

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

Pastor John Knoester

July 28, 2024 ♦ 10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

“There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s own Son;”

Prelude

Welcome

* Opening Hymn: LUYH #19 v. 1, 2,4,5

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

Refrain

*Christ, our Lord, to you we raise
this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

2. For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light,

Refrain

4. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,

Refrain

5. For yourself, best gift divine,
to the world so freely given,
agent of God’s grand design:
peace on earth and joy in heaven,

Refrain

Words: Foliott S. Pierpont, 1864, alt., P.D.; Music: Conrad Kocher, 1838; adapt.
William H. Monk, 1861, P.D.; CCLI #678905

* Call to Worship:

Leader: Creator God, we praise you for this world.
As we continue to learn more of the vastness
of your cosmos and the smallest particles
of each atom, we stand in awe that you created
all things in a great harmonious design.

**People: Open our eyes and ears that we may take delight
in the beauty and variety of sky and sea,**

Leader: of desert and mountain, of plants and flowers,
of birds and fish, of creatures large and small,
and of humankind, the crown of your creation.

**People: We praise you for the world you made, maintain,
and give to us to care for and enjoy.**

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #20 v. 1-4
"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Refrain

*All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.*

All

1. Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors,
God made their tiny wings.

Refrain

Women Only

2. The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky:

Refrain

Men Only

3. The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
God made them every one.

Refrain

All

4. God gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well.

Refrain

Words: Cecil F. Alexander, 1848, P.D.; Music: Melody English traditional, The Dancing Master, 1686; harm. John Worst, 1974, alt. © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources, CCLI #678905

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

"Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One."

Announcements

Call to Confession (Isaiah 30:15,18)

Leader: The God of the whirlwind and fire sweeps
into our presence in this hour.

**People: Glory be to God, who strengthens us
and blesses all people with peace.**

Leader: God, who called all the world into being,
calls forth new life in us today.

**People: Glory be to God, in whose creative purpose
we are claimed and empowered.**

Leader: God, whose Spirit unites all people
in a common language of love,
confirms God's gifts in us as we gather here.

**People: Glory be to God, who created light
in which we can walk in confident expectation.**

Prayer of Confession

Sung Prayer of Confession: LUYH #749 v. 1-2

“Spirit of the Living God”

1. Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.
2. Spirit of the living God,
move among us all;
make us one in heart and mind,
make us one in love;
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.
Spirit of the living God,
fill our lives with love.

Words: st. 1 Daniel Iverson, 1926, © 1994 Birdwing Music, admin. EMICMGPublishing.com; st. 2 Michael Baughen, 1982, © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Company; Music: Daniel Iverson 1926, © 1994 Birdwing Music, admin. EMICMGPublishing.com. CCLI# 678905

Words of Assurance: (Romans 5:1-2,5)

* Song of Response: LUYH #682 v. 1-3

“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: 1st: General Fund; 2nd: Benevolence Fund

Offertory Video: *"In All the Earth"* – John Alexander Wilson

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

"Thank you O my Father, for giving us your Son,"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 10:11-23

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Christ's Mission – Ministry Expectations"***

Time of Prayer

*"And leaving your Spirit till the work
on earth is done."*

Hymn of Application: LUYH #430 v. 1-4 "You Are Mine"

(Solo)

1. "I will come to you in the silence.
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice.
I claim you as my choice.
Be still and know I am here.

(Solo)

2. "I am hope for all who are hopeless,
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night
I will be your light.
Come and rest in me.

Refrain (All)

*Do not be afraid; I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you, and you are mine."*

(Solo)

3. "I am strength for all the despairing,
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see,
the lame will all run free,
and all will know my name.

Refrain (All)

(Worship Team)

4. "I am the Word that leads all to freedom.
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name,
embracing all your pain.
Stand up, now walk, and live!

Refrain (All) Please Stand

Words & Music: David Haas (b. 1957) © 2005 GIA Publications, Inc.;
All Rights Reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-711218

*(During the singing of this song the children will be returning
to the sanctuary to celebrate communion with us)*

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:

◆ LUYH #796 v. 1-3 *"Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"*

1. Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus,
vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!
Rolling as a mighty ocean
in its fullness over me!
Underneath me, all around me,
is the current of thy love—
leading onward, leading homeward,
to thy glorious rest above!

2. Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus—
spread his praise from shore to shore!
How he loves us, ever loves us,
changes never, nevermore!
How he watches o'er his loved ones,
died to call them all his own;
how for them he's interceding,
watching o'er them from the throne!

3. Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus,
love of every love the best!
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,
'tis a haven sweet of rest!
Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus—
'tis a heaven of heavens to me;
and it lifts me up to glory,
for it lifts me up to thee!

