

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
Pastor John Knoester
May 19, 2024 – Pentecost Sunday

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

“Spirit of God, unleashed on earth”

Prelude

Opening Video: *“Come Holy Spirit”*

*** Welcome**

*** Opening Hymn: LUYH #237 v. 1- 3**

“Spirit of God, Unleashed on Earth”

1. Spirit of God, unleashed on earth
with rush of wind and roar of flame!
With tongues of fire saints spread good news;
earth, kindling, blazed its loud acclaim.
2. You came in power, the church was born;
O Holy Spirit, come again!
From living waters raise new saints,
let new tongues hail the risen Lord.
3. With burning words of victory won
inspire our hearts grown cold with fear,
revive in us baptismal grace,
and fan our smoldering lives to flame.

Words: John W. Arthur, 1972, alt. © John W. Arthur, used by permission of Mary Arthur; Music: T. Williams' *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789, P.D. CCLI #678905

*** Call to Worship:**

Leader: The love of God has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us;

People: We dwell in him and he in us.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;

People: Make known his deeds among the peoples.

Leader: Sing to him, sing praises to him.

People: And speak of all his marvelous works.

Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty.

People: Who was and is and is to come!

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #246 v. 1-4 *"God is Here"*

1. God is here! As we, your people,
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of your Spirit
into open minds and hearts.
2. Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the Word has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence as in speech,
here in newness and renewal
God the Spirit comes to each.
3. Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's celebration,
all we have to give, receive;
we who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe.

Words: st. 1-4 Fred Pratt Green, 1977, © 1979 Hope Publishing Company; st. 5
Henrietta Ten Harmsel ©1979 Hope Publishing Company; Music: J. Wyeth's
Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813, P.D.; CCLI #678905

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

"With rush of wind and roar of flame!"

Announcements

Ministry of Music: Sunday School Children

1. *"This is the Day" (When the Spirit Came) 2x*
2. *"Shine Jesus Shine" v. 1-3*

Call to Confession (Based on John 14:15-17,21)

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command,
and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor
to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.

Whoever has my commands and obeys them,
he is the one who loves me.

He who loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I too will love him and show myself to him."

Let us confess our sin to God in communal prayer.

Prayer of Confession

* Song of Response: LUYH #424 v. 1-3 *"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"*

1. Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high;
hide me, O my Savior, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last.

2. Other refuge have I none;
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah! leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenseless head
with the shadow of thy wing.
3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want,
more than all in thee I find:
raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name;
I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am,
thou art full of truth and grace.

* Words of Assurance: (Based on Ezekiel 36:24-28)

* Song of Response: LUYH #424 v. 4 *“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”*

4. Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart,
rise to all eternity.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), P.D. CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

*(Immediately following the offering children ages 3 – 3rd grade
are invited to attend Children and Worship)*

Ministry of Music: *“Psalm 139”* - Choir

“With tongues of fire saints spread good news;”

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:1-3

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“Blessed are the Poor in Spirit”***

Time of Prayer

* Song of Application: LUYH #117 v. 1,2,4,5 *“Blest Are They”*

1. Blest are they, the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow;
they shall be consoled.

Refrain

Rejoice and be glad!

Blessed are you;

holy are you.

Rejoice and be glad!

Yours is the kingdom of God.

2. Blest are they, the lowly ones;
they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst;
they shall have their fill.

Refrain

4. Blest are they who seek peace;
they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith;
the glory of God is theirs.

Refrain

5. Blest are you who suffer hate,
all because of me.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom;
shine for all to see.

Refrain

MATTHEW 5:3-12; Words and Music: David Haas (b. 1957), based on Matthew 5:3-12,
Descant: Michael Joncas (b. 1951); © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.; One License.net
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“Earth, kindling, blazed its loud acclaim.”

* We Profess our Faith: Selected Texts of the Heidelberg Catechism

Leader: In his divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit,
Christ is not absent from us for a moment.

**People: By the Spirit's power we make the goal of our lives
not earthly things but the things above
where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.**

Leader: Through the Holy Spirit Christ pours out his gifts
from heaven upon us his members.
The Spirit, as well as the Father and the Son,
is eternal God.

