

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
May 3, 2026, 10:30am Service
Pastor John Knoester

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

“When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,”

Prelude

Welcome

* Sung Call to Worship: 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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* Opening Prayer

* Call to Worship:

Leader: The Lord Jesus who calls us to worship him today
is the same Jesus who refused the temptation
to worship the evil one.
Rather than receive the glorious kingdoms
of this world,
he endured the shame of the cross,
and today is Lord of lords and King of kings.
Now are gathered in him all the treasures
of wisdom and knowledge, glory, and power.

**People: With the saints of all ages we say,
“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom
and strength and honor and glory and praise!”
—based on Colossians 2:3; Revelation 5:12**

* Opening Song of Praise: “Cornerstone” v. 1-3

1. My hope is built on nothing less,
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

Repeat Verse 1

Chorus

*Christ alone. Cornerstone.
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.*

2. When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.
My anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus

3. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
oh may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone.
Faultless stand before the throne.

Chorus (2x)

Christ alone. Cornerstone.

Weak made strong in the Saviour's love.

Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

Words by Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, and Edward Mote;

Music by Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, and William Batchelder

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* God's Greeting

* We Greet Each Other

"And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!"

Announcements

Call to Confession:

The very stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

Come now to Christ, that living stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious.

Whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.

Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ,

let us confess our sins before God and one another.

—based on 1 Peter 2:4-7, NRSV

Prayer of Confession

Song of Response: LUYH #370 v. 1 *"My Soul Finds Rest"*

1. My soul finds rest in God alone,
my rock and my salvation;
a fortress strong against my foes,
and I will not be shaken.
Though lips may bless and hearts may curse,
and lies like arrows pierce me,
I'll fix my heart on righteousness;
I'll look to him who hears me.

Refrain

*O praise him, hallelujah,
my delight and my reward;
everlasting, never failing,
my Redeemer, my God.*

Words of Assurance

Jesus said: Come to me, all you that are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

—from Matthew 11:28-30, NRSV

Song of Response: LUYH #370 v. 2 *“My Soul Finds Rest”*

2. Find rest, my soul, in God alone
amid the world’s temptations;
when evil seeks to take a hold,
I’ll cling to my salvation.
Though riches come and riches go,
don’t set your heart upon them;
the fields of hope in which I sow
are harvested in heaven.

Refrain

*O praise him, hallelujah,
my delight and my reward;
everlasting, never failing,
my Redeemer, my God.*

God’s Law

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God? —Micah 6:8, NRSV

Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make your paths straight. —Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV

* Song of Response: LUYH #370 v. 3 *“My Soul Finds Rest”*

3. I'll set my gaze on God alone
and trust in him completely;
with every day pour out my soul,
and he will prove his mercy.
Though life is but a fleeting breath,
a sigh too brief to measure,
my King has crushed the curse of death,
and I am his forever.

Refrain

Words and Music: Psalm 62:1-2, 4-8, 10, 12; Galatians 3:13, Aaron Keyes, Stuart Townend © 2008 ThankYou Music (PRS), admin. worldwide at EMICMGPublishing.com (excl. Europe admin. by Kingswaysongs) CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

(Following the offertory children ages 3-3rd grade are invited to make their way to Children in Worship in the Fellowship Hall)

* Song of Preparation: LUYH #755 v. 1-3 *“Speak, O Lord”*

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
to receive the food of Your holy word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
all Your purposes, for Your glory.
2. Teach us Lord full obedience,
holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail;
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
that will echo down through eternity,
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
and the earth is filled with Your glory.

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"Then I shall bow in humble adoration"

Scripture Reading: Revelation 22:1-9

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Trustworthy and True"***

Time of Prayer

"And there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #451 v. 1-4

"When Peace Like a River"

1. When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

Refrain

*It is well with my soul;
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

2. Though Satan should buffet,
though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control:
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
and has shed his own blood for my soul.

