my sorrows;
He made them His very own;
He bore the burden to Calvary
and suffered and died alone.

Chorus

3. When with the ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see,
'twill be my joy through the ages
to sing of His love for me.

Chorus

*How marvelous, how wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous, how wonderful
is my Savior's love for me!*

Words and Music: Charles H. Gabriel; P.D. CCLI# 678905

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

"For the Son of God, who came"

Announcements

Call to Confession

For a brief moment I abandoned you,
but with great compassion I will gather you.
In overflowing wrath for a moment I hid my face from you,
but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you,
says the Lord, your Redeemer.

Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

—based on Isaiah 54:7-8, NRSV

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Those who love me, I will deliver, says the Lord;
I will protect those who know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honor them
and show them my salvation.

Receive the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

—based on Psalm 91:14-15, NRSV

God's Law

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters,
by the mercies of God,
to present your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and acceptable to God,
which is your spiritual worship.

Do not be conformed to this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your minds,
so that you may discern what is the will of God—
what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me

I say to everyone among you

not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think,
but to think with sober judgment,

each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

—Romans 12:1-3, NRSV

Song of Response: LUYH #157 v. 1-3 *“Meekness and Majesty”*

1. Meekness and majesty, manhood and Deity
in perfect harmony, the Man who is God.
Lord of eternity dwells in humanity,
kneels in humility and washes our feet.

Refrain

*Oh, what a mystery-meekness and majesty;
bow down and worship, for this is your God.*

2. Father’s pure radiance, perfect in innocence,
yet learns obedience to death on a cross,
suffering to give us life, conquering through sacrifice,
and, as they crucify, prays, “Father, forgive.”

Refrain

*Oh, what a mystery-meekness and majesty;
bow down and worship, for this is your God.*

3. Wisdom unsearchable, God the invisible,
Love indestructible in frailty appears.
Lord of infinity, stooping so tenderly,
lifts our humanity to the heights of his throne.

Refrain

*“Meekness and Majesty” Text and Music: Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)
© 1986, Kingsway’s Thankyou Music, admin. EMI Christian Music
Publishing CCLI# 678905*

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

*(Following the offertory the children are invited forward
for the Children’s Message)*

Children’s Message – Marjo Rouw

*(Following the message children ages 3-3rd grade
are invited to go to Children’s Worship)*

* Song of Preparation: 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.

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend; ©2006 Thankyou Music,
CCLI# 678905

"Ruined sinners to reclaim:"

Scripture Reading: John 11:1-44

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***The Via Dolorosa: "The Raising of Lazarus from the Dead"***

Time of Prayer

"Hallelujah, what a Savior!"

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #177 v. 1-4 "Oh, to See the Dawn"

1. Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then
nailed to a cross of wood.
This the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.
2. Oh, to see the pain written on Your face
bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Every bitter thought, every evil deed
crowning Your blood stained brow.
This the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.
3. Now the daylight flees,
now the ground beneath
quakes as its Maker bows his head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life,
finished the vict'ry cry.
This the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.
4. Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,
for through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death; life is mine to live,
won through Your selfless love.
This the power of the cross:
Son of God slain for us.
What a name, what a cost,
we stand forgiven at the cross.

*"The Power of the Cross" Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend,
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Music, admin. EMICMGPublishing.com. CCLI# 678905*

*God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #302 v. 1-2 *“Hear Our Praises”*

1. May our homes be filled with dancing,
may our streets be filled with joy.
May injustice bow to Jesus
as the people turn and pray.

Refrain

*From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praises rise to you.
From the heavens to the nations,
hear our singing fill the air.*

2. May your light shine in the darkness
as we walk before the cross.
May your glory fill the whole earth
as the water over the seas.

Refrain x2

Words and Music: Reuben Morgan © 1998 Hillsong Publishing (APRA), admin. US & Canada at EMICMGPublishing.com; CCLI# 678905

Postlude

Tech Team	Today: March 17	Next Week: March 24
Sound:	Mardick S.	Henry VZ
Projection:	Beth B.	Isaac D.
Video:	Joel L.	France B.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

March 17, 2024

The deadline for announcements is Thursday., 9:00 A.M.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Would you like to purchase an Easter Lily or Bible in memory of a loved one? They will be placed at the front of the church on Easter Sunday and your loved one's name will be listed in the bulletin. If you would like to order, please call or leave a message for Beth at the church office (336-2405) by Wednesday, March 27. Lilies may be taken home after the Easter service.

Good Friday Service: This year's Good Friday Service will be a combined service with Faith Community Fellowship at **6:30 PM on Friday, March 29**. The service itself will take place at Faith Community Fellowship, which is located on 1427 Monte Vista Drive, Mount Vernon, WA 98273. We hope to see you there!

"I want to thank everyone in our church family for all the support, cards, calls and prayers in the past couple of weeks. It has meant so much to me to know that you have been with me during Maxine's passing." – Larry Greidanus

A FAMILY SKATING PARTY is being sponsored by the GEMS and Cadet clubs on TUESDAY, March 26 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM at Skagit Skate in Burlington. Bring the whole family—even babies in strollers can be wheeled around the rink. Invite your friends and neighbors. EVERYONE is welcome! Enjoy great fellowship, great exercise and great family fun. Come and help support our program at the same time. Cost: \$7.00 (\$8.00 in-line)

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Our next study is on March 24th, 6:30pm!

