



701 West Blackburn Road
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

360-336-2405

www.firstcrcmv.com

Pastor John Knoester

Pastor Jacob Pottebaum

Worship Service: 10:30 AM

Church School: 9:30 AM

September—May

*Therefore do not let anyone judge you by
what you eat or drink, or with regard to
a religious festival, a New Moon
celebration or a Sabbath day.
- Colossians 2:16*



October 11, 2026

The Loop System is provided for those using
hearing devices by using the
telephone mode on your device.

This is available beginning in row 5
on either side of the sanctuary.

Welcome to Mount Vernon First Christian Reformed Church!

Pastor Jacob Pottebaum

October 11, 2026 ♦ 10:30 am Service

*Please stand in body or in spirit

*"To God be the glory,
great things He has done"*

*Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;

**People: for he has founded it on the seas,
and established it on the rivers.**

Leader: Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in his holy place?

**People: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false,
and do not swear deceitfully.**

—Psalm 24:1-4, NRSV

*Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #604 v. 1-3 "To God Be the Glory"

1. To God be the glory, great things he has done;
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;

let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;

let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory; great things he has done.

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain

3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875, alt., P.D.; Music: William H. Doane, 1875, PD.; CCLI #678905

*Hymn of Praise: LUYH #601 v. 1-4 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!
2. O seed of Israel's chosen race
now ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!
3. Let every tongue and every tribe
on this terrestrial ball,
to him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all.
To him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all!
4. Oh, that with all the sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all!

Words: st. 1-3 Edward Perronet, 1780, alt., st. 4 John Rippon, 1787, alt., P.D.; Music: Oliver Holden, 1793, P.D.; CCLI# 678905

*"So loved He the world
that He gave us His Son,"*

Announcements

Call to Confession:

We know that nothing is able to separate us
from the love of God in Jesus Christ.

Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

—based on Romans 8:39

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out
my transgressions.

**People: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

Leader: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is
ever before me.

**People: Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgment.**

Leader: You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

**People: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out
all my iniquities.**

Leader: Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.

People: Do not cast me from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.

—Psalm 51:1-4, 6, 9-11, NRSV

Words of Assurance:

Hear the good news! The Word of The Lord:

"In a surge of anger I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you," says the Lord your Redeemer.

"I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

"I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist.

Return to me, for I have redeemed you."

—Isaiah 54:8; 43:25; 44:22, NIV

Call to Holy Living:

As God's forgiven people, how are we called to live?

Hear now the Word of God:

"Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;

to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self,

created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood

and speak truthfully to his neighbor,

for we are all members of one body."

—Ephesians 4:21-25, NIV

Hymn of Praise: LUYH #579 v. 1-4 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above,
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
4. Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Words: Walter C. Smith, 1867, alt., P.D.; Music: Roberts' Caniadau y Cyssegr, 1839,
P.D. CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

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

"Who yielded his life an atonement for sin"

Song of Preparation: LUYH #754 v. 1-5

"Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak"

1. Lord, speak to me that I may speak
in living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought, so let me seek
your erring children, lost and lone.
2. O lead me, Lord, that I may lead
the wandering and the wavering feet.
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed
your hungry ones with manna sweet.
3. O teach me, Lord, that I may teach
the precious truths which you impart.
And wing my words that they may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart.
4. O fill me with Thy fullness, Lord,
until my very heart o'erflows
in kindling thought and glowing word,
your love to tell, Thy praise to show.

5. O use me, Lord, use even me,
just as you will, and when, and where
until your blessed face I see,
your rest, your joy, your glory share.

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal; Music: Robert Alexander Schumann

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Scripture Reading: Colossians 2:16-23

Prayer of Illumination

Message: "Freedom in Christ"

Time of Prayer

*"And opened the life-gate
that all may go in."*

*Hymn of Application: LUYH #679 v. 1-3

"For Freedom Christ Has Set us Free"

1. "For freedom Christ has set us free!"
What joy is ours to claim!
No more enslaved, humanity
finds life in Jesus' name.
We try, Lord, to be justified
through all the works we do.
Yet you adopt us, saying, "Child,
it's Christ who makes you new."
2. We're clothed in Christ and we belong;
now no one waits outside.
In him we find our common song;
old ways no more divide.
"It is no longer I who live,
but Christ who lives in me."
He died for us, new life to give
and new identity.

3. Now, Spirit-filled, may we be led
from ways that would destroy.
May we, your people, turn instead
to lives of love and joy.
May we find peace that makes us whole
and patience everywhere.
God, give us kindness, self-control,
and hearts and hands that share.

