

**Welcome to Mount Vernon
First Christian Reformed Church!
Pastor John Knoester
September 27, 2026 ♦ 10:30 am Service**

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

*"No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;"*

Prelude

Welcome

*** Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #1 v. 1-4**

"All People That on Earth Do Dwell"

1. All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Serve him with joy, his praises tell,
Come now before him and rejoice!
2. Know that the Lord is God indeed;
he formed us all without our aid.
We are the flock he comes to feed,
the sheep who by his hand were made.
3. O enter then his gates with joy,
within his courts his praise proclaim.
Let thankful songs your tongues employ,
O bless and magnify his name.
4. Because the Lord our God is good,
his mercy is forever sure.
His faithfulness at all times stood
and shall from age to age endure.

*Words: William Kethe, 1561 at., P.D.; Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551, P.D.;
CCLI# 678905*

*** Opening Prayer**

* Call to Worship:

Leader: Let us worship the eternal God,
the source of love and life, who creates us.

**People: Let us worship Jesus Christ,
the risen one, who lives among us.**

Leader: Let us worship the Spirit,
the holy fire, who renews us.

**People: To the one true God be praise
in all times and places,
through the grace of Jesus Christ.**

* 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.

2. 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

"From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny."

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Confession:

In spite of God's love for us and gift of love to us,
we often act in destructive and hateful ways.
We close our hearts to God and disobey God's law.
Together let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance – (WT Member)

Through Jesus Christ forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.
In Christ we have redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness of our trespasses,
according to the riches of his grace.
—from Acts 13:38; Ephesians 1:7, NRSV

Call to Holy Living:

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."
—from Matthew 22:37-40, NRSV

Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #363 v. 1-3 "*Blessed Assurance*"

1. Blessed assurance: Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain

3. Perfect submission: all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

Refrain

Words: Fanny Crosby, 1873, P.D; Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873, P.D. CCLI #678905

Offering: 1st: General Fund; 2nd: Benevolence

Offertory Video: *"Rise With the Sun"* (CityAlight)

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

- * Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #745 v. 1-2
"Dwell in Me, O Blessed Spirit"

1. Dwell in me, O blessed Spirit!
How I need your help divine!
In the way of life eternal,
keep, O keep this heart of mine.

Refrain

*Dwell in me, O blessed Spirit,
gracious Teacher, Friend divine!
For the kingdom work that calls me,
O prepare this heart of mine.*

2. Grant to me your sacred presence;
then my faith will ne'er decline.
Comfort me and help me onward;
fill with love this heart of mine.

Refrain

*Dwell in me, O blessed Spirit,
gracious Teacher, Friend divine!
For the kingdom work that calls me,
O prepare this heart of mine.*

Words: Martha J. Lankton, 1899, alt., P.D.; Music: Georgia G. Berky, 1899, P.D.;
CCLI #678905

*"No power of hell, no human plan,
can ever pluck me from his hand,"*

Scripture Reading: Colossians 1:24-2:5

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"Zealously Proclaiming Jesus Christ, the Hope of Glory"***

Time of Prayer

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #770 v. 1-4 *"In Christ Alone"*

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all,
here in the love of Christ I stand.
2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on the cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground His body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain;
then, bursting forth in glorious day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine,
bought with the precious blood of Christ.
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no human plan,
can ever pluck me from His hand;
'til He returns or calls me home,
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!
- "In Christ Alone" Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend,
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CCLI# 678905*

*(During the singing of this hymn the children will be returning from
Children and Worship and the elders are invited forward to serve
communion)*

*"'Til he returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand."*

- * We Celebrate Communion Together
Declaration of God's Invitation and Promises
(Based on Luke 13:29, 24:30-31)

Summary of Scriptural Teaching:

God meets us in the sacraments,
holy acts in which his deeds elicit our response.
In the supper our Lord offers the bread and cup to believers
to guarantee our share in his death and resurrection,
and to 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*, st. 40

Preparing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Invitation

Distribution: Time of Reflection

Sharing of the Bread:

Take, eat, remember and believe that the body
of our Lord Jesus Christ was given for the complete forgiveness
of all our sins.

Take, drink, remember and believe the precious blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ was shed for the complete forgiveness
of all our sins.

Response of Praise and Prayer

- * God's Blessing
- * Parting Song of Praise: LUYH #257 v. 1-4
"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"
 1. Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.
 2. Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.
 3. We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.
 4. When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.

Words: John Farrell, 1782, P.D.; Music: attr. Johann C. Nägeli, 1828, P.D.; CCLI #678905

- * Postlude

This morning, we will commemorate Jesus’ death and resurrection as we celebrate the Lord’s Supper. By faith, Jesus’ death fully covers all our sin and by His resurrection power He gives us everlasting life. May Christ’s Spirit strengthen us in faith, hope, and love as we draw near to Christ Jesus through His Spirit. *The Lord's Supper is a table of grace. All those who have received the grace of Christ and confess Him as Lord and Savior of their life are warmly invited to participate. Yet, know too that there is also 'grace' from this community of faith for those who do not yet confess Christ as Lord. And if that's the case then we encourage you not to partake until you have the genuine desire to receive God's grace and are ready to proclaim Christ as your 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. 27	Next Week: Oct. 4
Sound:	Henry VZ	Henry H.
Projection:	Tim H.	Beth B.
Video:	Isaac D.	Maddie D.
Offering:	1st:General Fund; 2nd: Benevolence Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

September 27, 2026

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

This morning we are celebrating the sacrament of Lord's Supper. Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life." Our Savior invites us to His table, a table of love that has been prepared for us. Jesus, Our Savior, lived, died and lives again for each one of us. *The Lord's Supper is a table of grace. All those who have received the grace of Christ and confess Him as Lord and Savior of their life are warmly invited to participate. Yet, know too that there is also 'grace' from this community of faith for those who do not yet confess Christ as Lord. And if that's the case then we encourage you not to partake until you have the genuine desire to receive God's grace and are ready to proclaim Christ as your Lord.* Let us worship our God today and praise Him for His love. After the worship service, we invite you to join us in the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

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 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!