Words: Samuel Trevor Francis, ca. 1890, alt., P.D.; Music: Ebenezer; Thomas J. Williams, 1890, P.D.; CCLI #678905

◆ LUYH #833 v. 1-3 *“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

◆ LUYH #844 *“Lift Up Your Hearts unto the Lord” v. 1-5*

1. Lift up your hearts unto the Lord,
lift up your hearts unto the Lord.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
lift up your hearts unto the Lord!
2. In Christ the world has been redeemed,
in Christ the world has been redeemed.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
in Christ the world has been redeemed.
3. His resurrection sets us free,
his resurrection sets us free.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
his resurrection sets us free.
4. Therefore we celebrate the feast,
therefore we celebrate the feast.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
therefore we celebrate the feast.
5. Sing alleluia to the Lord,
Sing alleluia to the Lord.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
Sing alleluia to the Lord.

Words: st. 1-4 from early Christian liturgy; st. 5 Linda Stassen, 1974, © 1974 Linda Stassen; Music: Linda Stassen, 1974; harm. Dale Grotenhuis, 1986, © 1974, 1986 Linda Stassen; CCLI #678905

Communion

Closing Prayer of Thanksgiving

* 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

Welcome! Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life." Our Savior invites us to His table, a table of love that has been prepared for us. Jesus, Our Savior, lived, died and lives again for each one of 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.* Let us worship our God today and praise Him for His love. After the worship service, we invite you to join us in the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

Tech Team	Today: July 28	Next Week: August 4:
Sound:	Mardick S.	Mardick S.
Projection:	Beth B.	Tim H.
Video:	Isaac D.	??
Offering:	1st: General Fund 2nd: Benevolence Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

July 21, 2024

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Deep Q's with PB & J

Dear First Family,

At our congregation meeting, I expressed my desire for us to grow into better disciples of Jesus Christ over the next year.

Starting next week, you will see a weekly question in the announcements. I call it "Deep Q's with PB&J" (Deep Questions with Pastor Brad and John). The questions come from the CRC's "Our Journey 2025" conversation cards. Each question will focus on one of four areas:

1. Cultivate: These questions focus on the practices of prayer and spiritual discipline.
2. Listen: These questions focus on helping us to listen to the voices of every generation in our church.
3. Grow: These questions focus on helping us consider what it looks like to be a good neighbor in our community.
4. Share: These questions focus on sharing the Gospel and living it missionally.

The question is for anyone. Please share your answers with each other, with Pastor John, or with me.

My prayer is that we will become better disciples as we explore these questions. May God use them to draw us closer to Him and each other, strengthening our faith and bond as a congregation. Blessings,
Pastor Brad

Dear First Family, From August 10th through the 17th, **Julie, Adriana, Tessa Speck, Kiera Link, and Ellie Vanden Bosch** will travel to Abbotsford, British Columbia, to participate in a SERVE Mission Trip. In the weeks leading up, one specific way we can begin to pray for the group is for an uneventful border crossing on the 10th and the 17th.

Don't forget to take a glance at your Worship Schedule if you are a volunteer! We know summer can get busy. If you need a replacement, please call the person on for the following Sunday and then let Beth know of your switcheroo. Thank you!

Loved the movie "Driving Miss Daisy"? There is a sign-up sheet by the coffee for those who would be willing to pick up and take Shirley Boonstra home each Sunday morning with us. Please take a moment to take a look at it and volunteer today. Thank you!

Danielle Van Zanten and Ryan Burkholder are thrilled to announce their wedding on August 3, in Houston, B.C. They will have an open house reception here at First CRC on Saturday, August 17 from 2-4p.m. Please join us in celebrating their love and commitment. Please RSVP by August 12 to Henry and Pam Van Zanten by text at 360-757-0540 or email at hpvanz@gmail.com.

Dear Friends,

In our recent study of the Beatitudes we observed how these teachings provide an excellent blueprint for how a person initially becomes a Christian and then through the power of the Holy Spirit begins to mature in the faith. One of the important pieces in our spiritual maturity is how we carry out Christ's mission in the world around us. The latter part of Matthew 9 and all of Matthew 10 provide us with some important instructions on how to engage in this important mission together. In the weeks to come we're going to take a closer look at some of these instructions and then apply them to our own lives here today. May God lead and guide us in our study together.

In His Grace,

Pastor John

July 21 – "Christ's Mission – Recognizing the Need" (Matthew 9:35-10:10)

July 28 – "Christ's Mission – Ministry Expectations" (Matthew 10:11-23)

Aug. 25 – "Christ's Mission – No Fear" (Matthew 10:24-33)

Sept. ?? – "Christ's Mission – Costly Discipleship" (Matthew 23:34-37)

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:

July 21, 2024: <https://youtu.be/dXiM90BhOto>

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts:

July 28: Terri & Joni B., Kevin & Glenda K.

