



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



**Do not lie to each other,
since you have taken off
your old self
with its practices and
have put on the new self,
which is being renewed in
knowledge in the image
of its Creator.**

Colossians 3:9-10

October 25, 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 John Knoester
October 25, 2026 ♦ 10:30 am Service**

** Please stand in body or in spirit

“This the power of the cross:”

Prelude

Welcome

* Call to Worship:

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song;

People: Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Leader: Sing to the Lord, praise His name;

People: proclaim his salvation day after day.

* Opening Song of Praise: LUYH #515 v. 1-6

“Sing to the Lord, Sing His Praise”

1. Sing to the LORD, sing his praise, all you peoples;
new be your song as new honors you pay.
Sing of his majesty, praise him forever,
show his salvation from day to day.
2. Tell of his wondrous works, tell of his glory
till through the nations his name is revered.
Praise and exalt him, for he is almighty;
God over all, let the LORD be feared.
3. Vain are the idols and gods of the nations;
God made the heavens, and his glory they tell.
Splendor and majesty shine out before him;
glory and strength in his temple dwell.
4. Give unto God Most High glory and honor;
come with your offerings and humbly draw near.
Worship the LORD in all beauty and splendor;
tremble before him with godly fear.

5. Say to the nations, "The LORD reigns forever."
Earth is established as he did decree.
Righteous and just is the King of the nations,
judging the peoples with equity.
6. Let heaven and earth be glad; oceans, be joyful;
forest and field, exultation express.
For God is coming, the judge of the nations,
coming to judge in his righteousness.

Psalm 96; Words: Psalter, 1912, alt., P.D.; Music: Lowell Mason (1792-1872), 1830,
P.D.; CCLI# 678905

* Opening Prayer

* Song of Praise: "By Faith" v. 1-5

1. By faith we see the hand of God
in the light of creation's grand design,
in the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,
who walk by faith and not by sight.
2. By faith our fathers roamed the earth
with the pow'r of His promise in their hearts
of a holy city built by God's own hand,
a place where peace and justice reign.

Chorus

*We will stand as children of the promise;
we will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

3. By faith the prophets saw a day
when the longed-for Messiah would appear
with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death,
and rise triumphant from the grave.
4. By faith the church was called to go
in the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost,
to deliver captives and to preach good news
in ev'ry corner of the earth.

Chorus

5. By faith the mountain shall be moved
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name.

Chorus

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- * God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

“Christ became sin for us.”

Welcome/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

Words of Assurance

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion for his children,
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

—Psalm 103:8-13, NRSV

God's Law:

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ,
set your hearts on things above, where Christ is,
seated at the right hand of God.

Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

When Christ, who is your life, appears,
then you also will appear with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to
your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust,
evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.

You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.

But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these:
anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self
with its practices and have put on the new self,
which is being renewed in knowledge in the image
of its Creator.

Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised,
barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

- Colossians 3:1-11

Song of Thanksgiving: "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)

"My All in All" Words and Music by Dennis Jernigan, ©1990 Shepherd's Heart Music, All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI# 678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

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

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #763 v. 1-3

"Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"

1. Blessed Jesus, at your word
we are gathered all to hear you.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
now to seek and love and fear you.
By your gospel pure and holy,
teach us, Lord, to love you solely.
2. All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
till your Spirit breaks our night
with your beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us;
you must work all good within us.
3. Glorious Lord, yourself impart;
Light of Light, from God proceeding,
open lips and ears and heart;
help us by your Spirit's leading.
Hear the cry your church now raises;
Lord, accept our prayers and praises.

