

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
Pastor John Knoester
September 8, 2024 ♦ 10:30 A.M. Worship Service

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

"Let living water satisfy"

Prelude

Welcome

* Opening Hymn: LUYH #575 v. 1-4

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul praise him, for he is your help and salvation!
Come, all who hear; brothers and sisters, draw near.
Join me in glad adoration!
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things
is wondrously reigning,
sheltering you under his wings, oh, so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?
3. Praise to the Lord, who will prosper
your work and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
as with his love he befriends you.
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath,
come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!

Words: Joachim Neander, 1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt., P.D.; Music:
(LOBE DEN HERREN): Ernewerten Gesangbuch, Stralsund, 1665; desc. Craig S.
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#678905

* Call to Worship: LUYH #541 *"We Praise You, O God"*

Leader: We praise you, O God; we acclaim you as Lord;
all creation worships you, the Father everlasting.
To you all angels and all the heavenly powers
cry aloud; the cherubim and seraphim sing
in endless praise:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Leader: The glorious company of apostles, praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets, praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs, praise you.
Throughout the world the holy church acclaims you:

**People: Father, of majesty unbounded;
your true and only Son, worthy of all praise;
the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.**

Leader: You, Christ, are the King of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.
When you took our flesh to set us free,
you humbly chose the virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come to be our judge.

**People: Come, then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.
Amen.**

Text: 4th c. Christian hymn, P.D.

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #540 v. 1-4

"Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

1. Holy God, we praise your name;
Lord of all, we bow before you.
Saints on earth your rule acclaim;
all in heaven above adore you.
Infinite your vast domain;
everlasting is your reign.

2. Hark, the glad celestial hymn
angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim,
in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heavens with sweet accord:
“Holy, holy, holy Lord!”
3. Lo, the apostolic train
joins your sacred name to hallow;
prophets swell the glad refrain,
and the white-robed martyrs follow;
and from morn to set of sun,
through the church the song goes on.
4. Holy Father, holy Son,
Holy Spirit, three we name you,
though in essence only one;
undivided God, we claim you,
and, adoring, bend the knee
while we own the mystery.

Words: Te Deum, 4th c.; vers. Ignaz Franz, ca. 1774; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1853, alt., P.D. Music: *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774; desc. Emily R. Brink, 1986, ©1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources, CCLI # 678905

* God’s Greeting / We Greet Each Other

“The thirsty without price”

Announcements

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance:

Here are words you may trust,
words that merit full acceptance:
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
To all who confess their sins and resolve to lead a new life,
he says, “Your sins are forgiven.”
He also says, “Follow me.”
Now to the one who rules all worlds,
immortal, invisible, the only God,
be honor and glory forever and ever.

—based on 1 Timothy 1:15, 17

God's Law and Our Response of Gratitude

* Song of Thanksgiving: *"Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me"*

1. What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me

2. The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Saviour he will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed
To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me

3. No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

4. With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Ending

When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me
Yet not I but through Christ in me

CCLI Song # 7121852 Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson
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Offering: General Fund

Offertory Video: The Bible Project – Martus/Witness

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

* Song of Preparation: “Christ our Wisdom” (Sovereign Grace) v. 1-4

1. Christ our wisdom we are humbled
When You hide Your ways from us
You have purposes unnumbered
Each one good and glorious
Help us trust when we grow weary
Free us from our anxious thoughts
Give us grace to see more clearly
You are God and we are not
2. Christ our wisdom be our gladness
When we fail to understand
You ordain all joy and sadness
To fulfill Your perfect plan
Help us know You rule with power
Over every raging flood
In our most uncertain hour
You are God and we are loved
3. Christ our wisdom we will follow
Though the way ahead is veiled
As we journey through the shadows
Grant us faith where sight has failed
Help us cling to Your commandments
Strengthened by Your faithful Word
We will never be abandoned
You are God and we are Yours

4. Christ our wisdom we adore You
For the beauty of the cross
Once in foolishness we scorned You
But Your blood has ransomed us
Help us sing the endless mercies
Of Your humble heart to save
Christ our wisdom Christ our glory
You are God forever praised

Tag

Help us sing the endless mercies
Of Your humble heart to save
Christ our wisdom Christ our glory
You are God forever praised

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"We'll take a cup of kindness yet"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 10:34-42

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Christ's Mission – Costly Discipleship"***

Time of Prayer

"All glory be to Christ."

* Song of Application: LUYH #742 v. 1-5

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

1. Will you come and follow me,
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you, and you in me?

2. Will you leave yourself behind,
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you, and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see,
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you, and you in me?
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide,
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you, and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you, and you in me.

