

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church
Pastor Brad Diekema
May 26, 2024 ♦ 10:30 AM Service

"Blest are They"

Prelude

Welcome

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #334 v. 1-3

"May the Mind of Christ, My Savior"

1. May the mind of Christ, my Savior,
live in me from day to day,
by his love and power controlling
all I do and say.
2. May the word of God dwell richly
in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph
only through his power.
3. May the peace of God, my Father,
rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort
sick and sorrowing.

Words: Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925, P.D.; Music: A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925 ©
Estate of A.C. Barham-Gould; desc. Emily R. Brink, 1986, © Faith Alive Christian
Resources; CCLI #678905

* Call to Worship:

* Hymn of Praise: 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

"Blest are They who Show Mercy"

- * God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

Announcements

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance

- * Song of Response: LUYH # 682 "Before the Throne of God Above"

1. Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea,
a great High Priest whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
my name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heaven he stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

2. When Satan tempts me to despair
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see him there
who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
my sinful soul is counted free;
for God the Just is satisfied
to look on him and pardon me,
to look on him and pardon me.

3. Behold him there! The risen Lamb,
my perfect, spotless righteousness;
the great unchangeable "I AM,"
the King of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die,
my soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my Savior and my God,
with Christ, my Savior and my God.

Words: Charitie Lees DeCheney Bancroft (1841-1923), P.D.; Music: Vikki Cook, 1997,
©1997 Sovereign Grace Worship, admin. EMICMGPublishing.com; CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

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

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH # 767 "Send Your Word, O Lord"

1. Send your Word, O LORD, like the rain,
falling down upon all the earth. Send your Word.
We seek your endless grace,
with souls that hunger and thirst,
sorrowfully agonize.
We would all be lost in dark
if without your guiding light.

2. Send your Word, O LORD, like the wind,
blowing down upon all the earth. Send your Word.
We seek your wondrous power,
purity that rejects all sins,
though they will persist and cling.
Bring us to complete victory;
set us all now free indeed.

3. Send your Word, O LORD, like the dew,
coming gently down all the hills. Send your Word.
We seek your endless love,
for life that suffers in strife,
with adversities and hurts,
send your healing power of love;
we await your brand-new world.

Words: Yasuchige Imakoma, Japan; para. Nobuaki Hanaoka © 1990 JNCC; tr.
Nobuaki CCLI #678905

"Blest are They, the Lowly Ones"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5: 1-5; Psalm 37:1, 3-5, 7-8, 11

Prayer of Illumination

Message: "Blessed are the Meek"

Time of Prayer

* Song of Application: LUYH #117 v. 1- 3 "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

3. Blest are they who show mercy;
mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart;
they shall see God.

Refrain

Rejoice and be glad!

Blessed are you;

holy are you.

Rejoice and be glad!

Yours is the kingdom of God.

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 License #A711218

* We Profess Our Faith: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended to heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #964

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1709, P.D.; Music: Traditional Black Gospel; CCLI #678905

Welcome to a time of praise and worship of the Lord our God. Let us fill His house with songs of praise and feast upon His word. We especially welcome every visitor today. We are very glad you came. May the peace and joy of the Lord be yours. 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: May 26	Next Week: June 2
Sound:	Henry VZ	Tim H.
Projection:	Beth B.	Joel L.
Video:	Brandon S.	France B.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

May 26, 2024

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Our annual **Congregational Meeting** was held this past Monday. **Henry Hammingh** and **Adam Faber**. were selected for the office of Elder for a 3-year term. **Harm DeJong** and **Bradley DeKok** were selected for the office of Deacon for a 3-year term. Installation of officers will be held during our morning service on June 9. The annual church budget 2024-2025 was approved.

Please let Beth know if you have a graduate from 8th, 12th grade or college so that we can mention your accomplishment in next week's bulletin! Thank you.

CEF Fund: Your current school year pledges are due by May 31. Pledge forms for the 2024-2025 school year are due by June 30. The cost of the ministry for the 2024-2025 school year is \$118,008.00. Please return your pledge forms in mailbox #85. If you have any questions regarding your pledges, please contact **Katie Jungquist**, 428-3818.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Our next study is June 2 at 6:30pm!