Next week, August 4: Eliot & Sue B., Dave & Nancy V.

Worship Team: July 28: Kevin & Glenda K. & France B. & Emmalyn S.

Next Week, August 4: Eliot B., Heidi B., Adriana & Tessa S.

Nursery:

July 28: Brooke K. & Marissa VK

Next Week, August 4: Elly VDB & Emily VH

Children in Worship:

July 28: ?? & ??

Next Week, August 4: Heidi B., Isaac D.

Today:

Sunday July 28: Communion

Upcoming Events:

Monday, August 12, 6:30pm: Council Meeting

Sat, August 17, 2-4pm: Reception for Danielle (VZ) and Ryan Burkholder here at church. Please RSVP by August 12.

CRC COMMUNICATIONS:

Kids Corner: Pass It On! - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Daily devotions in our families help us deepen our understanding of God's big story. And it can be fun, too. We can listen, look at pictures, act out the stories, and ask our wondering questions. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Faith Practices for Families Ebook Collection.

Family Fire - 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.

Groundwork: God Creates - The theme of creation echoes throughout the Bible. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Genesis 1, Revelation 21:22-24, Psalm 139:13-14, Hebrews 1:1-3, and Colossians 1:15-17 to discuss what this theme reveals to us about God's character, love, and intentions. Then we'll consider our call to reflect God's creativity with our own as bearers of his image. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Support The Banner! - We need your help to reach our annual goal of raising \$500,000 by July 31. Your partnership will enable The Banner to continue reaching North Americans with inspiring and insightful Christian content for another full year. Please donate now at TheBanner.org/Give

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - In Life Together, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, "We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God." How might we prepare ourselves to recognize interruptions as opportunities to serve? 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.

NEW REQUESTS:

Bryan VanBeek's mother passed away rather suddenly this past Thursday the 18th. Please keep Bryan, Deanna, Kendra, Nathan Van Beek and the rest of the family in your prayers during this time.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please keep **Margaret Vander Pol** in your prayers, as she was hospitalized due to a blood clot in her lung. She is home now recuperating. Pray for Larry as he continues to walk alongside and care for Margaret.

Please continue to pray for **Greg and Tish Ackermann** upon the loss of Tish's sister Maria.

Please keep **Eleanor Klunder** in your prayers as she was hospitalized this past week due to dehydration, low blood pressure and kidney concerns. She is now home and recuperating. Pray too for Clarence and the rest of the family as they walk beside her during this anxious time.

Please pray for our youth group leader and kids who will be travelling to Abbotsford, B.C. on August 10 and coming home on August 17.

Continue to pray for **Mary Koopmans** as she recovers from the swelling from her blood clot. Please feel free to visit her again in Burlington at Where the Heart Is. She doesn't remember visits, but she sure enjoys them in the moment. Please pray for her continued healing.

Please continue to pray for **Arnola Roos**.

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.

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; ***Sally Reehoorn*** at Creekside in Burlington; ***Bev Van Slageren*** with family in Grandview, WA.

OTHER REQUESTS: (CRC Communications)

Monday July 22 - *ReFrame: Spanish ministry*

ReFrame's Spanish ministry partners ask you to pray for the political situation in Mexico. With recent political violence and a deteriorating relationship between Mexico and Ecuador, ReFrame's partners are experiencing some interruptions in their ministry activities.

Tuesday July 23 - *Thrive: Gratitude*

Just one year ago nine congregational ministries merged into Thrive. We thank God for a full year of ministry equipping and encouraging congregations!

Wednesday July 24 - *Resonate: Spain*

It can be difficult to find a new job, especially for people who are refugees in their new country. Many of them often end up working jobs that they are overqualified for. Resonate missionaries Gary and Rachel De Leon in Spain are working on developing a job placement program to help newcomers find jobs that honor their skills, experience, and needs.

Thursday July 25 - *The King's University: Developments*

With lots to be excited about, we have several programs in the process of being developed and approved. And, thanks to a generous donation, we have begun building a Centre for Excellence in the Sciences. Join us in praying for the new programs, for safety amid construction, and for excitement as we look ahead to what God will do in and through The King's University.

Friday July 26 - *World Renew: Church partnerships*

Praise God for churches across the U.S. and Canada that are participating in church-to-church partnerships with counterparts in Latin America and Africa. Ask the Lord to use these relationships to build his kingdom in practical ways.

Saturday July 27 - *Resonate: El Salvador*

Seeds of New Creation, a Resonate partner in El Salvador, is working to promote food security and good nutrition among families who don't always have enough to eat. Please pray for this work!

Sunday July 28 - *ReFrame: Arabic ministry*

ReFrame's Arabic ministry partners are working on a program to guide the children of pastors and support them psychologically and emotionally. Pray that these new media programs will ultimately reach pastors and their children who may be hurting.