

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
Pastor John Knoester
October 27, 2024 ♦ 10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

“Who has held the oceans in His hands?”

Prelude

Welcome

* Opening Hymn: *“Behold Our God”* v. 1-3

1. Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice.
All creation rises to rejoice.

Chorus

Behold our God, seated on His throne.

Come let us adore Him.

*Behold our King, nothing can compare,
come, let us adore Him!*

2. Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

Chorus

3. Who has felt the nails upon His hand,
bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave,
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

Chorus

Music & Words by Jonathan Baird / Meghan Baird / Ryan Baird / Stephen
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(IMI)); Sovereign Grace Worship (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing (IMI)) CCLI
#678905

* Opening Prayer

*Call to Worship: Based on Psalm 42

Leader: As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, O God.

People: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

Leader: Why are you downcast, O my soul?
Why so disturbed within me?

**People: Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.**

*Openings Songs of Praise: "As the Deer" v. 1-3

1. As the deer panteth for the water,
so my soul longeth after Thee.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship Thee.

Chorus:

*You alone are my Strength, my Shield,
To You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship Thee.*

2. You're my friend and You are my brother
even though You are a King.
I love You more than any other,
so much more than anything.

Chorus

3. I want You more than gold or silver,
only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver,
and the apple of my eye.

Chorus

"As the Deer" Psalm 42:1 Martin Nystrom, ©1984 Maranatha! Music CCLI# 678905

"He is Exalted" 2x

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high, I will praise Him.
He is exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise His name!
He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign;
Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name,
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

" *He Is Exalted" Twila Paris, ©1985 Straightway Music, Admin. by Gaither Music Management CCLI# 678905*

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

"Who has numbered ever grain of sand?"

Announcements

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Sung Prayer of Confession: LUYH #615 v. 1-3

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me;
see, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.

Refrain

*Come home, come home,
you who are weary, come home;
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, O sinner, come home!*

2. Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me?

Refrain

3. Oh! For the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me;
though we have sinned he has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me.

Refrain

Words: Will L. Thompson (1847-1909), P.D.; Music: Will L. Thompson (1847-1909), P.D.

Words of Assurance

God's Law

Offering: General Fund

Offertory Video: "His Glory and My Good" – CityAlight

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

* Song of Preparation: LUYH #762 v. 1-2 "Ancient Words"

1. Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world,
they resound with God's own heart,
O let the ancient words impart.
Words of life, words of hope,
give us strength, help us cope.
In this world where'er we roam
ancient words will guide us home.

Refrain

*Ancient words, ever true,
changing me and changing you.
We have come with open hearts,
O let the ancient words impart.*

2. Holy words of our faith
handed down to this age
came to us through sacrifice.
O heed the faithful words of Christ.
Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world,
they resound with God's own heart.
O let the ancient words impart.

Refrain (2x – 2nd Acapella)

*Ancient words, ever true,
changing me and changing you.
We have come with open hearts,
O let the ancient words impart.*

Words: Lynn DeShazo © 2001 Integrity's Hosanna! Music, (ASCAP), admin.
EMICMPublishing.com; CCLI #678905

"Kings and nations tremble at His voice."

Scripture Reading: Esther 6

Prayer of Illumination

Message: *"Honored by the King"*

Time of Prayer

"All creation rises to rejoice."

* Hymn of Application: 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

* 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.

—Apostles' Creed

* God's Blessing

* Parting 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

Postlude

| Tech Team | Today: October 27 AM | Today October 27 PM | Next Week: November 3 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sound: | Henry H. | Henry H. | Tim H. |
| Projection: | Maddie D. | Tim H. | Beth B. |
| Video: | Brandon S. | Isaac D. | Brandon S. |
| Offering: | General Fund | Didachem Ministries | General Fund |

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

October 27, 2024

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

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

What is something you've learned from an older generation and from a younger generation?

