

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
May 24, 2026, 10:30 am Service
Pentecost Sunday
Pastor John Knoester

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

*"Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit,
three we name you,"*

Prelude

Opening Video: *"The Glory of God"* – John Piper

* Opening Hymn: 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

*** Opening Prayer**

*** Call to Worship:**

Leader: The love of God has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us;

People: We dwell in him and he in us.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;

People: Make known his deeds among the peoples.

Leader: Sing to him, sing praises to him.

People: And speak of all his marvelous works.

Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty.

People: who was and is and is to come!

*** Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #521 v. 1-3**

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount— I'm fixed upon it—
mount of God's unchanging love.

2. Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.
3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

Words: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt., P.D.; Music: J. Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813, P.D.; CCLI # 678905

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

*"Though in essence only one, undivided God,
we claim you."*

Announcements

We Celebrate the Professions of Faith of Justus Visser, Evan Visser,
Emmalyn Stevens, & James Vogel: PH pg. 964

Prayer of Thanksgiving

* Song of Response: LUYH #690 v. 1-4

"I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Grace"

1. I know not why God's wondrous grace
to me he has made known,
nor why, unworthy, Christ in love
redeemed me for his own.

Refrain

*But "I know whom I have believed,
and am persuaded that he is able
to keep that which I've committed
unto him against that day."*

2. I know not how this saving faith
to me he did impart,
nor how believing in his Word
wrought peace within my heart.

Refrain

3. I know not how the Spirit moves,
convincing us of sin,
revealing Jesus through the Word,
creating faith in him.

Refrain

4. I know not what of good or ill
may be reserved for me,
of weary ways or golden days,
before his face I see.

Refrain

*Words: based on 2 Timothy 1:12, Daniel W. Whittle, 1883; P.D.;
Music: James McGranahan, 1883, P.D.; CCLI # 678905*

Offering: General Fund

Offertory Video: What Happened at Pentecost and Why
It's Important – The Bible Project

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

Song of Preparation: LUYH #746 v. 1-3

“Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God”

1. Holy Spirit, living Breath of God,
breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord
to renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your Word to come alive in me;
give me faith for what I cannot see;
give me passion for your purity;
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

2. Holy Spirit, come abide within,
may your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin,
in each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace;
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.
3. Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
giving life to all that God has made,
show your power once again on earth,
cause your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;
lead us on the road of sacrifice,
that in unity the face of Christ
may be clear for all the world to see.

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend; ©2006 Thankyou Music,
CCLI# 678905

"And adoring, bend the knee"

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:1-13

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Pentecost – An Experience of God's Power and Grace"***

Time of Prayer

* Song of Application: LUYH #237 v. 1-3

"Spirit of God, Unleashed on Earth"

1. Spirit of God, unleashed on earth
with rush of wind and roar of flame!
With tongues of fire saints spread good news;
earth, kindling, blazed its loud acclaim.
2. You came in power, the church was born;
O Holy Spirit, come again!
From living waters raise new saints,
let new tongues hail the risen Lord.

3. With burning words of victory won
inspire our hearts grown cold with fear,
revive in us baptismal grace,
and fan our smoldering lives to flame.

Words: John W. Arthur, 1972, alt. © John W. Arthur, used by permission of Mary Arthur; Music: T. Williams' *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789, P.D. CCLI #678905

"While we own the mystery."

* We Profess our Faith: Selected Texts of the Heidelberg Catechism

Leader: In His divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit,
Christ is not absent from us for a moment.

People: By the Spirit's power

**we make the goal of our lives not earthly things
but the things above where Christ is,
sitting at God's right hand.**

Leader: Through the Holy Spirit Christ pours out His gifts
from heaven upon us His members.
The Spirit, as well as the Father and the Son,
is eternal God.

