

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

Pastor John Knoester

June 9, 2024 ♦ 10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

*“He feeds with good the humble soul
and satisfies the meek,”*

Prelude

Welcome

* Opening Hymn: LUYH #6 v. 1-3 *“Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah”*

1. Praise the LORD, sing hallelujah,
from the heavens praise his name;
praise the LORD, our great Creator;
all his angels, praise proclaim.
All his hosts, together praise him,
sun and moon and stars on high;
praise the LORD, O heavens of heavens,
and the floods above the sky.

Refrain

Praise the LORD, sing hallelujah,
for his name alone is high,
and his glory is exalted, and his glory is exalted,
and his glory is exalted, far above the earth and sky.

2. Let them praise the LORD their Maker:
they were made at his command.
God established them forever;
his decree shall ever stand.
Let the earth sing hallelujah:
raging seas, you monsters all,
fire and hail and snow and vapors,
stormy winds that hear his call.

Refrain

3. All you fruitful trees and cedars,
every hill and mountain high,
creeping things and beasts and cattle,
birds that in the heavens fly,
kings of earth and all you people,
princes great, earth's judges all;
praise his name, young men and maidens,
aged men, and children small.

Refrain

PSALM 148; Words: Bible Songs Hymnal, 1927, alt., P.D.; Music: William J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921), P.D.; CCLI #678905

* Call to Worship:

Leader: Let us worship the eternal God,
the source of love and life, who creates us.

**People: Let us worship Jesus Christ, the risen one,
who lives among us.**

Leader: Let us worship the Spirit, the holy fire, who renews us.

**People: To the one true God be praise in all times and places,
through the grace of Jesus Christ.**

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #511 v. 1-3

"Amid the Thronging Worshipers"

1. Amid the thronging worshipers
the Lord, our God, I bless;
before his people gathered here
his name will I confess.
Come, praise him, all who fear the Lord,
the children of his grace;
with reverence sound his glories forth
and bow before his face.
2. The burden of the sorrowful
the Lord will not despise;
he has not turned from those who mourn,
he listens to their cries.
His goodness makes me join the throng
where saints his praise proclaim,
and there will I fulfill my vows
with those who fear his name.

3. He feeds with good the humble soul
and satisfies the meek,
and they shall live and praise the Lord
who for his mercy seek.
The ends of all the earth will hear,
the nations seek the Lord;
they worship him, the King of kings,
in earth and heaven adored.

Psalm 22; Words: Psalter, 1912, P.D.; Music: Laura A. Tate, 1912, P.D.; CCL# 678905

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

*"And they shall live and praise the Lord
who for his mercy seek."*

Announcements

Installation of New Elders and Deacons – PH pg. 1004-1006
- Harmen De Jong, Brad De Kok, Henry Hammingh, Adam Faber

Call to Confession

The proof of God's amazing love is this:
While we were sinners, Christ died for us.
Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time
of need.

Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion,
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

—based on Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16, NRSV

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Song of Response: LUYH #347 *"The Steadfast Love of the Lord"* 2x

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;

God's mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning,

new every morning;

great is your faithfulness, O Lord,

great is your faithfulness.

*Words: Lamentations 3:22-23, Music: Edith McNeill (b. 1920) © 1974,
1975 Celebration; CCLI# 678905*

Offering: 1st: General Fund; 2nd: Belevolence

Offertory

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

* Song of Preparation: LUYH #747 v. 1-3

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love,
and do what you would do.
2. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with yours,
to do and to endure.
3. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life
for all eternity.

Words: Edwin Hatch, 1878; Music: Robert Jackson (1840-1914) Public Domain

*"The ends of all the earth will hear,
the nations seek the Lord;"*

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:1-7

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Blessed are the Merciful"***

Time of Prayer

* Song of Application: LUYH #117 v. 1,3,5 *“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.*

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

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.;
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*“They worship him, the King of kings,
in earth and heaven adored.”*

* We Celebrate the Lord’s Supper Together
Declaration of God’s Invitation and Promises

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Preparing the Bread and Cup:

Leader: Is not the bread that we break a sharing
in the body of Christ?

**People: We who are many are one body,
for we all share the same loaf.**

Leader: Is not the cup for which we give thanks
a sharing in the blood of Christ?

**People: The cup that we drink is our participation
in the blood of Christ.**

**Holy Father, in thanks for the sacrifice of Jesus Christ,
in the joy of his resurrection,
in the hope of his coming again,
we present ourselves a living sacrifice
and come to the table of our Lord.**

Invitation:

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled. —Matthew 5:6, NRSV

Distribution of the Elements

Communion

Closing Prayer of Thanksgiving

* Proclamation of 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 #440 v. 1-4 "He Leadeth Me"
(WT, Piano, Organ)

1. He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

*He leadeth me, he leadeth me;
by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.*

2. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's flowers bloom,
by waters calm, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

3. Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

Refrain

*He leadeth me, he leadeth me;
by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.*

4. And when my task on earth is done,
when, by thy grace, the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me.

Refrain

Words: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862, P.D.; Music: William B. Bradbury, 1864, P.D.