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* Proclamation of our Faith:
(Based on Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 32,34)

I am called Christian

**because by faith I am a member of Christ
and so I share in his anointing.**

I am anointed

to confess his name,

to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks,

**to strive with a good conscience against sin and the devil
in this life,**

**and afterward to reign with Christ
over all creation for all eternity.**

We call him “our Lord” because—

not with gold or silver, but with his precious blood—

**he has set us free from sin and from the tyranny of the devil,
and has bought us, body and soul, to be his very own.**

—from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A’s 32, 34

* God’s Blessing

*Parting Praise: *“All Glory Be to Christ”* v. 1-4

1. Should nothing of our efforts stand,
no legacy survive;
unless the Lord does raise the house,
in vain its builders strive.
To you who boast tomorrow’s gain,
tell me what is your life?
A mist that vanishes at dawn;
all glory be to Christ.

Chorus

All glory be to Christ our king!

All glory be to Christ!

His rule and reign we’ll ever sing,

all glory be to Christ!

2. His will be done, His kingdom come,
on earth as is above,
who is Himself our daily bread;
praise Him, the Lord of love.
Let living water satisfy
the thirsty without price;
we'll take a cup of kindness yet;
all glory be to Christ.

Chorus

*All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing,
all glory be to Christ!*

3. When on the day the great I Am,
the faithful and the true,
the Lamb who was for sinners slain,
is making all things new.
Behold our God shall live with us
and be our steadfast light.
And we shall e're his people be;
all glory be to Christ.

Chorus

Chorus: Sing acapella

Words and Arrangement by Dustin Kensrue; Music: Traditional Scottish Folk Tune
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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: September 8	Next Week: September 15
Sound:	Tim H.	Henry VZ
Projection:	Isaac D.	Maddie D.
Video:	Brandon S.	France B.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

September 8, 2024

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

This Week's Deep Q's with PB & J: Describe a time when you felt close to God.

You're invited to a WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY planning session after church on September 8th. Back by popular demand, we will be studying Luke by Kristi McIleland. She will be leading us through the book of Luke. We'll share the sign-up sheet at this meeting as well. Any questions, please call Jill Rouw at 360-333-2600.

Mark your calendars! Sunday, September 22 will be the official start of the **Sunday School** year for both children and adults. The education committee will be meeting in the near future – more details on the exact date/time to come in the days ahead.

We are still in need of a volunteers to volunteer for Oct. 27 to pick up and bring Shirley Boonstra to church Sunday mornings. The sign-up sheet is by the coffee. Thank you!

*"Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord,
O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I
will sing to my God while I have my being"*
Psalm 146:1-2

We would like to invite you to join choir! Our first rehearsal will be next Sunday morning after the service. We look forward to an awesome year of ministering to the congregation through our music. Any questions, contact Joni Beezhold.

Starting this week there will be a "Harvest Bounty Table" in the Fellowship Hall, where if you have more food from your garden or trees than you can use, you may place it on the table by the kitchen and share your blessings with others. Don't forget to take the remainder home! Beth does not want to adopt 56 zucchini.

THE NEW COMMITTEE LISTS ARE HERE! They are on the shelves by the church mailboxes. Please pick one up today. There are a few changes, so be sure to look to see if you might have been added to a new committee.

New Worship Service Schedule: In a few weeks a new *Worship Service* Schedule will be put together for the months of November-April. The schedule usually includes each week's organist, pianist, worship team vocalists, Scripture reader, sound volunteer, projection volunteer, and video volunteer. If you are currently not on the list of volunteers and would like to volunteer in any one of these roles - please let Beth know no later than Monday, Sept. 23. If you are currently on the schedule and would like to be removed from it please let her know that too. Generally speaking, the Worship Team practices at 9:30 AM on the Sunday morning they are scheduled to sing. Thank you!

Pastor John's New Email Address: As it seems highly unlikely that the powers that be at Microsoft will be willing to recover Pastor John's very very old, highly coveted email address, he has broken down and gotten a new one. It is the following: jknoes0812@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

Sept. 8 – "Christ's Mission – Costly Discipleship" (Matthew 34-42)

Worship Service YouTube Links:

September 1, 2024: <https://youtu.be/3MK3G1G7Eys>

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:

Sept. 8: Joe & Juliana LC, Brad & Crystal DK

Next week, Sept 15: Rich & Elly C., Julie & Brandon S.

Worship Team:

September 8: Eliot B., Heidi B., France B. & Emmalyn S.

Next Week, Sept. 15: Greg B., Mandi D., Kayla & Ella VH

Nursery:

September 8: Juliana LC & Ella VH

Next Week, Sept. 15: Angela S. & Nellie VDH

Children in Worship:

September 8: ?, Macy VDP

Next Week, Sept. 15: Heidi B., Evan V.

Upcoming Events:

Sun., Sept. 15 after the service: Choir Resumes!!

Sun., Sept. 22, 9:30am: Sunday School Resumes!!

