

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

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

Prelude (Organ)

“Trust and Obey”

Welcome (WT member)

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #492 “Come, Thou Almighty King”
(Bulletin, Screen, WT, Organ)

1. Come, thou almighty King,
help us thy name to sing;
help us to praise.
Father all glorious,
o’er all victorious,
come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.
2. Come, thou incarnate Word,
gird on thy mighty sword;
scatter thy foes.
Let thine almighty aid
our sure defense be made,
our souls on thee be stayed;
thy wonders show.
3. Come, holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art,
rule now in every heart,
and ne’er from us depart,
Spirit of power.

4. To thee, great One in Three,
eternal praises be
hence evermore!
Thy sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity love and adore.

Words: anonymous, 1757, alt., P.D.; Music: Felice de Giardini, 1769, P.D.;
CCLI #678905

* Opening Prayer (**WT, Leaders Guide**)

Holy One, God of all Creation,
you call us to be your people,
to carry your vision in this time and place,
to go where you send us
to help welcome your amazing good news.
As we gather in the presence of the risen Christ
to spread the news that your realm is near,
fill us with your Holy Spirit,
O God of all Creation.
Fill us with your glorious Spirit,
that we may share your good news
with a world in need. Amen.

* Call to Worship: (**WT, Bulletin, Screen**)

Leader: The word of God came to Jonah

People: The word of God comes to us:

Leader: Go

People: Despite your fears

Leader: Speak

People: the truth of God

Leader: Love

People: your neighbor and you enemy

Leader: Forgive

People: as you have been forgiven

Leader: Receive

**People: Grace upon grace overflowing
from the fullness of God.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God!

* Hymn of Praise: LUYH #581 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”
(WT, Organ)

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!
2. All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.
3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ, our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933), P.D.;

Music: Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827, 1824, adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867, alt. P.D.CCLI #678905

“But we never can prove the delights of his love”

* God’s Greeting/We Greet Each Other (Pastor Brad)

Announcements (Pastor Brad)

Call to Confession (Leader's guide, WT)

Our Lord Jesus said:

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’

This is the greatest and first commandment.

And a second is like it:

‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’

On these two commandments
hang all the law and the prophets.”

As God has instructed us in these great commandments,
and because we have not lived in full obedience,
let us now confess our sins to God,
trusting Christ as our Savior and Lord.

Prayer of Confession (Leader's guide, WT)

Holy God,

we would rather proclaim death to our enemies,
than see them forgiven and redeemed.

Forgive our hardness of heart, O God,
and our reluctance to see your divine image
in those who hate and despise us.

Teach us to love our enemies,
that our lives may proclaim your truth—

that love is stronger than hate,
and mercy is greater than vengeance.

We repent of our hesitations and unwillingness
to witness to those we have considered strangers
and even enemies for fear they just might become friends.

Amen.

Assurance (Leader's Guide, WT)

Here the good news!

I will sprinkle clean water upon you,
and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses,
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

A new heart I will give you,
and a new spirit I will put within you;
and I will remove from your body the heart of stone
and give you a heart of flesh.

* Song of Response: LUYH #709 “Jesus Loves Me” (WT, Piano)

1. Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain

Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

2. Jesus loves me—he who died
heaven’s gate to open wide.
He will wash away my sin,
let his little child come in.

Refrain

3. Jesus loves me, this I know,
as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee,
saying, “Let them come to me.”

Refrain

Words: st. 1-2 Anna B. Warner, 1859, st. 3 David R. McGuire, 1971, P.D.; Music:
William B. Bradbury, 1861, P.D.; CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory: (Piano)

(Following the offertory children ages 3-3rd grade
are excused for Children and Worship)

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #754 V. 1-3

“Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak” (WT, Piano)

1. Lord, speak to me that I may speak
in living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought, so let me seek
your erring children, lost and lone.
2. O lead me, Lord, that I may lead
the wandering and the wavering feet.
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed
your hungry ones with manna sweet.

3. O teach me, Lord, that I may teach
the precious truths which you impart.
And wing my words that they may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart.

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal; Music: Robert Alexander Schumann
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“When we walk with the Lord in the light of his Word
what glory he shed on our way”

Scripture Reading: Jonah 3: 1-10 (Jerri H.)

Prayer of Illumination

Message: “Jonah: Obeying God”

Time of Prayer

“Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet”

* Song of Application: LUYH #327 ‘When We Walk with the Lord’
(WT, Piano)

1. When we walk with the Lord
in the light of his Word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will
he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain

*Trust and obey,
for there’s no other way
to be happy in Jesus
but to trust and obey.*

2. But we never can prove
the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows
and the joy he bestows
are for those who will trust and obey.

Refrain

3. Then in fellowship sweet
we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go—
never fear, only trust and obey.

Refrain

*Trust and obey,
for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus
but to trust and obey.*

Words: John H. Sammis, 1887, P.D.; Music: Daniel B. Towner, 1887, P.D. CCLI #678905

* Profession of Faith: (Pastor Brad, Congregation, Bulletin,
Leaders Guide, Bulletin)

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.

* God's Blessing: (Pastor Brad)

* Parting Praise: LUYH #938 “My Friends, May You Grow in Grace”
(WT, Piano)

My friends, may you grow in grace
and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.
My friends, may you grow in grace
and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory, now and forever,
now and forever, amen.

To God be the glory, now and forever,
now and forever, amen.