Postlude

Welcome to everyone! We are so glad you chose to worship with us this Lord's Day. Today, we are having Holy Communion. Please reflect in reverence as we symbolize the body of Christ and His redemption for us. *The Lord's Supper is a table of grace. All those who have received the grace of Christ and confess Him as Lord and Savior of their life are warmly invited to participate. Yet, know too that there is also 'grace' from this community of faith for those who do not yet confess Christ as Lord. And if that's the case then we encourage you not to partake until you have the genuine desire to receive God's grace and are ready to proclaim Christ as your Lord.* After joining us in worship, please join us in the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

Tech Team	Today: June 9	Next Week: June 16
Sound:	Mardy S.	Henry H.
Projection:	Isaac D.	France B.
Video:	Tim H.	Isaac D.
Offering:	1st: General Fund 2nd: Benevolence	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

June 9, 2024

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Congratulations to our graduates! 8th Graders: Millie Faber, Emmalyn Stevens, Noah VanderKooy, Leah & Andy Vander Kooy; High School: Jase Hillsinger (Sedro-Woolley), Kiera Link (MVC), Ellie Vanden Bosch (MVC); College: Josie Droog (Dordt). May the Lord lead and guide you as you go forward!

Memorial Service Updates:

The service for **Adrianna Swanson** will be June 14 at 2 pm here at First CRC.

Church Council assignments for the 2024-2025 church year are as follows: Council and Elder President - Darrel Lagerway, Council and Elder Clerk - Henry Hammingh, Council and Elder Vicar - Eliot Blom, Records Clerk - Henry Van Zanten, Deacon President - Mardick Stevens, Deacon Treasurer - Jon Vander Kooy, Deacon Vicar - Derek Blanken, Deacon Secretary - Harmen De Jong, Deacons Helping Hands & Transportation Coordinator - Brad De Kok, Benevolence and Neighbors in Need - Terry Dykstra.

Christian Education Fund:

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. Thank you for all those who pledged and paid in the amount of \$115,015.00 for the 2023-2024 school year by May 31, 2024.

If you have any questions regarding your pledges, please contact Katie Jungquist, 428-3818.

Worship Service YouTube Links:

June 2, 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

Don't forget to bring your baby bottles for C.A.R.E back to church by June 16.

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:

June 9: Clarence & Eleanor K., Bryan & Deanna VB

Next week, June 16: Brooke K., Jack & Trudy VK

Worship Team: June 9: Kevin & Glenda K., Emmalyn S., France B.

Next Week, June 16: Eliot B., Heidi B., Kayla & Ella VH

Nursery:

June 9: Tessa S.

Next Week, Jun 16: Mandi D. Emmalyn Stevens

Children in Worship:

June 9: Tim VH, Ellie VDB

Next Week, June 16: Angela S., Justus V.

This Week:

June 9: Installation of Elders and Deacons; Communion

Upcoming Events:

Friday, June 14, 2pm: Adrianna Swanson Funeral Service

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

June 30: Christian Education Pledges due.

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.

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 and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

Kids Corner: Praying Together - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. When we pray together, we get to have a conversation not just with the people around us but with God, too. We get to hear and be sad about people's struggles. We get to celebrate with our happy friends. It's what makes us like a family. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Summertime Collection.

Groundwork: How to Live in Christ - Keeping laws and customs won't benefit our salvation at all, but that doesn't mean our actions don't matter. Join Groundwork as we study Galatians 5-6 to examine Paul's description of how we should live in Christ. Together we'll discuss the Fruits of the Spirit and what grateful Christian living looks like as we follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - William Brown, author of Sacred Sense: Discovering the Wonder of God's Word and World, observed, "Wonder and wisdom fit hand in glove. Without a sense of wonder, faith and practice become routine, lukewarm, trivial." Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject



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:

Adrianna Swanson passed away this past Sunday. Her service will be on June 14 at 2pm here at First. Please pray for Adrianna and Bob's families as they mourn the passing of their mother/grandmother/great grandmother.

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; *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 June 3 - World Renew: Midwest tornadoes

In April/May several deadly tornadoes whipped across the U.S. Midwest, causing widespread, catastrophic damage. World Renew Disaster Response Services (DRS) is in the early stage of assessing needs and developing a long-term response. Please pray for the families affected by these storms, asking that God will use DRS staff and volunteers as a blessing.

Tuesday June 4 - Resonate Global Mission: Lithuania

This past spring, Resonate missionaries serving at LCC International University in Lithuania celebrated student baptisms in the Baltic Sea! Please pray for these students who have committed their lives to Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide, encourage, and provide for them.

Wednesday June 5 - ReFrame: Finland

Angela contacted our prayer ministry team and asks for prayers for her church in Finland. Pray for her church and the worldwide church today. "Pray for growth, financial protection, and helping hands. Pray for every church member, love for another, and strength to study the Bible and pray every day," Angela writes.

Thursday June 6 - ThereforeGo Ministries: SERVE 2024

As summer begins, we look forward to the beginning of SERVE! Please pray for safety at all of our sites across the U.S. and Canada. This summer participants will be studying the fruit of the Spirit. Pray that their hearts will be fertile soil for the gospel and that they will grow in their relationships with the Lord.

Friday June 7 - Resonate: Japan and Korea

Resonate missionaries Jeong and Misook Gho, who serve in Japan, are traveling to South Korea this month to lead two Timothy Leadership Training sessions. These trainings equip pastors and church leaders to join God on mission. "Please pray for a safe trip and for strength and wisdom for the trainings," ask the Ghos.

Saturday June 8 - World Renew: Kenya

After a time of drought, heavy rains swept through northern Nairobi, Kenya, causing widespread flooding and washing away many farmers' crops. Pray for God's comfort and provision for all who have lost loved ones and livelihoods. Pray also for guidance for our Kenya staff and partners as they work to share hope with people affected by this disaster.

Sunday June 9 - Thrive: Justice

Holy Spirit, help us to remember that justice is mission work. We thank you for being the Prince of Peace who can tear down the dividing walls between nations and peoples. Lord, we ask that you replace any hostility in the world with the peace of Christ and any hate with your unconditional love. Amen.