Sun, Sept. 29: Crop Walk here starting at 2:00pm

Sun., Oct. 6: CHURCH POTLUCK RETURNS!

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:

Join us in walking to End Hunger in 2024!

The 2024 CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, Sept. 29 at 2:00 pm. Please note the new starting location will be at First Christian Reformed Church, which is across the street from the Mt. Vernon Christian School where we have previously started. The 3.4 mile route will be the same, as we will walk through historic downtown Mt. Vernon up to the Lions Park and back along the riverwalk. There will also be a 1-mile family walk. Strollers and leashed dogs are welcome.

Heather Village Maintenance Supervisor

Heather Village, a Christian retirement community in Mount Vernon, has an opening for a **Maintenance Supervisor**. This position is responsible for the day-to-day maintenance operations of the buildings and grounds in the community. To qualify, a candidate must be a Christian and have good interpersonal skills. An ideal candidate would have a working knowledge of electrical and plumbing systems, carpentry and painting skills, and would be expected to be available for on-call emergencies. This is a full-time position that could be shared between two people; pay is dependent on experience. For more information or to submit a resume or list of qualifications, please contact the Heather Village Manager by mail at Heather Village, 925 Heather Circle, Mount Vernon WA 98273 or by email at hvoffice2021@gmail.com prior to Monday, September 30.

CRC Communications:

Groundwork: God's Presence With His People - God delights to dwell with his people, but he is holy and his presence cannot remain with unholy people. Join Groundwork as we study Ezekiel chapters 10, 11, and 36 to witness the painful consequences of Israel's unholy ways and hear the hope God offers even in the midst of those consequences. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Kids Corner: Church: We Belong to God - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. God brought all of us together so that we could be thankful for Jesus dying on the cross for our sins and to help each other live like him. The Church reminds us that we belong to God as part of his family. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Church in Action comic book.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - The Bible teaches us that God is redeeming the world, reversing the effects of the fall into sin, and restoring every area that is infected by sin. God invites us to join in this redeeming work as people who have experienced God's love and grace (2 Cor. 5:17-21). One way we can join in is by reflecting God's hospitality, welcome, and love to the people around us. Consider someone at school or work who could use a friend. In what small ways can you show kindness and be a friend to the person God has placed on your heart? Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive



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:

Jerry Van Vliet is having heart valve replacement surgery in the next couple of weeks. Please keep him and Barb in your prayers for a successful procedure.

Amy Stiles was recently diagnosed with heart issues. Please pray for her heart to strengthen and heal.

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

Please continue to keep **Margaret Vander Pol** in your prayers.

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

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)

Thursday August 29 - *World Renew: Sustainable solutions*

The World Renew team is passionate about meeting the deepest concerns of this world with the creativity and sustainability that only the great Creator and Sustainer can provide. Praise God for the exciting ways in which long-term solutions address issues of food insecurity and injustice. Pray for continued support for projects from tree planting to refugee resettlement that offer lasting solutions.

Friday August 30 - *Calvinist Cadet Corps: New season*

The theme of our upcoming Cadet season, based on 1 Timothy 4:12, is "Lead the Way." We pray that this theme will challenge cadets and their counselors to be leaders in their clubs, churches, and communities. We pray that the boys and men of Cadets will "Lead the Way" as they live for Jesus.

Saturday August 31 - *Diaconal Ministries Canada: Benevolence*

Deacons often find themselves on a treadmill of providing short-term financial help that doesn't seem to really change lives. Please pray for our new diaconal coach-at-large, Anja, who offers a Financial Life Coaching program—a more sustainable solution to enhance the benevolent work of deacons. Lives are being changed, and financial stories are being rewritten—praise God!

Sunday September 1 - *Calvin University: New academic year*

Another academic year is starting at Calvin University, and we are grateful for your financial support. Every dollar of ministry shares for Calvin goes to student scholarships. You are making it possible for the young people of your church, school, or city to afford a Calvin

education! Pray for our students, staff, and faculty as they look forward to another year of learning and discipleship.

Monday September 2 - *Resonate Global Mission: Labor Day*

On this Labor Day please pray for Resonate missionaries, church planters, campus ministers, and other ministry leaders who are working to share the gospel wherever God has called them. Please pray also that believers everywhere may share God's love and good news in and through their daily work at home, school, and elsewhere.

Tuesday September 3 - *ReFrame Ministries: Today devotions*

Pray for peace and comfort for Jackie, a Today reader who shared that she recently lost her son in a car accident. "I'm having trouble understanding why he was taken," Jackie said. "My heart is broken."

Wednesday September 4 - *Thrive: Gather events*

Pray for Gather events taking place later this month in Vancouver, B.C. (Sept. 19-21), and Calgary, Alta. (Sept. 23-25). At each event, several CRC classes are coming together to share what has been happening in their local contexts and to discern where God may be leading them into renewed ministry and mission.