**People: The Spirit has been given to us personally
so that by true faith the Spirit makes us share
in Christ and all his blessings,
comforts us, and remains with us forever.**

—from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 47, 49, 51, 53

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #219 v. 1-5 *"Jesus Shall Reign"*

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run,
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head.
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.
3. People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.
4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

5. Let every creature rise and bring
the highest honors to our King,
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

PSALM 72; Words: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt., P.D.; Music: John Hatton, (1710-1793,
P.D.); CCLI #678906

Postlude

Tech Team	Today: May 19	Next Week: May 26
Sound:	Mardick S.	Henry VZ
Projection:	Caleb L.	Tim H.
Video:	Joel L.	Brandon S.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

May 19, 2024

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Christian Education Fund: Pledge forms are in your mailboxes for the 2024-2025 school year. The cost of the ministry for the 2024-2025 school year is \$132,500.00. Please return your pledge forms in mailbox #85. Also please remember to pay your pledges for the current school year. For the Christian Education Fund to continue we need to fulfill our pledges for both school years by May 31. If you have any questions regarding your pledges, please contact Katie Jungquist, 428-3818.

Congregational Meeting: Save the date! **Monday, May 20 at 7pm** is the date for our annual Congregational Meeting. Our annual church budget will be presented for approval and informational reports from various church committees will be presented. The Council presents the following two nominees for the office of elder (2 open spots): Adam Faber and Henry Hammingh. The Council presents the following three nominees for the office of deacon (2 open spots): Brad De Kok, Harmen De Jong, and Jack Van Klaveren. If you have any questions about any items on the agenda, please don't hesitate to contact your district Elder prior to the Congregational Meeting. Absentee ballots can be placed in Beth's mailbox by her office door.

There is NO choir practice today after the service!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Our next study is TONIGHT, May 19 at 6:30pm!

Worship Service YouTube Links:

May 12, 2024: <https://youtu.be/c80wNWTXutg>

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*

We still have around 10 baby bottles to fill for this fundraiser! Join C.A.R.E. Medical Center (formerly Pregnancy Choices) for our Baby Bottle Campaign, running from now to Father's Day!

C.A.R.E. Medical is a ministry that serves women and their partners in their medical and personal needs here in the Skagit Valley. Their medical clinic provides free pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, and STI testing. Simply pick up a bottle in the foyer, fill it with change, bills, or checks, and return it to the church by Father's Day. Thank you for supporting our community's moms, dads, babies, and children! **Grab your baby bottle today and next Sunday after the service and fill 'er up!**

Dear Friends,

Along with the Ten Commandments, the Twenty-third Psalm, the Lord's Prayer, and a few other passages of Scripture – the Beatitudes of Jesus are some of the more familiar words of Scripture. Together we can affirm them, meditate upon them, and maybe even engrave them on plaques to hang on our walls. Yet, the main question is this: How are we to *live* in response to them?

This is the question that we hope to keep in front of us as we study them together throughout the months ahead. May God bless us as we do so!

In His Grace, Pastor John and Pastor Brad

May 5 – “Intro to the Beatitudes” (Matt. 5:1-12)

May 12 – “Blessed are Those Who Mourn” (Matt. 5:4)

May 19 – “Blessed are the Poor in Spirit” (Matt. 5:3)

May 26 – “Blessed are the Meek” (Matt. 5:5)

June 2 – “Blessed are those who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness” (Matt. 5:6)

June 9 – “Blessed are the Merciful” (Matt. 5:7)

June 16 – “Blessed are the Pure in Heart” (Matt. 5:8)

June 23 – “Blessed are the Peacemakers” (Matt. 5:9)

June 30 – “Blessed are Those who are Persecuted” (Matt. 5:10-12)

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts:

May 19: Eric & Theresa VK, Jon & Catherine VK

Next week, May 26: Randy & Juli O., Larry VP

Worship Team:

May 12: Greg & Beth B., France B., Emmalyn S.

Next Week, May 26: Stan B., Julie S, Adriana & Tessa S.

Nursery:

May 19: Catherine & Noah VK

Next Week, May 26: Kayla VH, Myra VDB

Children in Worship:

May 19: Heidi B., Kenzi S.

Next Week, May 26: Sheri & Kiera L.

Women's Bible Study: May 19 and June 2.

This Week:

Sun, May 19, 6:30pm: Women's Bible Study

Mon., May 20, 7pm: Congregational Meeting

Upcoming Events:

Friday, May 31: Christian Education Pledges due.

Sunday, June 16: C.A.R.E. Baby Bottles need to be back at church!