Words: 2 Peter 3:18; Timothy James Meaney (b. 1965) and Sean Diamond (b. 1968);
rev. Gregg DeMey (b. 1972) and Gregory Kett (b. 1970) © 1991, 2001 Wiseman Music
CCLI #678905

Postlude

Psalm 81 encourages worshipers to “Sing for joy to God...shout aloud to...God.” With great joy let us approach our loving Creator. With heart, soul, strength and mind let us dedicate ourselves to God. Welcome to all who have come! After joining us in worship, join us in the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

| Tech Team | Today: November 10 | Next Week: November 17 |
|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Sound: | Henry VZ | Mardy S. |
| Projection: | France B. | Tim H. |
| Video: | Tim H. | France B. |
| Offering: | General Fund | General Fund |

First CRC Bulletin

Announcements

November 10, 2024

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

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

If you attended worship as a child and/or teen, what are your memories of that? Did you sense that you belonged? Why?

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 NOT meet this morning due to the Veteran's Day weekend.

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

Worship Service YouTube Links:

AM November 3, 2024: <https://youtu.be/uEecVd1dPB0>

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!!

There are 3 slots open yet for volunteers to pick up Shirley Boonstra for church and bring her home. Please consider volunteering for this! 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!

There are new Coffee/Greeter Lists in your mailboxes today, as well as Thanksgiving Offering lists.

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts: November 10

Dick & Linda G., Fred F.

Next week: November 17

Henry & Jayne H., Jon & Catherine VK

Worship Team: November 10: Kevin & Glenda K., Kayla & Ella VH

Next Week: November 17: Henry & Pam VZ, Isaac D. & Nellie VDH

Nursery: November 10

Glenda K. & Nellie VDH

Next Week: November 17

Mandi D. & Maddie D.

Children in Worship: November 10: Tim H., Lexi VDP

Next Week: November 17: Julie S., Leia Visser

This Week:

Sunday: November 10

No Sunday School

Worship Service: 10:30 am

NO Youth Group: 6:30 pm

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

Cadet Pancake Dinner Fundraiser

Upcoming Events:

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

Wednesday: November 13: Cadets at 7:00pm

Wednesday: Nov. 20 – Thanksgiving Service at 7:00 pm

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 - “Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 5:10, NIV). Today is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. We take for granted that we can go to church each week and have the freedom to worship God. This week, pray for our siblings in Christ around the world who are persecuted for their faith. Throughout the week, say short prayers thanking God for your freedom, and pray steadfastly for believers who suffer persecution. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Chaplaincy Sunday is Next Week (Nov. 17) - Next week, churches throughout the CRCNA will take time to pray for and encourage the frontline work of chaplains. Thrive endorses, trains, advocates, and provides care for these specialized ministers and pastors as they serve in institutional settings. Learn more and help support this essential and exciting ministry focus of Thrive by going to: crcna.org/Chaplaincy

Kids Corner: Beatitude 6: Zoomed in on God - Check out this week’s kids’ devotion at www.kidscorner.net. In the Beatitudes, God promises blessings to people whose hearts are pure because they see a clear picture of God. In the Bible, “heart” means your emotions, thoughts, and attitude. So, when Jesus talks in Matthew 5:8 about people who have pure hearts, he means those whose feelings, thoughts, and attitudes are entirely focused on God. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story Podcast The Story of Lydia.

Groundwork: Be On Guard: False Teaching and Its Consequences - We will always experience pressure to compromise our faith in Jesus Christ. Join Groundwork as we study 2 Peter 2 to examine how Peter’s ardent defense of the gospel helps us stay rooted in God’s truth, learn discernment through the Holy Spirit, and live lives that fully align with the teachings of Christ. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork’s weekly emails for future episodes.



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:

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.

OTHER REQUESTS: (CRC Communications)

Sunday November 3 - *World Renew: World Hunger*

More than a billion people in the world do not have enough to eat. This World Hunger Sunday, pray that injustices leading to this problem may cease and that God's people may open their hearts to give generously and advocate fearlessly to end hunger.

Monday November 4 - *Thrive: Worship and ministry*

Please pray that God will bless the worship and ministry efforts of each congregation we serve. As we walk alongside CRC congregations, may God's Spirit empower them to build thriving, loving communities that reflect his kingdom on earth, and may they be equipped to meet the unique needs of their members.

Tuesday November 5 - *Resonate: Ontario*

Resonate missionaries Nasser and Sylvie Charliekaram ask you to pray for their ministry with Farsi speakers in Toronto: "Please

pray that our ministry is blessed with divine unity and deeper faith, becoming a beacon of light for people seeking spiritual direction.”

Wednesday November 6 - *ReFrame: Loss*

Pray for Mary, who has been a widow for 14 months and is struggling to recover from her loss. She feels isolated and is asking God to bring her a Christian friend with whom she can share fellowship and encouragement. May God comfort her, surround her with his love, and provide her with the companionship and support she longs for.

Thursday November 7 - *Intercultural Ministry: Hiring*

We are working on hiring a senior leader for Intercultural Ministry in Canada. Please pray for the candidates and the hiring team. According to Statistics Canada (2022), by 2041 one out of two Canadians will be Black, Indigenous, or a person of color (BIPoC). This ministry helps the church respond to this context.

Friday November 8 - *World Renew: Hurricanes*

Our hearts go out to people affected by recent hurricanes such as Helene and Milton. We pray for recovery and strength in the wake of destruction and devastation. As more people face the damaging effects of disasters each year, pray for God’s provision for World Renew and other organizations working to restore hope.

Saturday November 9 - *Resonate: Michigan*

Give thanks for God’s work in and through Isa, a student at Grand Valley State University. She struggled with depression and anxiety and thought God was angry with her. She joined a life group through Resonate partner Campus Ministry at Grand Valley and was encouraged to look into God’s Word. She is leading her own group now.