Words: Sylvia Dunstan (1955-1993) © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.; Music:
Gesangbuch der Herzogl, Hofkapelle, Württemberg, 1784; arr. Kenneth Bos ©
2008 Faith Alive Christian Resources; CCLI #678905

*We Profess our Faith

We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else
in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. —from Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39, NRSV

*God's Blessing

*Parting Hymn of 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

Welcome! “Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go,” the psalmist prayed (Psalm 71:3). May we all find that God is a “rock of refuge” where we find help for every hour of need. A hearty welcome to all who have come to worship our Creator. 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: October 11	Next Week: October 18
Sound:	Mardick S.	Tim H.
Projection:	Tim H.	Isaac D.
Video:	Brandon S.	France B.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

Announcements

October 11, 2026

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

First CRC

Bulletin Announcements

October 11, 2026

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Just a note from Beth: We're getting closer to having a copier that talks to Microsoft Word. Please bear with me.

There is choir practice today after the service.

New Worship Schedule: A new six-month worship schedule for volunteers (Scripture Readers, vocalists, piano, organ, technology, etc.) will be put together in early November. We are always looking to recruit new volunteers - especially students/young people! If you are interested in being added to the schedule, or if you would like to be removed - please let Beth know no later than Sunday, November 1.

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

There has been some interest in having the Women's Bible Study become accessible to remote viewing/participation. If you are interested in this possibility, please let the office or Jill Rouw know so that we can test the waters on getting this possibly set up for this season.

We have two special offerings coming up in the next month or so: On October 18 and November 22 there will be a second offering for Resonate Global Mission.

There is a sign-up sheet to bring cookies for the Combined Reformation Day Evening Service on the 25th. Please sign up if you are willing and able to bring goodies to share!

Our next church potluck is set for November 1!

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.

The next Men's Breakfast Bible Study will be Tuesday, October 20, 7:00 am at IHOP. Join us for an hour of Bible study, fellowship and breakfast. We meet every other week.

Worship Service YouTube Links:

PM, October 4 Service: <https://youtube.com/live/-LOMCyk5RTI?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, Oct. 11: Katie J., Jacob & Ashley P.
Next Week, Oct. 18: Jill R., Derek & Heidi B.

Worship Team: Today, Oct. 11: Greg B., Julie, Adriana & Tessa S.
Next Week, Oct. 18: Kevin K., Eliot B., Heidi B., Emma S.

Nursery: Today, Oct. 11: Pam VZ, Lexi VDP
Next Week, Oct. 18: Glenda K., Maddie D.

Children in Worship: Today, Oct. 11: Jody VDP, Toby VDB
Next Week, Oct. 18: Julie S., Lexi VDP

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:
Today, Oct. 11: Keith & Jean R.
Next week, Oct. 18: Mardick S.

Family Visiting Sunday, October 11:

5:45 pm: Rosemary S., Spencer & Janelle D., Kevin & Glenda K.
7:00 pm: Henry & Pam VZ, Adam & Katie F., Darrel & Sunee L.

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)

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, October 11:

9:30am Children and Adult Sunday School

10:30 am: Morning Service

Choir Practice after the service

6:00 pm: Youth Group

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 7:00 pm: Cadets

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, Oct. 18, 6:30 pm: Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, Oct. 20, 7:00 am: Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 6:30pm: GEMS

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

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

Sunday, November 1: Church Potluck!

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:

Surviving the Holidays

Faith Community Fellowship and Emmanuel Baptist Church are partnering to provide help for the bereaved through the difficult holiday season. A two-hour event called Surviving the Holidays will be hosted in the Fireside Room at Emmanuel Baptist on Saturday, November 7 at 9:30 AM. This special event is designed to give grieving individuals encouragement, support, and practical strategies for navigating the holiday season. Ten dollars is the suggested amount for this helpful morning which will include a video, discussion, refreshments, and an informative booklet to take home with you. For more information and to sign up, contact Dave and Nancy Visser. (360-770-9645)

CRC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pastor Appreciation Day! - Did you know that today is Pastor/Clergy Appreciation Day? Thrive encourages us to think about someone in ministry leadership or in our church community who deserves an extra dose of appreciation today. Who can you thank today? How can you show your appreciation? Maybe you could recognize their work with a short note of encouragement or a word of support.



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:

Pray for the **VanderWal family** as they acclimate again to life in the United States, and for them to find a great living and job situation.

Please continue to keep **Keith Rasmussen's** heart in your prayers.

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.

Pastor Brad Diekema's father will be starting a second round of chemo soon. Please keep him in your prayers for minimal side effects, but that it will stave off the cancer cells for a long period of time.

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 October 5 - Church Renewal: Discernment

Acts 13:1-3 describes Christians in Antioch who gathered to worship and pray. Pray that congregations like the one in Antioch will seek to be a blessing to the kingdom of God wherever they are in their life cycle. And if they are near an end or a major transition, may they discern and follow the Spirit's next steps for them.