Words: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1663; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt., P.D.; Music: Johann R. Ahle, 1664, P.D.; CCLI # 678905

"Took the blame, bore the wrath,"

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:5-11

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"From the Rags of Sin to the Robes of Christ"***

Time of Prayer

Song of Application: LUYH #177 v. 1-4 *"Oh, to See the Dawn"*

1. Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then
nailed to a cross of wood.
This the power of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.
2. Oh, to see the pain written on your face,
bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Every bitter thought, every evil deed
crowning your bloodstained brow.
This the power of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.
3. Now the daylight flees; now the ground beneath
quakes as its Maker bows his head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life,
"Finished!" the victory cry.
This the power of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.
4. Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,
for through your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death; life is mine to live,
won through your selfless love!
This the power of the cross:
Son of God slain for us.
What a love, what a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

*Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © 2005 Thankyou Music (PRS),
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#678905*

"We stand forgiven at the cross."

We Profess our Faith Together: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 88-91
Q&A 88

Q. What is involved in genuine repentance or conversion?

**A. Two things: the dying-away of the old self,
and the rising-to-life of the new.**

Q&A 89

Q. What is the dying-away of the old self?

**A. To be genuinely sorry for sin and more and more
to hate and run away from it.**

Q&A 90

Q. What is the rising-to-life of the new self?

**A. Wholehearted joy in God through Christ
and a love and delight to live according to the will of God
by doing every kind of good work.**

* God's Blessing

Parting Song 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

Postlude

Welcome! Let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy." Those are the words of the psalmist in Psalm 5:11. Whoever you are, wherever you are from, we welcome you and we invite you to "be glad" with us about God's goodness and mercy. Let us "ever sing for joy" and praise God with profoundly grateful hearts. 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: October 25am	Tonight: October 25pm	Next Week: Nov. 1
Sound:	Henry VZ	Tim H.	Henry H.
Projection:	Tim H.	Beth B.	Tim H.
Video:	Isaac D.	France B.	Maddie D.
Offering:	General Fund	NW Hispanic Ministries	General Fund

First CRC
Bulletin Announcements
October 25, 2026

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

There is choir practice today after the service. No choir on Nov. 1.

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.**

I PICKED UP A HAMMER AND SAW: The Building and Grounds Committee is seeking the talents of our congregation for projects that may arise. If you have gifts in this area, please look at the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall and add your name to the different categories provided.

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!

Don't forget to sign up for Dessert Night with the Pottebaums! Sign up sheet is on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

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 a special offering coming up in the next month: November 22 there will be a second offering for Resonate Global Mission.

Our next church potluck is next Sunday, Nov. 1!

The next Men's Breakfast Bible Study will be Tuesday, Nov. 3, 7:00 am at IHOP.

The Women's Bible Study will be Nov. 1 at 6:30pm at church.

Worship Service YouTube Links:

PM, October 18 Service:

<https://youtube.com/live/w0e155VCITk?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.

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

Family Visiting Sunday, November 8:

5:45 pm: Bryan & Deanna VB, Cody & Angela S., Cody & Amy S.

7:00 pm: Brian D., Mardy & Kristi S., Eric & Theresa VK

(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))

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts: Today, Oct. 25: Mardick & Jill S., Brad & Crystal DK

Oct. 25pm: Adam & Katie F., Bob P.

Next Week, November 1: Terry & Joni B., Jon & Catherine VDK

Worship Team: Today, Oct. 25: Greg & Beth B., France B.

Oct. 25pm: Men's Group

Next Week, November 1: Henry & Pam VZ, Mandi D., Jennaya B.

Nursery: Today, Oct. 25: Reese VDV, Macy VDP

Oct. 25pm: Catherine & Noah VDK

Next Week, Nov. 1: Adriana S., Riley VDV

Children in Worship: Today, Oct. 25: Heidi B., Leia V.

Next Week, Nov. 1: Amy S., Sadie B.

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:

Today, Oct. 25: Melba DK

Next week, Nov. 1: Julie W.

