

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
Pastor John Knoester
August 11, 2024 ♦ 10:30 A.M. Worship Service

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

"Amazing love!"

Prelude

Welcome

*Opening Hymn: *"The Love of God"* v. 1-3

1. The love of God is greater far
than tongue or pen can ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star,
and reaches to the lowest hell;
The guilty pair, bowed down with care,
God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled,
and pardoned from his sin.

Refrain

*O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure
the saints' and angels' song!*

2. When years of time shall pass away,
and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,
when men, who here refuse to pray,
on rocks and hills and mountains call,
God's love so sure shall still endure,
all measureless and strong;
redeeming grace to Adam's race—
the saints' and angels' song.

Refrain

3. Could we with ink the ocean fill,
and were the skies of parchment made,
were every stalk on earth a quill,
and every man a scribe by trade,
to write the love of God above
would drain the ocean dry;
nor could the scroll contain the whole,
tho' stretched from sky to sky.

Refrain

"The Love of God"; Text & Music: Frederick M. Lehman ©1917. Renewed 1945 by Nazarene Publish House. All rights reserved. Used by Permission: CCLI# 678905

*Call to Worship: Psalm 89:1-2

Leader: I will sing of the Lord's great love forever;
With my mouth I will make your faithfulness known
through all generations.

**People: I will declare that your love stands firm forever,
that you established your covenant in heaven itself.**

Leader: O Lord God Almighty, who is like you?

**People: You are mighty, O Lord,
and your faithfulness surrounds you.**

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #348 v. 1-3

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23: Words: Thomas O Chisholm, 1923, © 1923, ren. 1951
Hope Publishing Company; Music: William M. Runyan, 1923 , © 1923, ren. 1951
Hope Publishing Company, CCLI #678905

- * God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

"How can it be?"

Announcements

Testimony of Faith – Mr. Greg Ackermann

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Call to Confession (Based on Romans 5:8 & Hebrews 4:16)

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance: (Based on Psalm 103)

- * Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #695 v. 1-4 *"And Can it Be"*

1. And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain—
for me, who caused his bitter death?
Amazing love! How can it be
that you, my Lord, should die for me?

Refrain

*Amazing love! How can it be
that you, my Lord, should die for me?*

2. He left his Father's throne above—
so free, so infinite his grace—
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race!
What mercy this, immense and free,
for, O my God, it found out me!

Refrain

3. Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night.
Your sunrise turned that night to day;
I woke—the dungeon flamed with light!
My chains fell off, your voice I knew;
I rose, went out, and followed you.

Refrain

4. No condemnation now I dread,
for Christ, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Refrain

Words: Charles Wesley, 1738, alt, Public Domain; Music: Thomas Campbell,
1825, Public Domain

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

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

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #314 v. 1-3 *"Tell Your Children"*

1. God the Father, God of glory,
miracles, and mystery;
generations all adore him,
God the same through history.

Refrain

*Parents, tell your children,
age to age the same.
Glorify the living Lord above,
magnify his holy name,
magnify his holy name.*

2. Lift the fallen, feed the hungry;
God provides for everything.
He is fair and full of kindness,
saving those who call him King.

Refrain

3. Awe-inspiring deeds of splendor—
these proclaim his mighty power;
interwoven with compassion
is his strength for every hour.

Refrain

*Parents, tell your children,
age to age the same.
Glorify the living Lord above,
magnify his holy name,
magnify his holy name.*

Words: Grace Hawthorne, 1980, alt., based on Psalm 145 © 1980 Pilot Point
Music, admin. Music Services; Music: Tom Fettke, 1980, ©1980 Pilot Point
Music, admin, Music Services; CCLI# 678905

“That you, my Lord,”

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:9-13

Prayer of Illumination

Message: **“Christlike Love”**

Time of Prayer

“Should die for me?”

* Song of Application: LUYH #309 v. 1-5 *“The Servant Song”*

1. Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey;
we are travelers on the road.
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the nighttime of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.
5. Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

Words: Richard Gillard (b. 1953) © 1977 Scripture in Song, a div. of Integrity
Music/Maranatha Music, admin. Music Services CCLI #678905

* Proclamation of our Faith: Romans 8:1,38-39

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together
for good for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

—from Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39, NRSV

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #604 v. 1-3 *"To God Be the Glory"*

1. To God be the glory, great things he has done;
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory; great things he has done.*

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory; great things he has done.*

3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875, alt., P.D.; Music: William H. Doane, 1875, PD.;

Postlude

Welcome to the House of the Lord! We have come to bring our worship to our God. May we do so in our singing, praying, giving, preaching and listening. May God be glorified. 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: August 11 | Next Week: August 18: |
|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sound: | Tim H. | Mardy S. |
| Projection: | Maddie D. | Isaac D. |
| Video: | Brandon S. | Tim H. |
| Offering: | General Fund | General Fund |

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

August 11, 2024

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

This Week's Deep Q's with PB & J:

What do you hope your relationship with Jesus will be like in 10 years?

Please change the following in your Church Directory:

Jill Rouw's email address is: jillrouw@gmail.com. Also remove her landline phone number from your directory and only use her cellphone number.

Our Youth Group (Adriana, Tessa Speck, Kiera Link, and Ellie Vanden Bosch) and leader **Julie Speck**, are in Abbotsford, British Columbia, to participate in a SERVE Mission Trip. Please pray for safety for them as they are on the job site, traveling to and fro, and for God to be filling their cups as they participate in this mission work!