Dear Friends,

One of the unique features of the book of Esther is that it doesn't even mention the name of God. Yet, God's sovereignty and intervention is visible throughout the book. The story itself is not so much about the hero herself, but about the Bible's bigger story of how God deals with His people and with the world. The grace of God to the undeserving and outcasts is prominently on display. More importantly, the story points us ahead to Christ as the one in whom grace will fully and finally come to redeem rebellious sinners such as us and make us into God's new people. May God bless us as we study this amazing book of the Bible together!

In His Grace,

- Pastor John

1. Sept. 15 – *"Like a Fiddler on the Roof"* (Esther 1)
2. Sept. 22 – *"A New Queen"* (Esther 2)
3. Oct. 6 – *"Mordecai Takes a Stand"* (Esther 3)
4. Oct. 13 – *"For Such a Time as This"* (Esther 4)
5. Oct. 20 – *"Esther's Crafty Plan"* (Esther 5)
6. Oct. 27 – *"Honored By the King"* (Esther 6)
7. Nov. 3 – *"The One True King"* (Esther 7)
8. Nov. 17 – *"Not Over Yet"* (Esther 8)
9. Nov. 24 – *"A Great Reversal"* (Esther 9-10)

Sunday School will meet Sunday, October 27 at 9:30 am.

Choir will meet October 27 at 10:00 am before the A.M. service. They will also meet at 5:30 pm before the evening service.

The **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** will meet on Tuesday, October 29 at 7:00 am at IHOP.

Worship Service YouTube Links:

October 20, 2024: <https://youtu.be/fu7tWZyUpag>

The **November/December** copy of the "Today" devotional is in your mailboxes today. Extras are on the shelf by the mailboxes.

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

Cookies: Thanks to those who signed up to bring cookies for after the Reformation Day evening service today. Please bring your cookies to the kitchen before the service.

Come and bring your family and friends to the **Reformation Day Service** at the First CRC of Mount Vernon on **Sunday, October 27, at 6:30 PM**. Rev. Matt Borst of Faith Community Fellowship CRC will be proclaiming God's Word to us this year. The offering that evening will be for Didachem Ministry. There will also be a Reformation Choir that will be singing during the offertory. Those interested in being a part of the choir are asked to arrive at 5:30 PM that evening to practice ahead of time. Coffee and refreshments will be served following the service and a nursery will be provided.

Cadet Pancake Dinner Fundraiser will be held on Wednesday, November 13 from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Come and support the Cadets!!

If you are able to pick up **Shirley Boonstra** so she can worship with us on Sunday morning for the months November – January, please sign up on the sheet provided on the coffee table in the fellowship hall. Just a few Sundays left to sign up for. Thanks for your willingness.

Fountainview Academy Choir and Orchestra is coming from Lillooet, British Columbia, Canada to Mount Vernon First Christian Reformed Church on **December 4 at 7:00 p.m.** Come and enjoy a free concert of up to 100 young people praising God with voices and instruments as

they perform a variety of Christmas carols and classics. Invite your friends.

The NOËL ensemble bringing the magic and the mystery of a medieval Christmas with harps, flute, strings, and poetry will be held. No tickets required . . . a free event with a freewill offering to benefit New Earth Recovery. Will be held **Friday December 6, 2024 @ 7:00 pm at Bethany Covenant Church at 1318 S. 18th Street - Mount Vernon, WA**
Warm yourself with song and story, support men and women in recovery, and prepare your heart for the season!

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts: October 27

Jeff & Monica D, John & Judy V.

Next week: November 3

Karen S, Wiebe & Johnna VDH

Worship Team: October 27 – AM Service

Eliot B, Mandi D, Kayla VH, Ella VH

October 27 PM Service

Henry & Pam VZ, Greg B, Heidi B.

Next Week: November 3—Men's Group

Nursery: October 27 AM: Marissa VK, Tessa S.

October 27 PM Service: Adriana S, Tessa S.

Next Week: November 3—Angela S, Emmalyn S.

Children in Worship: October 27 - Angela S, Tess VDH

Next Week: November 3 ?