**People: The Spirit has been given to us personally
so that by true faith the Spirit makes us share
in Christ and all his blessings,
comforts us, and remains with us forever.**

—from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 47, 49, 51, 53

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #219 v. 1-5 *"Jesus Shall Reign"*

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run,
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head.
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.
3. People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

- 4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.
- 5. Let every creature rise and bring
the highest honors to our King,
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

PSALM 72; Words: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt., P.D.; Music: John Hatton, (1710-1793, P.D.); CCLI #678906

Postlude

Pentecost Welcome! When God poured out his Spirit on the apostles, He empowered them to bring into being the Church, the worldwide body of his Son. This church is one member, one living cell, of the Body of Christ. We invite you to participate in its life, in our life. 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 24	Next Week: May 31
Sound:	Henry VZ	Tim H.
Projection:	Tim H.	Isaac D.
Video:	Maddie D.	France B.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

May 24, 2026

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Upcoming Profession of Faiths: Recently the council had the privilege of hearing the individual testimonies of faith of *Emmalyn Stevens, James Vogel, Justus Visser, and Evan Visser*. What a joy to hear the stories of how God has been moving in each one of their lives! We look forward to celebrating their public professions of faith with the entire congregation on Pentecost Sunday, May 24. In the meantime, please commit to praying for each one of these individuals as they prepare for this important milestone in their faith journey.

Congregational Meeting Update: At our Monday, May 18 congregational meeting the proposed budget was passed and the following individuals were selected as new deacons and elders: Rich Knight (Deacon), Bryan Van Beek (Deacon), Greg Boon (Elder), and Kevin Kok (Elder). These individuals will be installed on Sunday, June 7. Following the congregational meeting the various elders were selected to serve in the following roles: Greg Ackermann (President), Greg Boon (Elder Vicar), Henry Hammingh (Elder Clerk), and Adam Faber. (Records Clerk). Deacon assignments are as follows: Brad De Kok (Deacon President), Mardy Stevens (Treasurer), Jack Van Klaveren (Secretary), Bryan Van Beek (Benevolent Fund), Rich Knight (Deacon Vicar), and Spencer Donaldson (Helping Hands). A special thank you to all congregational members who were present and/or participated via absentee ballot.

Summer Ministry Update: Many years ago the council of First CRC established a sabbatical policy for their pastor. Generally speaking this sabbatical takes place after every seven years of ministry. This coming summer Pastor John will be taking his second sabbatical and he and his family will be out of town between June 9 - August 24. During this

time our former pastor - Rev. Michael Kooy - will be ministering to us throughout the months of June and July. Our new ministry associate - Pastor Jacob Pottebaum - is currently trying to finalize lodging arrangements and hopes to arrive in town around July 1. The current plan is for him to have a few weeks to get settled in, meet the congregation (eg. dessert nights), and then take over the preaching responsibilities during the month of August. More details will be communicated at the congregational meeting, but please don't hesitate to reach out to an elder if you have any questions.

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.

Men's Breakfast Bible Study meets every other Tuesday morning and is currently working through the books of Samuel. **They will be next meeting on Tuesday, May 26, at 7:00 am at IHOP.**

Congratulations to our 2026 Graduates from College, High School and Middle School! If we have missed anyone from this list, please let Beth know.

Our Graduates:

College: Devin Van Zanten, Dordt University

High School: Justus Visser, Owen VanderKooy,
Landon Blanken, Adriana Speck, Henry Faber

Eighth Grade: Nolan Blanken, Emily Van Hofwegen, Ella Van Hofwegen,
Riley VanderVeen

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

4. May 17 – *“The Water of Life”* (Rev. 22:16-17)

5. May 31 – *“Coming Soon!”* (Rev. 22:17-21)

Worship Service YouTube Links:

PM, May 17 Service: <https://youtube.com/live/a-gd30fMH64?feature=share>

First CRC's Worship Services are now being livestreamed! Go to our YouTube Channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/@1stcrcmv841>
You will see the option for the worship service Livestream there.

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts: Today, May 24: Henry & Pam VZ, Darrel & Sunee L.

Next Week, May 31: Greg & Tish A., Greg & Beth B.

Worship Team: Today: May 24: Greg & Beth B., Linda G., France B.
Next Week, May 31: Men's Group

Nursery: Today: May 24: Jennie VDV & Lexi VDP

Next Week, May 31: Tessa S, Myra VDB

Children in Worship: Today: May 24: Jodi VDP, Tess VDH
Next Week, May 31: Julie S., Toby VDB

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:

Today, May 24: Keith & Jean R.