TODAY/THIS WEEK:

Sunday, October 25:

9:30am Children and Adult Sunday School

10:30 am: Morning Service

Choir Practice after the service

6:30 pm: Joint Reformation Evening Service

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Weds., Oct. 28, 700pm: Cadets

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)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Heather Village, a Christian Retirement Community in Mount Vernon, is seeking a property manager. Candidates must have excellent communication and organizational skills and be computer proficient. Previous experience in real estate or property management is preferred. This is a part-time position of up to 12 hours a week with potential growth. Interested individuals must submit a resume or list of qualifications, including references, to Mardick Stevens, Board President, Marjill@comcast.net or to the Heather Village office hvoffice2021@gmail.com. A detailed job description is available from the Heather Village office. Applications are accepted until Monday, November 2.

CRC ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner Devotions: Just Be With God - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Just Be With God" at www.kidscorner.net. In 1 Kings 19, the prophet Elijah felt scared and alone. He looked for God in a big wind, an earthquake, and a fire, but God wasn't in those loud things. Then Elijah felt a gentle breeze (1 Kings 19:12) and knew God was speaking. God often speaks in the quiet. Check out the new Kids Corner Devotions app at <https://kidscorner.net/app>

Groundwork: Prayer and Discerning God's Will - God invites his people to communicate with him through prayer, a foundational discipline in the Christian life. Join Groundwork as we study 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, 16, Philippians 4:4-7, James 5:13-16, Psalm 143:7-10, Psalm 25:4-9, and Matthew 26:36-46 to understand how consistent prayer practice helps us listen to God's voice and discern his will for our lives. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.



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.

NEW REQUEST:

Karen Jones had a significant fall on Tuesday and required surgery to fix a broken femur bone. She is currently in the hospital at Skagit and has begun some physical therapy. Please pray for relief from pain, for patience and strength for Karen and her family as she takes the next few months to recuperate.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Kevin Maas: Kevin continues to be receiving care, antibiotics and testing at Harborview. Please pray that the cause of the meningitis can be found.

Please continue to pray for **Deanna Van Beek's father** as he fights cancer.

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.

It was wonderful to see **Dena Klunder** at church! Please continue to pray for her stroke recovery!

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 19 - Church Renewal: Global church

In the spirit of Acts 13:1-3, pray that our vision for church planting and renewal may be bigger than our neighborhood, our state or province, or even our continent. Pray that through partnerships and connections, the church will grow throughout the world.

Tuesday October 20 - World Renew: World hunger awareness

High inflation in parts of southeastern Asia has made it increasingly difficult for families to afford daily necessities. Ask God to provide for the daily needs of households struggling with the rising costs of food and other essentials in this region.

Wednesday October 21 - Resonate: Spiritual care

Please pray for the spiritual, physical, mental, and emotional health of missionaries, church planters, campus ministers, and other ministry leaders. Ask God to sustain them in demanding seasons, provide opportunities for meaningful rest and renewal, surround them with supportive communities, and give them strength and joy as they serve.

Thursday October 22 - ReFrame: Prayer ministry

Cathy, a Today devotional reader, asks for prayer for her son and his family as they grieve the loss of his wife, a devoted mother and grandmother. Cathy shared, "They are going through so much right now, and we miss her with all our hearts."

Friday October 23 - *Thrive: Chaplaincy*

Pray for Tim Won, Thrive's new chaplaincy endorser and consultant, as he begins in the vital role of supporting CRCNA chaplains and their families. May he be attentive to the work of the Spirit as he cares for leaders who are often called to be caregivers.

Saturday October 24 - *Indigenous Christian Fellowship: Connecting*

Pray for meaningful connections, a growing sense of community, and the powerful movement of the Holy Spirit to draw people closer to Creator God and to truly find peace in walking with Jesus, the way, the truth, and the life.

Sunday October 25 - *Calvin Theological Seminary: Rest and balance*

Pray for students, faculty, and staff as they navigate school, family life, and other obligations during the fall semester. May they develop healthy rhythms. Stress levels can increase, so please pray that they can take time with the One who will give them rest (Matt. 11:28-30).