

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
September 20, 2026, 10:30 am Service
Pastor John Knoester

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

*"Every inch of this universe belongs to you,
O Christ."*

Prelude

Welcome

*** Call to Worship: (Based on Colossians 1:15-18)**

Leader: Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God.

People: **All things have been created through him
and for him.**

Leader: He himself is before all things.

People: **In him all things hold together.**

Leader: He is the head of the body, the church,

All: **So that he might come to have first place
in everything.**

*** Opening Songs of Praise**

◆ 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

◆ *“Wonderful, Merciful Savior” v. 1-3*

1. Wonderful merciful, Savior,
precious Redeemer and Friend;
Who would have thought that a Lamb
could rescue the souls of men?
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

Chorus

*You are the One that we praise,
You are the One we adore,
You give the healing and grace
our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

2. Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,
Spirit we long to embrace;
You offer hope when our hearts
have hopelessly lost the way,
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

Chorus

3. Almighty, infinite Father,
faithfully loving Your own;
Here in our weakness You find us
falling before Your throne,
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

Chorus (2X)

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* Opening Prayer

* Song of Praise: *“You Are My All in All” v. 1-2*

1. You are my strength when I am weak,
You are the treasure that I seek; You are my all in all.
Seeking You as a precious jewel,
Lord, to give up, I'd be a fool; You are my all in all.

Chorus:

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name!

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name!

2. Taking my sin, my cross, my shame,
Rising again, I bless Your name;
You are my all in all.
When I fall down, You pick me up;
When I am dry, You fill my cup. You are my all in all.

Chorus: (2x, 2nd acapella)

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name!

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name!

*"My All in All" Words and Music by Dennis Jernigan, ©1990 Shepherd's Heart
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* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

"For through you and for you it was made."

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Confession:

God's Word assures us:

If we say that we have no sin,

we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins,

he who is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins

and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

—based on 1 John 1:8-9, NRSV

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance – Psalm 139:7-12

- ⁷ Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
⁸ If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
⁹ If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
¹⁰ even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.
¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,"
¹² even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

Call to Holy Living:

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

Song of Assurance: "He Will Keep You (Psalm 121)" v. 1-2

1. I lift my eyes and see
I need not be afraid
All my help comes from the Lord
Who the earth and sky has made

Chorus:

*He will keep you from all evils
Behind you and before
He will sustain you through this journey
From now and evermore*

2. The Lord will never sleep
My steps He has ordained
For the One Who holds the night
Is the Sovereign of my days.

Chorus: (2X)

*He will keep you from all evils
Behind you and before
He will sustain you through this journey
From now and evermore*

*He will keep you from all evils
Behind you and before.
He will sustain you through this journey
From now and evermore*

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Offering: General Fund

Offertory

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

* Song of Preparation: LUYH #739 "I Surrender All" v. 1-3

1. All to Jesus I surrender,
all to him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust him,
in his presence daily live.

Refrain

I surrender all, I surrender all;
all to thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

2. All to Jesus I surrender,
make me, Savior, wholly thine;
let me feel thy Holy Spirit, truly know
that thou art mine.

Refrain

- 3 All to Jesus I surrender,
Lord, I give myself to thee;
fill me with thy love and power,
let thy blessing fall on me.

Refrain

Words: Judson W. VanDeVenter, P.D. CCLI #678905

"Your creation endures by the order of your hand."

Scripture Reading: Colossians 1:15-23

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"The Supremacy of Jesus Christ"***

Time of Prayer

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #80 v. 1-3

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come,
offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel.

Refrain

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild, he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.

Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt., P.D. Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; adapt.
William H. Cummings, 1856, P.D.; CCLI: 678905

"So that you must have in all things the first place."

* We Confess our Faith:

Leader: In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God.

**People: All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing came into being.**

Leader: What has come into being in him was life,
and the life was the light of all people.

**People: The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.**

Leader: The true light, which enlightens everyone,
was coming into the world.
He was in the world,
and the world came into being through him;
yet the world did not know him.

**People: He came to what was his own,
and his own people did not accept him.**

Leader: But to all who received him,
who believed in his name,
he gave power to become children of God,
who were born, not of blood or of the will
of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

**People: And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son,
full of grace and truth.**

—John 1:1-5, 9-14, NRSV

* 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

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* Postlude

Welcome! We invite all of you to praise God with hearts and hands and voices. Let us be mindful of the wonders God has given us. Come rejoice in God and together sing praises to His name. Reach out in warmth to all who have gathered in the house of the Lord. 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: Sept. 20	Next Week: Sept. 27
Sound:	Henry H.	Henry VZ
Projection:	Franchesca B.	Tim H.
Video:	Maddie D.	Isaac D.
Offering:	General Fund	1st: General Fund; 2nd: Benevolence Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

September 20, 2026

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

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.

There is a sign-up sheet in the fellowship area for dessert nights with the Pottebaums. This is a chance for us to get to know the people of this body and spend some time in fellowship together. Feel free to sign up in groups, and if you would like to bring something sweet to share you're more than welcome to do so! We're excited to spend some time with you! Dessert nights will take place from 6p.m. to 7p.m. - Jack, Ashley and Jacob

Don't forget the baby shower for the Vogels on this Thursday night 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 is a 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!

Ladies please join us for the upcoming women's Bible Study starting Sunday October 4th at 6:30 in the church council room. Books and a sign up sheet will be available starting Sunday September 20th.