This Week:

Sunday: October 27

Sunday School 9:30 am

Worship Service: 10:30 am

Worship Service: 6:30 pm

Youth Group after the Reformation Day Service

Monday: October 28 - Elders at 7:00 pm

Deacons at 7:00 pm

Tuesday: October 29 at 7:00 am

Men's Breakfast Bible Study at IHOP

Upcoming Events:

Sunday: November 3 - Youth Group

Ladies Bible Study at 6:30 pm

Wednesday: November 6 - GEMS at 7:00 pm

Sunday: November 10 – No Youth Group

Wednesday: November 13 from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Cadet Pancake Dinner Fundraiser

Wednesday: December 4 at 7:00 pm

Fountainview Academy Choir

Friday: December 6 at 7:00 pm NOËL Ensemble

Groundwork: How to Live as Christians - In closing his first letter to the early Christians, Peter offers some final advice that remains valuable for us today. Join Groundwork as we study 1 Peter 4-5 to hear Peter's instructions for acting with love and humility, his assurance that God indeed cares, and his encouragement to stand firm in our faith because we are not alone and God makes us strong. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Kids Corner: Beatitude 4: Filling Up with Obedience - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. What does it mean to do what's right and listen to God? God can ask us to do things that might seem hard, like being patient or helping others. Obeying God means knowing and loving God and doing things that improve the world. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Liz and Friend Story Podcast Trust and Obey.

Hurricane Helene Response Update - World Renew Disaster Response Services (DRS) is coordinating with officials in Bluefield, West Virginia, to send volunteers to clean up downed trees and remove debris after Hurricane Helene hit Florida and the southeastern US in late September. DRS is committed to helping overlooked, underserved communities like Bluefield recover long-term. Please give generously to World Renew DRS as we help families rebuild and recover their lives. Donate online at worldrenew.net/hurricanehelene, call 1-800-552-7972, or make out your check to World Renew DRS, with Hurricane Helene written in the memo line, and mail to: World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Dr., SW, Byron Center, MI, 49315.



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:

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

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 October 13 - Thrive: Clergy appreciation -We thank God for the faithful pastors he has placed across our denomination to shepherd, disciple, serve, and council CRCNA congregations and others who need to hear of Christ's love.

Sunday October 20 - Thrive: Disability Awareness Sunday - Creator God, in the beginning you created, and you called everything "good." Made in your image, each of us belongs to you. We lament the ways we have perpetuated ableism in our lives, institutions, and churches. We have built structures and programs not accessible to all. We grieve that our churches are welcoming and equipped for some but not for all. We confess the harm these attitudes and actions have caused. Come among us and work in our hearts. We long to be your faithful church for all of your beloved children.

Monday October 21: Indigenous Christian Fellowship: Community - Pray for staff and community members at Indigenous Christian Fellowship. Pray that good and healing connections will be made, and may all who pass through our doors know the love of our Creator.

Tuesday October 22—ReFrame: **Brazil** - Pray for Anna, who, with her children, follows our Portuguese ministry. They are facing difficult living conditions and humiliation in their extended family. Ask for God's provision for them, and for strength, peace, and healing. May the Lord's wisdom and intervention improve their situation while preserving family relationships.

Wednesday October 23 - Resonate: Asia - A Resonate missionary who is serving at a church in Asia has been walking alongside a seeker for months. Give thanks that she has decided to follow Jesus! Please pray for this new believer as she grows in her relationship with Christ, and may God work through her to draw her family and friends to Jesus.

Thursday October 24 - World Renew: Food security - Despite the world's ability to produce enough food to feed everyone, food insecurity is still prevalent in many nations. World Renew helps families to access nutritious meals and become food secure for the future. Join us in prayer as we extend God's compassion to vulnerable communities and help to alleviate hunger worldwide.

Friday October 25 - Thrive: Spiritual Care Week - Throughout Canada and the United States, chaplains and institutions are celebrating Spiritual Care Week Oct. 20-26 to recognize the spiritual caregivers in their midst and the ministries they provide. Pray with our 135 chaplains and spiritual care practitioners as they share their stories and celebrate their ministries.

Saturday October 26 - Resonate: Central America - Resonate missionaries in Central America give thanks for all who participate in Faithwalking, a program that invites them to a life of radical obedience, reflection, and communal authenticity. Please pray for the participants as they continue to grow through this spiritual process.