

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
Pastor John Knoester
November 3, 2024 ♦ 10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

"O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder"

Prelude

Welcome

* Opening Hymn: LUYH #553 v. 1-4 *"How Great Thou Art"*

1. O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

Refrain

3. But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin;

Refrain

4. When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain

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* Call to Worship: Based on Psalm 45

Leader: O come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**People: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him
with songs of praise!
For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.**

Leader: In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

**People: O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.**

—Psalm 95:1-7, NRSV

* Opening Prayer

* Sung Call to Worship: LUYH #510

“Come, Let us Worship and Bow Down”

Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.
Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand, just the sheep of his hand.

Words: Psalm 95:6-7; Dave Doherty © 1980 Universal Music--Brentwood-Benson
Publishing CCLI #678905

*Responsive Call to Praise: Psalm 96:1-3

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song;

People: Sing to the Lord all the earth.

Leader: Sing to the Lord, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.

**People: Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all the peoples.**

* Hymn of Praise: LUYH #599 v. 1-3 *“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”*

1. Come, Christians, join to sing,
alleluia, amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King;
alleluia, amen!
Let all with heart and voice
before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice:
alleluia, amen!
2. Come, lift your hearts on high;
alleluia, amen!
Let praises fill the sky;
alleluia, amen!
Christ is our guide and friend;
to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end;
alleluia, amen!
3. Praise yet our Christ again;
alleluia, amen!
Life shall not end the strain;
alleluia, amen!
On heaven's blissful shore
his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore,
alleluia, amen!

Words: Christian Henry Bateman, 1843, P.D. Music: Spanish Folk Melody; arr. Benjamin Carr, 1824; harm. David Evans (1874-1948); from *Revised Church Hymnary*, 1927, reproduced by permission of Oxford University Press; CCLI #678905

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

"Consider all the works thy hand hath made,"

Announcements

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Leader: Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah,
the Root of David, has triumphed.

With his blood he has purchased people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation.
He has made them to be a kingdom and priests
to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.

People: Thanks be to God!

—based on Revelation 5:5, 9-10, NIV

God's Law: Exodus 20:1-17

* Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #568 v. 1-4

"I Will Sing of My Redeemer"

1. I will sing of my Redeemer
and his wondrous love to me;
on the cruel cross he suffered,
from the curse to set me free.

Refrain

*Sing, oh, sing of my Redeemer,
with his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon,
paid the debt, and made me free.*

2. I will tell the wondrous story,
how my lost estate to save,
in his boundless love and mercy
he the ransom freely gave.

Refrain

3. I will praise my dear Redeemer,
his triumphant power I'll tell,
how the victory he giveth
over sin and death and hell.

Refrain

*Sing, oh, sing of my Redeemer,
with his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon,
paid the debt, and made me free.*

4. I will sing of my Redeemer
and his heavenly love to me;
He from death to life has brought me,
Son of God, with him to be.

Refrain

Words: Philip P. Bliss, 1878; Music: James McGranahan; Public Domain,
CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

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

* Song of Preparation: "Christ Our Wisdom" 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

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“I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,”

Scripture Reading: Esther 7

Prayer of Illumination

Message: *“The One True King”*

Time of Prayer

“Thy power throughout the universe displayed;”

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #366 v. 1-4 *“My Jesus, I Love Thee”*

1. My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.
2. I love thee because thou hast first loved me
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.
3. I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death,
and praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath,
and say when the death-dew lies cold on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Acapella

4. In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright.
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow;
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Words: William R. Featherstone, ca. 1862, P.D.; Music: Adoniram J. Gordon,
1876, P.D.; CCLI #678905

* Proclamation of our Faith: Our World Belongs to God – st. 56, 58

Leader: Our hope for a new earth is not tied to
what humans can do, for we believe that one day
every challenge to God's rule and every resistance
to his will shall be crushed.

**People: Then his kingdom shall come fully,
and our Lord shall rule forever.**

Leader: With the whole creation we wait
for the purifying fire of judgment.
For then we will see the Lord face to face.
He will heal our hurts, end our wars,
and make the crooked straight.

**People: Then we will join in the new song
to the Lamb without blemish
who made us a kingdom and priests.**

Leader: God will be all in all,
righteousness and peace will flourish,
everything will be made new,
and every eye will see at last
that our world belongs to God!

People: Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus.

* Call to Service/Discipleship

Jesus says: "All authority in heaven and on earth
has been given to me.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything
I have commanded you.

And surely I will be with you always,
to the very end of the age." Amen.

—from Matthew 28:18-20, NIV

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #489 v. 1-3 *"By the Sea of Crystal"*

1. By the sea of crystal saints in glory stand,
myriads in number, drawn from every land.
Robed in white apparel, washed in Jesus' blood,
they now reign in heaven with the Lamb of God.

2. Out of tribulation, death, and Satan's hand,
they have been translated at the Lord's command.
In their hands they're holding palms of victory.
Hark! the jubilant chorus shouts triumphantly:

3. "Unto God Almighty, sitting on the throne,
and the Lamb, victorious, be the praise alone."
God has wrought salvation; he did wondrous things.
Who shall not extol thee, holy King of kings!