Choir will be rehearsing TODAY, March 17, after the service. Join us as we prepare beautiful music for Lent and Easter! To God be the glory!

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!

Pasta Night! April 6, 5:30-8:00pm

My name is **Trevor Blom** and I am a student at Mount Vernon Christian. I am a Junior and for my American Lit class, we are doing a project called the "Shalom Project". What this means is that my classmates get into groups, choose an organization that helps a cause through donations. I am partnered with Alex Hirning and we have permission to do a Pasta Night from 5:30-8:00 p.m on April 6. Our funds will be completely through donations and they will go to New Earth Recovery. Thank you, **Trevor Blom**



**DON'T BE UPSETTI, EAT
SOME SPAGHETTI!**

New Worship Service Participants Schedule: Every 6 months a new worship participant schedule is planned for all those who desire to help lead our Sunday morning services. The schedule includes organists, pianists, worship team leaders, scripture readers, sound, projection, and video recorders. If you are already on the current schedule we will automatically include you in the next schedule unless we hear otherwise. If you are not on the current schedule and would like to be included in the next schedule (May-October) - please let Beth or Pastor John know no later than **Palm Sunday, March 24**. Thank you!

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:

March 10, 2024: <https://youtube.com/live/4mkp5MD7v-M?feature=share>

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: Luke 7:11-17 – "The Via Dolorosa: Weep No More"
4. March 10: "The Via Dolorosa: Extravagant Grace"
5. March 17: The Via Dolorosa: "The Raising of Lazarus from the Dead"
6. March 24: Palm Sunday
7. March 31: Easter Sunday

CALENDAR

Greeters/Coffee Hosts: March 17

Brandon & Julie S., Michelle DK Greeters/Coffee Hosts next week,
Palm Sunday, March 24: Wayne & Rhea D., Karen S.

Worship Team:

March 17: Eliot B., Heidi B., France B. & Nellie VDH

Next Week, March 24: Greg & Beth B., Kayla & Ella VH

Nursery:

March 17: Pam VZ & Ella VH

Next Week, March 24: Julissa & Rhyson O.

Children in Worship:

March 17: Sheri L., Evan V.

Next Week, March 24: Tim & Emily VH

This Week:

Choir Practice after church

Wednesday: March 20, 6:30pm: GEMS

Upcoming Events:

Tues., March 26, 6:00pm: GEMS/Cadets Skate

Fri. March 29,

Saturday, April 6, 5:30-8:00pm: Pasta Night, hosted by Trevor Blom and Alex Hirning

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

C.A.R.E. Medical Center Boutique is in need of the following household items: Kleenex, size 6 diapers and baby wipes. Donations can be dropped off Mon.-Thurs. between 9-5.

CRC COMMUNICATIONS:

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - What would happen if we all listened to others just as deeply and lovingly as God listens to us? How would that change our family life, our work life, our interactions with our neighbor, or our online presence? Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject



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:

Please continue to pray for Hans Meischke, as he has been hospitalized with difficulty breathing. Pray for a quick return of strength and health.

Please pray for Hank Vander Veen, who is recovering from the hip surgery that he underwent this past Tuesday. Pray that he will gain strength and healing through physical therapy.

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; *Martha Haarsma* at home 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 March 11 - ReFrame: India

Pray for members of ReFrame's Hindi ministry team who follow up with listeners and visit their villages. "Pray that the team may guide listeners properly in discipleship and lead them to churches," shared our Hindi ministry leader.

Tuesday March 12 - Resonate: North America

Resonate and the denomination helped to plant eleven new churches within the past year throughout Canada and the United States. Ask the Holy Spirit to draw people into these faith communities. Pray for open doors into communities so that these churches may share the love of Christ.

Wednesday March 13 - Thrive: CRC Annual Day of Prayer

Synod has designated the second Wednesday in March as the Annual Day of Prayer. On this day each year, all CRC congregations are requested to take time to ask for God's blessing on the world, our nations and communities, crops and industry, and the church worldwide.

Thursday March 14 - Candidacy Committee: Prospective candidates

We give thanks for the men and women working toward candidacy in 2024! Please join us in prayer asking the Lord to lead and counsel them as they take their next steps toward a call. In Psalm 32:8 the Lord says, "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."

Friday March 15 - ReFrame: Egypt

ReFrame's Arabic ministry team is partnering with churches in Egypt to offer Christian media content and free wifi at several church locations. Pray that this new initiative will open doors to conversations and questions about Jesus in the Arabic-speaking world.

Saturday March 16 - Resonate: Chicago

Agape and Ecclesia, a Resonate partner campus ministry at Loyola University in Chicago, started Explore Groups as a way to provide safe spaces for students to explore faith and deeper questions in life. Ask God to work through these groups to reveal the love and hope of the gospel to people searching for meaning and purpose.

Sunday March 17 - Thrive: Middle East

Prayer for lasting peace in the Middle East: God of peace, God who loves us and who loves the people of Israel and Palestine, God who loves the powerless and the powerful alike, we cry out to you. Bring your salvation near to us, O Lord. We pray for an end to hostage taking and killings. We pray for an end to vengeance, terror, and threats. Amen!