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

It's the time of year! Time for the Youth Group Chili Cookoff and Pumpkin Carving Contest, October 23 at 6:00pm.

Combined Reformation Day Service! Come and bring your family and friends to the Reformation Day Service at the First CRC of Mount Vernon on **Sunday, October 25, at 6:30 PM.** Rev. Kyle Dieleman, Associate Professor of Theology and History at Dordt University will be proclaiming God's Word to us this year. The offering that evening will be for Northwest Hispanic Ministries. There will also be a Reformation Choir that will be singing during the offertory. Those interested in being a part of the choir are asked to arrive at 5:30 PM that evening to practice ahead of time. Coffee and refreshments will be served following the service.

Missionaries in Town! John and Trista Vander Wal and their two children Anya and Mercy will be in town on **Sunday, October 4!** The plan is for them to speak about their work in Papua New Guinea both at the Adult Sunday School School class that day and also give a brief report during the morning service. We look forward to hosting them and hearing what God is doing through their ministry!

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 20 Service: <https://youtube.com/live/0sNbgIjmJK4?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. 27: Eliot & Sue B., Rich & Elly C.
Next Week, October 4: Greg & Beth B., Mardy & Kristi S.

Worship Team: Today, Sept. 27: Greg & Beth B., France B.
Next Week, October 4: Henry & Pam VZ, Mandi D., Jennaya B.

Nursery: Today, Sept. 27: Jennie & Riley VDV
Next Week, October 4: Angela S., Emma S.

Children in Worship: Today, Sept. 27: Amy S., Riley VDV
Next Week, October 4: Jennie VDV, Tess VDH

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:

Today, Sept. 27: Adam F.
Next week, October 4: Julie W.

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 27:

9:30am Children's Sunday School

10:30 am: Morning Service/Lord's Supper

6:00 pm: Youth Group

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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

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

Sunday, Oct. 25, 6:30pm: Combined Reformation Service

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:

GriefShare Support Group: Our GriefShare meetings have begun, but it is not too late to join the group on any Monday from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Meetings are held at Faith Community Fellowship Church in the educational building next to the church. You are welcome on any Monday evening from now through December 7. Questions? Contact Dave and Nancy Visser - 360-770-9645.

Love INC is moving to a new facility the week of Sept. 28. If you are willing to help move, pack boxes, and organize supplies, please contact the office at 360-419-7061 if you are available.



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 **Keith Rasmussen**, as he is recuperating and undergoing tests after a fainting spell on Sept. 15. Pray for answers and a clear route forward.

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 21 - Church Renewal: Diversity

In Acts 13:1-3 we read of a gathering of diverse people from around the Roman Empire. Pray for an increase of ethnic diversity in the CRCNA that is already being seen in church planting, growing congregations, and various ministries. May we continue to grow in reflecting the worldwide body of Christ.

Tuesday September 22 - World Renew: Flooding in Asia

Lift up communities in Bangladesh and India affected by monsoon flooding. Pray for the safety of families, protection of crops and livelihoods, health of staff and partners, and God's provision as new projects begin and ministries continue to serve vulnerable communities with compassion and hope.

Wednesday September 23 - *Candidacy Committee: Leadership*

Please pray for wisdom for the Classis Ministerial Leadership Teams leading conversations about leadership development within their classes. Please also join us in continued prayer that the Lord will send laborers into the "harvest field" to fill our churches and communities with the love and good news of Jesus Christ.

Thursday September 24 - *ReFrame: Brazil*

Pray for Liliane as she battles intense anxiety, depression, and feelings of despair. Ask God to guard her heart and mind when she feels like giving up, and pray that she may be surrounded with comfort, peace, and practical support.

Friday September 25 - *Thrive: Chaplains*

Chaplains minister in psychiatric hospitals, behavioral health units, and forensic hospitals. Special training, skills, love, and perseverance are required for providing holistic care for patients in emotional, spiritual, and mental crises. Pray that our chaplains in these situations may receive overflowing measures of grace and wisdom for the people entrusted into their care.

Saturday September 26 - *Resonate: West Africa*

Please pray for Resonate missionaries in West Africa in their relationships with local high-school students. Students from Muslim backgrounds often stop by the missionaries' homes on their way home from school, and their conversations often include questions about Christianity.

Sunday September 27 - *World Renew: Regional staff*

Pray for all our staff around the world who are faithfully serving Christ. Pray in particular for teams that are trying to fill vacancies, for staff facing added stress from challenging economic or political situations in their countries, and for employees facing illness, family concerns, or grief at this time.