Words: William Kuipers, 1933, based on Revelation 4-5, © 1976 Faith Alive
Christian Resources; Music: John Vanderhoven, 1933, © 1976 Faith Alive
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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: November 3	Next Week: November 10
Sound:	Tim H.	Henry VZ
Projection:	Beth B.	France B.
Video:	Brandon S.	Tim H.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

November 3, 2024

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

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

What global challenge is your generation passionate about? How do you think we can involve the church in addressing this challenge?

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, November 13 at 9:30 am.

The **Men’s Breakfast Bible Study** will meet on Tuesday, November 12 at 7:00 am at IHOP.

Worship Service YouTube Links:

AM October 27, 2024: <https://youtu.be/PtUejOcWvgQ>

PM October 27, 2024 Reformation Day SVC: <https://youtu.be/DVoPbqhUuxo>

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

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.

If you might have seen Beth's orange-handled scissors walking around church, could you please direct it back to her office?
Thank you!

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts: November 3

Karen S, Wiebe & Johnna VDH

Next week: November 10

Dick & Linda G., Fred F.

Worship Team: November 3: Men's Group

Next Week: November 10: Kevin & Glenda K., Kayla & Ella VH

Nursery: November 3

Angela S, Emmalyn S.

Next Week: November 10

Glenda K. & Nellie VDH

Children in Worship: November 3:

Next Week: November 10:

This Week:

Sunday: November 3

Sunday School 9:30 am

Worship Service: 10:30 am

Youth Group after the Reformation Day Service

Ladies Bible Study at 6:30 pm

Wednesday: GEMS at 6:30pm

Upcoming Events:

Sunday: November 10 - Youth Group

Sunday: November 17: Ladies Bible Study at 6:30 pm

Wednesday: November 13: Cadets at 7:00pm

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

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us at Faith Community Fellowship in Mount Vernon for a Thanksgiving Soup, Bread & Pie Supper (Potluck Style) and Giving Thanks Service at 5:30 PM, Monday November 25. We will share a meal together before our Giving Thanks Service begins at 6:15 pm.

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!

CRC COMMUNICATIONS

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - During this week, the global church commits to praying for resolutions to the growing problem of world hunger. The World Food Program (wfpusa.org) tells us that “up to 783 million people worldwide are facing chronic hunger. That means one in ten people are not consuming enough food to lead an active, healthy life.” Each day of the coming week, pick a different country to pray for—asking that increased resources may be found, that food may be shared, and that all of God’s children may flourish and thrive. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Kids Corner: Beatitude 5: Showing Mercy Like Jesus - Check out this week’s kids’ devotion at www.kidscorner.net. There is no better example of someone showing mercy than Jesus showing care to the people he healed and to a crowd of hungry people. We can thank him for the compassion he showed us on the cross and ask for his help to show others mercy each day. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story Podcast Jesus Feeds 5000 People.



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.

THANKS:

“We would like to thank everyone for your prayers, thoughts, cards, food and calls during Clarence’s recent stay in the hospital. After much testing it was decided there was no heart damage. With the doctor’s permission things can pretty much return to normal. To God be the praise and glory!”

– Clarence and Eleanor Klunder

“Thank you to the congregation for your prayers and words of encouragement while I visited my father this past month. His health improved each day as I was there, and, although he is still dying, he is in a better place physically and mentally. Greg and I are so thankful, knowing that we have so many prayer warriors and dear friends in this congregation.” – Beth, Greg, and Kera Boon

NEW REQUESTS

The Graveside Service for **Bev Van Slageren** is Friday Nov. 1 at Clear Lake Cemetery, followed by a reception at Clear Lake Historical Association Building.

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)

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.

Sunday October 27 - Calvin Theological Seminary: Students

Pray for students, faculty, and staff as they navigate school, families, and other obligations this semester. Pray for healthy rhythms. Stress levels can rise, so please pray that all will be able to take time with the One who gives rest (Matt. 11:28).

Monday October 28 - World Renew: World Hunger Awareness

Every October, people around the globe participate in World Hunger Awareness. This tradition encourages all of us to do our part to help alleviate hunger worldwide. Pray that all who are hungry may access sustainable, nutritious food and experience a fuller relationship with the Lord, our provider.

Tuesday October 29 - Resonate: Nutrition

Resonate missionary Sara Sytsma helps to train communities with best practices for farming in Uganda. She gives thanks for families whose nutrition has improved because of this training. One woman even shared chaya cuttings with a neighbor whose son has anemia and needs to eat greens every day. The family is now able to grow chaya and provide the necessary nutrition for their son.

Wednesday October 30 - Thrive: Hunger

Lord, in sharing the loaves and fishes, you gave us an image of solidarity with the hungry. Give us the hunger to participate in the feeding and healing of this world. Nourish us with your grace, that we may work with joy to serve your children. Open our eyes and hearts to recognize people in poverty, and increase our awareness of structures and systems that need to be changed for your sake (adapted from a Jesuit prayer).

Thursday October 31 - Communications: Reformation Day

In 1517, Martin Luther posted 95 theses and initiated a movement in the church that still shapes our faith today. Ask God to give each of us the courage to continue to follow Christ's calling in our lives so that the church around the world and through the ages may be built up.

Friday November 1 - Resonate Global Mission: Haiti and the Dominican Republic

Resonate missionaries Steve and Sandra Brauning ask you to pray for a "solution to the ongoing crisis in Haiti and the needs of the Haitian community in the Dominican Republic."