

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
September 13, 2026, 10:30 am Service
Pastor John Knoester

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

"Beautiful Savior! King of Creation!"

Prelude

Welcome

*** Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #224 v. 1-4 *"Rejoice the Lord is King"***

1. Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore.
Rejoice, give thanks and sing
and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice.
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!
2. His kingdom cannot fail;
he rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell
to Christ the Lord are given.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice.
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!
3. He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit,
bow down at his command,
and fall beneath his feet.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice.
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!
4. Rejoice in glorious hope;
for Christ, the Judge, shall come
to gather all his saints
to their eternal home.
We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

Words: Charles Wesley, 1744, alt., P.D.' Music: John Darwall, 1770; desc.
Sydney H. Nicholson (1875-1947), P.D.; CCLI #678905

* Opening Prayer

* Call to Worship:

Leader: As we are called into worship today,
it is sobering to remember
that when God appeared on earth
in the person of Jesus,
most of the world did not recognize him
and therefore did not worship him.

**People: Today we ask for the faith that will open our eyes
to see Jesus for who he is,
that we might worship him in truth.**

Leader: We open our eyes to see his glory.
We open our ears to hear his wisdom.

**People: We open our hands to offer him gifts.
We open our mouths to sing his praise.**

Leader: We open our hearts to offer him our love.

All: He is Lord!

* Hymn of Praise: 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

* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

"Son of God and Son of Man!"

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Confession:

The proof of God's amazing love is this:
While we were sinners, Christ died for us.
Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,
so that we may receive mercy and find grace
to help in time of need.
Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion,
let us confess our sin before God and one another.
—based on Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16, NRSV

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

Call to Holy Living:

Since you have been raised up to be with Christ,
you must look for the things that are above,
where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.
Let your thoughts be on things above,
not on things that are on the earth,
because you have died,
and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God.
But when Christ is revealed—and he is your life—
you, too, will be revealed with him in glory.
—Colossians 3:1-4, NJB

Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #17 v. 1-3 *“Beautiful Savior”*

1. Beautiful Savior! King of creation!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
2. Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
robed in flowers of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer;
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
3. Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky.

Introduction to our new sermon series on Colossians

Prayer for our study ahead

Hymn of Response: LUYH #17 v. 4 *“Beautiful Savior”*

4. Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!

Words: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1873, P.D;

Music: Schleissche Volkslieder, 1842, P.D.; CCLI# 678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory Video: *“Our Father”* – Jamie Jamgochian & Selah

*(Following the conclusion of the video children ages 3-3rd grade
are dismissed for 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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"Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,"

Scripture Reading: Colossians 1:1-14

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Jesus, our Good News"***

Time of Prayer

* Song of Application: LUYH #15 v. 1-2 *"The First Place"*

1. Jesus, the perfect picture of the unseen God.
Maker of things we cannot comprehend.
Wisdom, the earth displays your strength and beauty.
Sovereign, yes, every throne knows you are God.

Refrain

Every inch of this universe belongs to you, O Christ.
For through you and for you it was made.
Your creation endures by the order of your hand.
So you must have in all things the first place.

2. Victor, over sin and death you triumphed.
Firstborn, you've shown us life beyond the grave.
Bridegroom, we long for you in expectation.
Jesus, your church rejoices to proclaim.

Refrain X 2

Words and Music: Matthew Westerholm © 1999 Matthew Westerholm;
arr. Greg Scheer © 1999 Matthew Westerholm; CCLI# 678905

"Light of my soul, my joy, my crown."

* We Confess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 29, 31, 32

Q & A 29

Q. Why is the Son of God called "Jesus," meaning "savior"?

A. Because he saves us from our sins.

**Salvation cannot be found in anyone else;
it is futile to look for any salvation elsewhere.**

Q & A 31

Q. Why is he called "Christ," meaning "anointed"?

**A. Because he has been ordained by God the Father
and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be
our chief prophet and teacher
who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God
concerning our deliverance;
our only high priest
who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of his body,
and who continually pleads our cause with the Father;
and our eternal king who governs us by his Word
and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us
in the freedom he has won for us.**

Q & A 32

Q. But why are you called a Christian?

**A. Because by faith I am a member of Christ
and so I share in his anointing.
I am anointed to confess his name,
to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks,
to strive with a free conscience against sin and the devil
in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ
over all creation for eternity.**

* God's Blessing

* Parting Hymn of Praise: LUYH #302 v. 1-2 "*Hear our Praises*"

1. May our homes be filled with dancing,
may our streets be filled with joy.
May injustice bow to Jesus
as the people turn and pray.