Refrain

3. My sin— oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!—
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more;
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Refrain

*It is well with my soul;
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

4. O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;
even so, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

Words: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873, P.D.; Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1876, P.D. CCLI #678905

* We Profess our Faith:

Leader: As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world—
which some seek to control, but which others view
with despair—
we declare with joy and trust:
Our world belongs to God!
From the beginning, through all the crises of our times,
until his kingdom fully comes,
God keeps covenant forever.

**People: Our world belongs to him! God is King!
Let the earth be glad!
Christ is Victor; his rule has begun. Hallelujah!
The Spirit is at work, renewing the creation.
Praise the Lord!**

Leader: Jesus ascended in triumph to his heavenly throne.
There he hears our prayers,
pleads our cause before the Father,
and rules our world.
Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

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

—Our World Belongs to God, st. 1-2, 29, 56

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #482 *"Soon and Very Soon"*

1. Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!
2. No more crying there— we are going to see the King!
No more crying there— we are going to see the King!
No more crying there— we are going to see the King!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!
3. No more dying there— we are going to see the King!
No more dying there— we are going to see the King!
No more dying there— we are going to see the King!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!
4. Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!

Words: Andraé Crouch (b. 1945) © 1976 Bud John Songs (ASCAP), Crouch Music (ASCAP), admin. EMICMGPublishing.com CCLI #678905

Postlude

Welcome! This is the day that the Lord has made. Worship is our opportunity to be glad and rejoice in the Lord's house on the Lord's Day. We come as the children of God, knowing that we are welcomed here where all are meant to be one in the Lord. Let us lay down our burdens and rejoice in the Lord for the Lord is good, the Source of love. 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: May 3	Next Week: May 10
Sound:	Henry H.	Mardick S.
Projection:	Maddie D.	Beth B.
Video:	Tim H.	Brandon S.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

May 3, 2026

The Deadline for Announcements this next week is Thursday, 9:00 a.m.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

There IS CHOIR after this morning's service. We will have practice as well on May 10, and then sing on the 17th.

This morning after the service we will be having our church potluck. Please join us!

Congregational Meeting Packets are available in the Fellowship Hall by alphabet. If you are a member please pick one up today! If you are not, and you would like to see what is on the agenda/budget, there will be extras that you can grab as well.

Donation Need: A lady Brooke knows recently left an abusive relationship, has a 4-year-old and just got into a new home. She is in immediate need of a freezer and washer and dryer (can be used but in working condition). If you are able to fulfill this need, please let Beth or Brooke know. Thank you!

There is a new sign-up sheet for volunteers to pick up and bring **Joy Faber** home from church each Sunday starting in the month of June. Please sign up if you can to do this blessing for Joy.

Congregational Meeting: Save the date! Monday, May 18 at 7pm is the date for our annual Congregational Meeting. Our annual church budget will be presented for approval and informational reports from various

church committees will be presented. Meeting packets will be available to pick up in person in the fellowship hall following our morning service on both May 3 and 10. All packets not picked up by the 10th will be sent out in the mail on Monday, May 11. The Council presents the following nominees for the office of elder (2 open spots): Greg Boon and Kevin Kok. The Council presents the following three nominees for the office of deacon (2 open spots): Rich Knight, Cody See, and Bryan Van Beek. If you have any questions about any items on the agenda, please don't hesitate to contact your district Elder prior to the Congregational Meeting. Absentee ballots can be placed in Beth's mailbox by her office door.

Men's Breakfast Bible Study meets every other Tuesday morning and is currently working through the books of Samuel. **They will be next meeting this Tuesday, May 12, at 7:00 am at IHOP.**

Worship Service YouTube Links:

PM, April 26 Service: https://youtube.com/live/E5_TMBB-P_E?feature=share

First CRC's Worship Services are now being livestreamed! Go to our YouTube Channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/@1stcrmv841> You will see the option for the worship service Livestream there.