Worship Service YouTube Links:

May 19, 2024: <https://youtu.be/xcXahKYDk3o>

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 6 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 26: Randy & Juli O., Larry VP

Next week, June 2: Katie J., Tim & Heather VH

Worship Team:

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

Next Week, June 2: Men's Group

Nursery:

May 26: Kayla VH & Myra VDB

Next Week, June 2: Elly VDB & Nellie VDH

Children in Worship:

May 26: Sheri & Kiera L.

Next Week, June 2: Tim VH, Kayla VH

Women's Bible Study: June 2.

This Week:

Friday, May 31: Christian Education Pledges due.

Upcoming Events:

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:

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: Who Is Number One? - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. What does it mean to live with humility? It means we realize that we're not better than others. It means we think of God's way instead of our own way. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the KC Bible Story Podcasts.

Groundwork: The Cross of Jesus is the Only Way - As Galatians continues, Paul continues to emphasize that the cross of Jesus is the only way to salvation and he confronts Peter's hypocritical behavior. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Galatians 2 to explore the struggle the apostles faced as the Christian faith spread, and along the way find the courage to embody the truth of salvation in your

relationships and daily life. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - When praying with children, try this kid-friendly version of the "ACTS" model, replacing Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication with these prompts: "God, you are . . ." "I'm sorry for . . ." "Thank you for . . ." "Please . . ." Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

Thriving Essentials Online Overview - May 30 - Thriving Essentials is a training course for elders, deacons, church staff, and any volunteer ministry leader. This one-hour webinar will give you an overview of what the full course involves including discussions on four key concepts of Mission, Discipleship, Discernment, and Leadership. Sign up to attend this preview on May 30 (2PM EDT) and discern if the full course is right for your church: crcna.org/Essentials

Support DWELL Children's Curriculum! - DWELL is the official children's curriculum produced by the Christian Reformed Church. Please consider making a financial gift for its continued expansion. Your gift today will equip more churches with this strong, solidly Reformed curriculum that shares and invites all children into God's Big Story. Visit crcna.org/Dwell to give today!



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:

Hans Meischke has entered into hospice care and will soon be going home to see his Lord and Savior. Please keep Hans and his family in your prayers as they enter this time.

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 20 - Thrive: Reconciliation

Lord, thank you for reconciling us to you through your finished work on the cross. Father, help us to remember who we are in you. Be our strength and guide as we strengthen each other. May we be reconciled with each other. Holy Spirit, make us one. Give us the courage to walk together in unity. Lord, help us, and thank you! Amen.

Tuesday May 21 - World Renew: Diversity and development

May 21 is the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, highlighting the essential role of intercultural dialogue toward peace and sustainable development. Pray that communities may continue to forge effective cooperation and sustain peace, that all cultural rights may be considered in public policies, and that all members of society may benefit from sustainable development.

Wednesday May 22 - Resonate: Dominican Republic

Pray for a new building project for Pena de Horeb Christian School in the Dominican Republic. For many years this school has been the only one in the community. "Besides providing access to Christ-centered education, the school serves the community with a food program and a small health clinic," said Resonate missionary Mario Matos.

Thursday May 23 - ReFrame: Benin

Issa discovered ReFrame's French ministry broadcast, leading him to God. Despite being part of a Muslim-majority village, he now attends a

Christian church weekly. His wife opposes his faith in Christ. Pray for Issa's family unity, his faith journey, and an upcoming meeting he will have with ReFrame's discipleship team.

Friday May 24 - Redeemer University: Students and programs

Please pray that Redeemer University may continue to flourish in its mission of preparing students to reflect the love of Jesus Christ in every career and calling. Specifically, pray for new program developments and partnerships Redeemer is exploring that will allow more students to thrive in the years ahead.

Saturday May 25 - Resonate: Burkina Faso

After participating in Timothy Leadership Training, Joseph started a Christian school in his community in Burkina Faso. This is the only school in that community. Pray that children may not only receive an education from this school but also experience and personally come to know the love of Christ.

Sunday May 26 - Calvin Theological Seminary: Graduates

Over 50 students will be graduating this month. Rejoice with our graduates and their families and the churches and others who have supported them. Pray for them as they transition to ministry positions, further studies, or other places where God may lead them.