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:

Cascade Family Bible Camp – July 4-8 Join us at Warm Beach Camp in Stanwood, WA, for a rejuvenating experience! Embrace fellowship, worship, and camping or lodging in a stunning environment, perfect for revitalizing your daily walk. Engage with thought-provoking speakers, relish in programs tailored for kids of all ages, and indulge in a variety of activities including swimming, mini golf, tennis & basketball courts, volleyball, bocce, climbing wall, rockets, family games, a carnival and more! Secure your spot by registering online today at <https://cascadefamilybiblecamp.org/registration-info>

CRC COMMUNICATIONS:

Banner Writing Contest for Young Adults: Peacemaking - Cash prizes and winners published; enter by June 23. For details visit thebanner.org.

Thank you for supporting Women of Hope - Thank you for your generous gifts for women worldwide through World Renew on Mother's Day. Your support for our Women of Hope offering is equipping women with lifelong strength and health. As a result, you are helping their families and communities fulfill God's desire to see all people flourish. For more information or to give, go to worldrenew.net/womenofhope.

Kids Corner: The Promised Gift: Pentecost - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. When Jesus was about to return to heaven to be with his Father, he reminded his disciples of the gift his Father had promised them. Did you know that the same gift is promised to you as well? God sends his Holy Spirit to everyone who believes in Jesus. It's an old promise that is still good for you today! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the KC Bible Story Podcasts.

Groundwork: Salvation Through Jesus Christ Alone - As the Christian faith spread, the Apostle Paul often wrote letters to churches he planted to help clarify and solidify his teachings. Join Groundwork as we begin a study of his letter to the church in Galatia by studying Galatians 1. Together, we'll study Paul's teaching about salvation and let it continue to encourage our faith and strengthen our commitment to Christ today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Families, check out the free downloadable resource *5 Ways to Pray with Kids*—tinyurl.com/5WaysPray. Here's one of those ways to pray: have each person create a shape that represents what they'd like to pray about. Lego bricks, play dough, or pipe cleaners work well! Then pray about those things together. 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 pray for a complete recovery for **Hans Meischke** in the days to come as he recuperates from pacemaker surgery so that he can soon return to the Kenmore Senior Living Center. Thank you!

Hank Vander Veen is back at The Bridge and is now on hospice care. He's weak and sleeps quite a bit, but he still appreciates short visits.

Please continue to pray for **Derick and Arnola Roos** and family as Arnola has been diagnosed with ALS.

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 May 13 - Resonate: Philippines

Resonate missionaries Charles and Hensel Oh in the Philippines are wrapping up Timothy Leadership Training in the Iloilo and Bukidnon communities. Pray for leaders who participated in this training as they begin to practice what they have learned. Ask God to work through these leaders as they serve their churches and communities.

Tuesday May 14 - Thrive: Leaders

Please pray for pastors and ministry leaders in seasons of transition, whether it be in discerning a new call or preparing for retirement. Pray for wisdom, peace, and courage to follow where the Lord leads.

Wednesday May 15 - ReFrame: Today devotions

Maria reads the Today devotions and asks for prayers: "I'm a lonely, divorced, disabled 73-year-old woman living alone. I'm trying to renew my faith, but I'm struggling to focus."

Thursday May 16 - Indigenous Ministry: Hearts Exchanged

Participants in the 2023-24 season of Hearts Exchanged, a reconciliation learning and action journey, are wrapping up their learning this month. Pray for participants, including a cohort for pastors that meets today, as they consider how to use their learning in their local churches in further dialogue and action.

Friday May 17 - World Renew: Latin America

Agriculture production is deteriorating in Honduras; please ask for God's provision for the growing number of families struggling with hunger. Pray too that the Nicaraguan government will continue to allow organizations like World Renew to share Christ's hope with families in crisis. As economic instability and violence worsen in this region, pray for peace and safety.

Saturday May 18 - Cadets: Season wrap-up

As we near the end of the Cadets season, our "Rooted and Grounded" theme, based on Ephesians 3:17-18, reminds participants of the great love of Christ. We pray that cadets and counselors will reflect that love as they continue living for Jesus.

Sunday May 19 - Resonate: Pentecost

The Pentecost story includes people speaking in diverse languages—and thousands of people coming to faith in Christ! Please pray for Resonate missionaries, church planters, and campus ministers as we work to spread the gospel to people of all nations.