The GriefShare Support Group at Faith Community Fellowship has begun, but the lessons are not cumulative so participants can join at any time. Come any Tuesday from now through May 19 from 6 to 8 PM.

Eternal Glory

Dear Friends,

Throughout Advent we spent time reflecting on both the first and second coming of Jesus Christ. In the months to come I'd like us to think more deeply on the final judgement, the renewal and restoration of all creation, and the establishment of God's eternal kingdom and what that means for us as believers. Revelation 21-22 directly points us to the One who is the God of truth, the God of life, and the God of justice. The God who is currently in the process of making all things new! We will use the weeks before Lent to study Rev. 21 and then the weeks after to study Rev. 22. May God indeed lead and guide us as we engage in this study together.

In His Grace, Pastor John

1. Apr. 19 – *"The River of Life (Revelation 22:1-5)*
2. May 3 – *"Trustworthy and True" (Rev. 22:6-9)*
3. May 10 – *"The Last Testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev. 22:10-16)*
4. May 17 – *"The Water of Life" (Rev. 22:16-17)*
5. May 31 – *"Coming Soon!" (Rev. 22:17-21)*

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts: Today, May 3: Henry & Jayne H., Karen S.
Next Week, May 10: Adam & Katie F., Joe LC

Worship Team: Today: May 3: Henry & Pam VZ, Mandi D., Emma S.
Next Week, May 10: Greg B., Julie S., Adriana & Tessa S.

Nursery: Today: May 3: Lauren VDB, Emily VH
Next Week, May 10: Brooke K., Macy VDP

Children in Worship: Today: May 3: Tim VH, Ella VH
Next Week, May 10: Tim VH, Nolan B.

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:
Today, May 3: Mardick S.
Next week, May 10: Greg Ackermann

Family Visiting: May 10

5:45 pm: Steve & Katie J., Jim & Jerri H., Harmen & Sue DJ

7:00pm: Keith & Jean R., Fred F., Jeannette F., Randy & Juli O.

TODAY:

Sunday, May 3:

9:30 Sunday School Sunday School

10:30am Worship Service

Church Potluck following the service

Choir Practice

6:30pm: Youth Group

THIS WEEK:

Fri. & Sat. May 8 & 9: Colossian Forum Workshop

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Fri., May 15: GEMS Pinewood Derby

Mon., May 18, 7pm: Congregational Meeting

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:

Cascade Family Bible Camp – July 9-13 at Warm Beach Camp, Stanwood, WA Enjoy a faith-filled getaway with fellowship, worship, and fun activities for all ages! Hear inspiring speakers, engage in dynamic kids' programs, and take part in swimming, mini golf, sports, rock climbing, zipline, laser tag and more. Register today: <https://cascadefamilybiblecamp.org>

CRC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Kids Corner Devotions: Why Compare When You're Already You? -

Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Why Compare When You're Already You?" at www.kidscorner.net. God made every kid one-of-a-kind, and that's something to celebrate! When we remember that God loves us just as we are, we can use our special gifts to share His love with others. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story coloring pages available on the KC activities page.

Groundwork: How to Live in Christ - Keeping laws and customs won't benefit our salvation at all, but that doesn't mean our actions don't matter. Join Groundwork as we study Galatians 5-6 to examine Paul's description of how we should live in Christ. Together, we'll discuss the Fruits of the Spirit and what grateful Christian living looks like as we follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thank You for Giving to Thrive - Last week, we took up a special offering for Thrive— the congregational support ministry of the CRCNA. Thank you for giving! If you missed this opportunity, you can still give directly online to support this empowering ministry at crcna.org/thrive/donate

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - This week marks Teacher Appreciation Week in the United States and Canada. One of the most significant glimpses of Jesus' teaching that we have in the Bible can be found in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5–7). This week spend some time reading and reflecting on this important message as you sit under the teaching of Jesus. Then think of people in your life who have taught you about Jesus. Send them a quick note of thanks for helping you to learn about God. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Join Us in Supporting Moms and Babies Next Week - The first 1,000 days of a child's life are the most important. But in many countries, pregnant mothers and their babies don't get the care they need. That's why World Renew equips local communities around the world to deliver life-saving care. Together, we can share God's love and help babies grow up healthy and strong in the first 1,000 days. Learn more or give online at worldrenew.net/first1000days

**Last chance to sign up for the
May 8-9: The Colossian Forum Workshop!**

THE
COLOSSIAN
FORUM™



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.