Next week, May 31: Julie W.

Family Visiting June 14:

5:45 pm: Rynne VDP, Terry & Mandi D., Bob DG

7:00 pm: Karen S., Henry & Jayne H., Kermit & Julie H.

8:15 pm: Wayne & Rhea D., Micah & Jennie VDV, Marjo R.

TODAY:

Sunday, May 24:

10:30am Worship Service

No Youth Group

UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 9: Pastor John (and family) leave on sabbatical

Sat., June 20, 8:00am Youth Group "Pray Us on Our Way" Sendoff

July 5: Church Potluck

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:

Groundwork: God Redeems - The biblical theme of redemption is unique to Christian theology and sets Christianity apart from other religions. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 12:1-5, Ephesians 1:3-11, Galatians 2:20-21, and Ephesians 2:1-5 to trace God's story of redemption from Genesis to the ultimate sacrifice of our Savior Jesus Christ and talk about living redeemed lives as we go about our daily lives. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes

Kids Corner Devotions: Stephen: Things Get Tough - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Stephen: Things Get Tough" at www.kidscorner.net. Learn how to be brave and keep trusting Jesus even when others are unkind. Discover that Jesus is always with you, giving you strength and reminding you that you are never alone. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story coloring pages available on the KC activities page.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Today we celebrate Pentecost, the festival when Jesus' promise to send his Spirit to all believers was fulfilled (Acts 2:1-41). This is a great time to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church. For ways in which you can celebrate as a family or with friends, download God's Big Pentecost

Story: A Celebration for Families (DwellCurriculum.org/Home). 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:

Continue to pray for **Mardick Stevens**, who has his gall bladder out last week. Pray that he is able to feel the Lord's healing.

Please continue to pray for **Pastor Brad Diekema and his family**, as his father has 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.

Please continue to pray for **Randy Burr**, as the doctors have determined that he will be needing a stent put in. Please keep Randy and Peggy in your prayers as this procedure is scheduled and for the doctors performing it.

Please continue to pray for **Dena Klunder**, who is now at Josephine in Stanwood (Room #512) 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 May 18 - Church Renewal: Margins

In our neighborhoods, communities, and towns, there are many who struggle, are lonely, are on the margins, and may not have hope. Pray

that our congregations may be the presence of Jesus in these places, bringing hope to the hopeless, direction to the lost, and friendship to the lonely.

Tuesday May 19 - *Resonate: Graduates*

Campus ministers throughout Canada and the United States ask for prayer for students who are graduating this spring. “May they feel secure because the Lord is their shepherd and will provide for them. And may they find jobs where they can fit well and thrive,” said David Sheldon, a Campus Edge minister serving at Michigan State University.

Wednesday May 20 - *Diaconal Ministries Canada: Together*

God, we give thanks for 25 years of Diaconal Ministries Canada, through which deacons across this country have seen that together we can do more. Continue to unite churches and communities to share gifts, do good, and participate in your renewing work. Strengthen and guide us in the years ahead, that your love may be seen and lived.

Thursday May 21 - *World Renew: Gift Catalog*

We give thanks for all who give generously through our Gift Catalog throughout the year. Pray with us that community members who receive the chickens, nutrition kits, water filters, bars of soap, bicycles, and so much more will find renewed hope in the kindness of God’s global family.

Friday May 22 - *Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee: Synod reports*

Please pray for our committee as we prepare reports for synod. We need the Holy Spirit to guide and lead us. Grant us wisdom and insight, O Spirit of God, that these reports may reflect your will, be edifying to all, and be instrumental in strengthening and uniting your church.

Saturday May 23 - *Thrive: Remembering*

As we anticipate Memorial Day, we remember all who had a bright future and yet gave up their lives while serving their country. We pray for their loved ones left behind—friends and family who are grieving and may feel abandoned. Guide us to live in the hope that one day all wars will cease at the coming of Jesus Christ.

Sunday May 24 - *Resonate: Pentecost*

Give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit! This year in the season of Pentecost, may we open our hearts to the Spirit's leading and take our next step into God's mission—bringing hope and renewal wherever it is most needed.