Refrain

*From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praises rise to you.
From the heavens to the nations,
hear our singing fill the air.*

2. May your light shine in the darkness
as we walk before the cross.
May your glory fill the whole earth
as the water over the seas.

Refrain x2

Words and Music: Reuben Morgan © 1998 Hillsong Publishing (APRA), admin. US & Canada at EMICMGPublishing.com; CCLI# 678905

* 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: Sept. 13	Next Week: Sept,20
Sound:	Tim H.	Henry H.
Projection:	Franchesca B.	Franchesca B.
Video:	Brandon S.	Maddie D.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC

Bulletin Announcements

September 6, 2026

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Youth Group Kickoff to night at 6 pm at the Speck's house.

The Adult Sunday school class this fall will be a discussion of C.S. Lewis' well-known "Mere Christianity." Discussion will be guided by Kevin Kok and possibly others here and there. This class won't begin until Sunday, October 4. I'm sorry that doesn't mesh well with the kids' schedule. I hope you can join us.

Children's Sunday School begins this morning at 9:30!

First CRC is having a BABY SHOWER for the Vogels on September 24 at 7:00pm! It's been a while since we've been blessed with a new baby! Please RSVP to Tish at **360-540-2757**.

If you do not have a picture of your family for the new church directory, you still have time to send Beth a landscape formatted picture. Beth hopes to start printing the new directories in the beginning of October.

There are Committee Lists on the shelf by the mailboxes. Please pick one up today!

There is an empty fall sign-up sheet to provide transportation for Joy Faber to and from church on the sign-up table in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up to be a blessing to Joy!

Beth will be out of the office from Sept. 2 until the week of Sept. 20. Catherine Vander Kooy will be filling in in the office. Please send your emails for announcements and prayer chain items to the regular office email. Beth will be doing some work remotely. ***Note that the deadline for these announcements and prayer guide items will now be Weds. morning by 9 am until Beth returns.*** Thank you!

Worship Service YouTube Links:

PM, September 6 Service: https://youtube.com/live/cotxk_7ZdtE?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, Sept. 13: Wayne & Rhea D., Jillian H.
Next Week, Sept. 20: Terri & Mandi D., Kera B.

Worship Team: Today, Sept. 13: Greg B., Julie, Adriana & Tessa S.
Next Week, Sept. 20: Eliot B., Heidi B., Emma S.

Nursery: Today, Sept. 13: Lauren VDB & Myra VDB
Next Week, Sept. 20: Catherine & Noah VK

Children in Worship: Today, Sept. 13: Heidi B., Reese VDV
Next Week, Sept. 20: Angela S., Nolan B.

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:

Today, Sept. 13: Greg A.
Next week, Sept. 20: TISH A.

Family Visiting Sunday, September 13:

5:45 pm: Brandon & Julie S., Simon LC, Darin & Michelle K.
7:00 pm: Eliot & Sue B., Jillian H., John & Brooke K.

If you are unable to meet on the date you are scheduled for a visit, please call the elders who are assigned to your district (Found at the top of the column you are in on the 2026 Family Visiting Schedule)

TODAY/THIS WEEK:

Sunday, September 13:

10:30am Worship Service

Sunday, Sept. 13:

9:30am Children's Sunday School

10:30 am: Morning Service

6:00 pm: Youth Group Kickoff at Specks' house

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thurs., Sept. 24, 7:00pm: Baby Shower for little James Vogel

Sunday, September 27: Lord's Supper

Sunday, October 4, 9:30am: Adult Sunday School begins

Friday, October 23, 6pm: Youth Group Pumpkin Carving Night & Chili Cookoff!