THANK YOU:

Thank you to my Church family for your prayers and support for David and me. He remains in the hospital and doctors continue to determine the cause of his heart issues. We are truly blessed by all of you. - David and Julie Walker

Thank you so much for the many expressions of love, concern, kindness, and sharing of memories sent to me during this time of bereavement. I have many happy memories of our time in Mount Vernon and I'm sure Ray would say the same thing. He is now at peace. Our God is great. Thanks, Phyllis Klapwyk

NEW REQUEST:

We recently heard from our very own **Pastor Brad Diekema**, and he shared that his father has recently been diagnosed with Stage 4 pancreatic cancer. Please keep Brad's father and the rest of the family in your prayers as they absorb the weight of this diagnosis and what lies ahead.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please pray for **Julie Walker's husband, David**, who is now home from the hospital and will be having tests done for some heart issues. Pray that the doctors will be able to determine the cause of his rapid heartbeat and how best to correct it.

Please pray for **Randy Burr**, as he is having issues with a heart valve. The doctors are performing tests to see what sort of treatment will be needed. Please pray for wisdom and grace for whatever the next steps may be.

Please pray for discernment for the **Pottebaum** family as they consider the call that we have extended them.

Please continue to pray for **Jim Honeyford's** hip rehabilitation.

Please continue to pray for **Dena Klunder**, who is at United General for rehabilitation. Please pray that God will bestow grace, strength and courage for Dena and the family.

SHUT INS: Nell Annema and Shirley Boonstra at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley; Marjean DeGroot at Mountain Glen in Mount Vernon; Martha Haarsma at home in Mount Vernon, Clarence Vander Griend at Home Place in Burlington; Sally Reehorn at Creekside in Burlington.

OTHER REQUESTS: (CRC Communications)

Monday April 27 - Church Renewal: *Diaspora communities*

Church planting is hard work and can be discouraging. Pray that church planters may be encouraged by the Spirit and by the body of Christ. May they be supported, equipped, and enabled for the ministry to which they are called.

Tuesday April 28 - *ReFrame: India*

Please pray for the timely completion of the Dainik Bhojan devotional, for fruitful workshops in Patna this month, and for seeds of the gospel planted in each young person and community gathering to take root and grow.

Wednesday April 29 - *World Renew: Child and forced marriage prevention*

Girls across the world are at risk of child marriage and forced marriage. Pray that our gender-justice programs may challenge expectations with grace and compassion while upholding the rights of girls and reminding their families about choices that honor God and one another. May youth be empowered with good health and education so that every child can pursue a safe, hopeful future.

Thursday April 30 - *Resonate: Thailand*

Pray for our missionaries in Thailand as they prepare to renew their visas. Ask God to open doors for them to share the gospel through their growing local business, especially among employees, and that hearts may be open to the gospel as people are trained and welcomed into full-time work.

Saturday May 2 - *ReFrame Ministries: Egypt*

A young man named Joseph is balancing university studies while working to support himself. Pray that he may be strengthened in this demanding season and find success in his academic, spiritual, and

professional life, growing in faith as he pursues the path God has set before him.

Sunday May 3 - Cadets: *Living faith*

Pray that, as we seek to live out this year's Stand Firm theme (1 Cor. 16:13–14), God will equip our counselors with Christlike courage, strength, and love. Ask God to shape our cadets into young men who boldly follow Jesus at home, at school, in their clubs, and in their communities—standing firm in faith wherever he leads.