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. 4 – “What Are You Wearing” – Colossians 3:1-17

Aug. 11 – “Christlike Love” – Romans 12:9-13

Aug. 18 – “Love that Overcomes Evil” – Romans 12:9-21

Aug. 25 – “Christ’s Mission – No Fear” (Matthew 10:24-33)

Sept. ?? – “Christ’s Mission – Costly Discipleship” (Matthew 34-42)

Danielle Van Zanten and Ryan Burkholder were married 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 TOMORROW, August 12 to Henry and Pam Van Zanten by text at 360-757-0540 or email at hpvanz@gmail.com.

Worship Service YouTube Links:

August 4, 2024: <https://youtu.be/DuSkLszkkYs>

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

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts:

August 11: Derek & Heidi B., Darrel & Sunee L.

Next week, August 18: Greg & Beth B., Cody & Angela S.

Worship Team:

August 11: Henry & Pam VZ, Kayla & Ella VH

Next Week, August 18: Greg & Beth B., Emmalyn S. France B.

Nursery:

August 11: Kayla VH & Lauren VDB

Next Week, August 18: Glenda K. & Tessa S.

Children in Worship:

August 11: Sheri L., France B.

Next Week, August 18: Angela S., Nellie VDH

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: Remember Who You Are - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. There is no more incredible blessing than knowing we are God's children. God delights in us and knows our names. He calls us and walks with us always. God helps us always to remember who we are. 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 Redeems - The biblical theme of redemption is unique to Christian theology and sets Christianity apart from other religions. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 12:1-5, Ephesians 1:3-11, Galatians 2:20-21, and Ephesians 2:1-5 to trace God's story of redemption from Genesis to the ultimate sacrifice of our Savior Jesus Christ and talk about living redeemed lives as we go about our daily lives. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Jesus is our model for true servanthood. What characteristics and practices of Jesus could each of us emulate to help us develop a servant heart? Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

Job Opening - Director of Ecclesiastical Governance - As a member of the Office of General Secretary, the Director of Ecclesiastical Governance shall serve, support, and equip the governance of the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA). The Director shall serve as the synodical and Council of Delegates (COD) meeting officer and be the liaison between the Office of General Secretary and classes in Canada and the U.S. The Director shall serve as the Church Order and Synodical Rules of Procedure subject matter expert, strengthen the capacity of synodical delegates and COD members, equip its leadership, and promote best governance practices and

continuous improvement. This position offers a flexible work schedule, an attractive benefits package (including retirement fund contribution), and four weeks of vacation. Learn more and apply at crcna.pinpointhq.com



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:

Praise God! Greg Boon's mother Yvonne just had her one year after appointment since her stem cell transplant and there is no sign of cancer and the cells have grafted 100 percent. Thank you so much for all your prayers!

Please pray for the **VanderHoek** family for the loss of Minne's younger brother Jelle, who passed away after a farming accident this week in California. May God send them comfort and assurance as they mourn his loss.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please keep **Crystal DeKok's** son Eric in your prayers as he heals from his dirt bike accident and subsequent surgery.

Please keep **Margaret Vander Pol** in your prayers, as she is home recuperating from a blood clot. Pray for Larry as he continues to walk alongside and care for Margaret.

Please continue to pray for those who have lost loved ones recently.

Please keep **Eleanor Klunder** in your prayers as she recuperates at home.

Continue to pray for **Mary Koopmans** as she recovers from her blood clot.

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

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)

Sunday August 4 - *World Renew: Iowa*

Heavy rain and flooding damaged around 2,000 properties in northwestern Iowa in June. Pray for all who have been affected by the devastation, and praise God for Disaster Response Services volunteers who are already assisting with clean-up efforts. May God continue to provide for residents living in temporary shelters while their homes are restored.

Monday August 5 - *Communications: Preparations*

As summer rolls on, many ministry leaders are planning for a new ministry year: gathering resources, connecting with volunteers and supporters, and making schedules. Pray for pastors, chaplains, Sunday school and other church education leaders, outreach workers, committee members, and others involved in ministries as they gear up for a new season.

Tuesday August 6 - *Resonate: Education and training*

“Thank God for opportunities to share Christ through education,” shared Mwikali Wambua, a Resonate missionary in Kenya who facilitates and leads Educational Care training throughout eastern and southern Africa. Please pray for financial support for Mwikali’s ministry, asking also that educators, schools, children, and families may experience kingdom transformation through these training sessions.

Wednesday August 7 - *ReFrame: Today devotions*

Praise God for Simona, a Today reader who shared, “When my mother passed away, I was angry at God. Then I slowly gave up on life, but God saved me. God never gave up on me, and today I am clean and sober.”

Thursday August 8 - *World Renew: Global food crisis*

Over the past several years, progress made toward food security in many countries has been blocked by conflict, drought, and various results of the COVID-19 pandemic. World Renew works to alleviate hunger through food distribution and food security programs. Ask God to intervene in all situations of chronic hunger.

Friday August 9 - *Resonate: Campus ministries*

Resonate partner campus ministries throughout Canada and the United States are beginning to welcome students back to campus for the fall semester. Brian Bork, Resonate's campus ministry leader, asks you to pray for "energy and wisdom toward peacemaking on campuses where political and ideological polarization is particularly intense."