We will be studying "The Names of God" lead by Kristi McLelland and others. Through the opening chapters of Genesis through the final verses of Revelations- names that reveal who He is, what He does and how he relates to his children. It is an eight session study with minimal homework.

Worship Service YouTube Links:

PM, September 13 Service: <https://youtube.com/live/jjHh20DZedg?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. 20: Terri & Mandi D., Kera B.
Next Week, Sept. 27: Eliot & Sue B., Rich & Elly C.

Worship Team: Today, Sept. 20: Eliot B., Heidi B., Emma S.
Next Week, Sept. 27: Greg & Beth B., France B.

Nursery: Today, Sept. 20: Catherine & Noah VK
Next Week, Sept. 27: Jennie & Riley VDV

Children in Worship: Today, Sept. 20: Angela S., Nolan B.
Next Week, Sept. 27: Amy S., Riley VDV

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:

Today, Sept. 20: Tish A.
Next week, Sept. 27: Adam F.

Dear Friends,

The main theme of the book of Colossians is the complete supremacy, authority, and sufficiency of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is Lord over all and head of the Church. His death and resurrection alone accomplish our salvation. Our new life in Christ radically changes how we live each day. One of the main purposes of Paul's letter to the church in Colossae is to encourage believers to continue in faith in Christ and to carefully guard against any threats to their spiritual well-being.

In the weeks to come, we are going to slowly make our way through this important letter of Paul. As we do so, we encourage you to be reading and reflecting on the text in advance of the Sunday proclamation. We encourage you to come with your questions. Come with your life's joys, uncertainties, and fears, and lay them before Him. Come with an eager anticipation to see what God is doing in our lives. For *"He is before all things, and in him all things hold together"* (Colossians 1:17). ... May God richly bless us as we embark on this journey together!

In His Grace,

Pastor John Knoester and Pastor Jacob Pottebaum

1. Sept. 13 – Colossians 1:1-14
2. Sept. 20 – Colossians 1:15-23
3. Sept. 27 – Colossians 1:24-2:5
4. Oct. 4 – Colossians 2:6-15
5. Oct. 11 – Colossians 2:16-23
6. Oct. 18 – Colossians 3:1-4
7. Oct. 25 – Colossians 3:5-11
8. Nov. 1 – Colossians 3:12-17
9. Nov. 8 – Colossians 3:18-4:1
10. Nov. 15 – Colossians 4:2-6
11. Nov. 22 – Colossians 4:7-18

TODAY/THIS WEEK:

Sunday, September 20:

9:30am Children's Sunday School

10:30 am: Morning Service

6:00 pm: Youth Group

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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: Justice and Mercy and Being Kind Like Jesus -

Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Justice and Mercy and Being Kind Like Jesus" at www.kidscorner.net. God's love and kindness for everyone show up in the Bible again and again. In Matthew 5:7, Jesus said, "God blesses those people who are merciful. They will be treated with mercy!" Is there someone who needs help or a friend? When we show mercy, we're acting like Jesus! Check out the new Kids Corner Devotions app at <https://kidscorner.net/app>

Groundwork: When Life Is Meaningless - Do you ever feel like you're spinning your wheels but not getting anywhere? Life can bring its share of discouragement. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Ecclesiastes 1-2 and 5:18-20 to glean wisdom for life from the Teacher and discuss why we can have hope even when life seems meaningless. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - In the book *Liturgy of the Ordinary* (IVP 2016), Tish Harrison Warren writes, "We learn the craft of holiness day by day in the living of a particular life...we are part of God's big vision and mission—the redemption of all things—through the earthy craft of living out our vocation, hour by hour, task by task. I want to do the big



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 14 - Church Renewal: Antioch

Acts 13:1-3 describes a group who gathered to worship and pray. From there, God sent out two of their leaders, Saul and Barnabas, to spread the good news of Jesus. Ask God to call and send out workers into new mission fields, church planting, campus ministry, and elsewhere, praying that new leaders may emerge to step in where others have served.

Tuesday September 15 - *ReFrame: Jakarta*

Ribkha asks for prayers for wisdom and guidance from God as she discerns her career steps. Pray for peace as she navigates working with a difficult supervisor, and ask for the Lord's direction on whether she should seek a new position.

Wednesday September 16 - *World Renew: Good governance*

Among countries where we have a long-term presence, several are planning or have recently held elections. Ask God for wisdom for national leaders, provisions for households under pressure, and guidance toward justice and economic stability. Pray for peaceful election processes.

Thursday September 17 - *Thrive: Students*

Pray for the students in your congregation who are beginning another school year. Pray for joy in education, fruitful friendships, and the integration of faith and learning.

Friday September 18 - *ThereforeGo Ministries: Students*

ThereforeGo Ministries is thankful for another amazing summer of SERVE opportunities in which students could encounter the love of Christ through service, worship, and community. Please join us in praying for students as they enter the fall season after experiencing a different way of living out and growing in their faith!

Saturday September 19 - *ReFrame: Prayer ministry*

Pray for Sue, who left a note on our Facebook page asking for prayer for her daughter, who is navigating a high-risk pregnancy with concerns about preeclampsia. Ask God to protect both mother and baby, bring stability to the pregnancy, and grant the entire family peace.

Sunday September 20 - *Resonate: England*

Resonate missionaries Matt and Emily Slack, who serve in London, teach English to refugees. Many come from Muslim backgrounds. The Slacks ask for prayers that their English students may come to know Christ through their hospitality and witness.

This is a QR code that
will take you to the
Tithe giving form if
you wish to tithe
online.