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:

Help and Encouragement After the Death of a Loved One: A GriefShare support group will be starting on Monday, September 14, at Faith Community Fellowship, 1427 Monte Vista Drive in Mount Vernon. This 13-week GriefShare session will meet from 6:00-8:00 pm and will be held in the educational building next to the church. Please contact Dave or Nancy Visser (360-770-9645) for more information or to sign up for the group.

CRC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Kids Corner Devotions: Let's Celebrate - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Let's Celebrate" at www.kidscorner.net. The apostle Paul knew how to celebrate Jesus' amazing love. In Philippians 4:4-13, Paul said he had learned to be happy with whatever he had because Jesus gave him the strength to handle anything, even while in prison. How will you celebrate Jesus' love today? Check out the new Kids Corner Devotions app at <https://kidscorner.net/app>

Calvin University

Wisdom in the Age of AI Conference - How should Christians respond to Artificial Intelligence (AI) in church, education, business, healthcare, and the arts? The Wisdom in the Age of AI Conference will be held at Calvin University from October 8-10 and features top keynote speakers and parallel sessions dealing with each of these topics. For more information and register to join the conversation, visit: <https://calvin.edu/wisdomAI>

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - It's Grandparents' Day today! Invite the Christian grandparents in your life (both official and honorary) to share stories of how God has worked in their lives. Making space for these stories honors the elders in your family and encourages younger family members in their walk with Jesus. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Sept. 27 is Communion Sunday!

***God meets us in the sacraments,
holy acts that call for our response...***

***In the supper our Lord offers
the bread and cup to believers to
guarantee our share in his
death and resurrection,
and unite us to him and to each other.***

***We take this food gladly,
announcing as we eat
that Jesus is our life
and that He shall come again
to call us to the Supper of the Lamb.***

From: *Our World Belongs to God* (PH – pg. 1031)

***Come share the fellowship
of the forgiven!***



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 pray for complete healing of **Greg Ackermann's** foot and leg.

Please continue to pray for **Deanna Van Beek's father**, as he is in the radiation phase of his treatment. Please pray that the side effects will be minimal.

Please continue to pray for **Pastor Brad Diekema and his family**, as his father has been diagnosed with Stage 4 pancreatic cancer.

Continue to pray for **Dena Klunder's** stroke recovery at her daughter Julie's house.

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 September 7 - Church Renewal: Financial resources and stewardship

"Our world belongs to God." And God chooses to use us to further his kingdom. Pray that we all may give generously of the resources God has blessed us with for the building of his kingdom.

Tuesday September 8 - Resonate: Costa Rica

Please pray for spiritual growth in a Bible study that Resonate missionary Micah Schuurman leads with young adults in Costa Rica. Micah shared, "Several participants identify as agnostic, but they keep coming to read the Bible and to pray in community."

Wednesday September 9 - *Thrive: Newcomers*

O Lord, open our eyes, that we may see the needs of immigrants and refugees; open our ears, that we may hear people's cries for justice; open our hearts, that we may assist sojourners near and far. Show us where love, hope, and faith are needed. Let us not be afraid to protect the weak or to defend the poor because of the power and attitude of the rich. Sustain us to do the work of peace.

Thursday September 10 - *ReFrame: Prayer ministry*

Please pray for Ellen as she battles long-term depression and anxiety that has not responded well to therapy or medication. Ask the Lord to relieve this heavy burden, give her strength for each day, and provide new pathways toward healing and peace.

Friday September 11 - *World Renew: Food security*

Farming communities throughout Zambia, Kenya, Uganda, and their region are facing the threat of drought, erratic rainfall, deforestation, and climate-related challenges. Ask God to provide favorable weather, fruitful harvests, and the resources needed to support vulnerable families and strengthen climate-smart agricultural initiatives.

Saturday September 12 - *Calvin Theological Seminary: New academic year*

At the start of a new school year, we rejoice in the enrollment of new students. Pray for new and returning students from around the world amid all the transitions they encounter as they begin a new season of study and learning.

Sunday September 13 - *Resonate: Church planters*

Ask God to raise up leaders in the Christian Reformed Church in North America who will answer the call to plant new churches!