



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

Bearing
with one another, and
FORGIVING
each other, if any man has
a complaint against any;
even as
Christ
FORGAVE YOU,
SO YOU ALSO DO.
COLOSSIANS 3:13

November 1, 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

November 1, 2026 ♦ 10:30 am Service

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

“What boundless love, what fathomless grace”

Prelude

Welcome

*** Call to Worship: (Based on Psalm 95:1-2)**

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

People: Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Leader: Let us come before him with thanksgiving,

People: and extol him with music and song.

*** Opening Song of Praise: LUYH #599 v. 1-3 *“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”***

1. Come, Christians, join to sing,
alleluia, amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King;
alleluia, amen!
Let all with heart and voice
before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice:
alleluia, amen!

2. Come, lift your hearts on high;
alleluia, amen!
Let praises fill the sky;
alleluia, amen!
Christ is our guide and friend;
to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end;
alleluia, amen!

3. Praise yet our Christ again;
alleluia, amen!
Life shall not end the strain;
alleluia, amen!
On heaven's blissful shore
his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore,
alleluia, amen!

Words: Christian Henry Bateman, 1843, P.D. Music: Spanish Folk Melody; arr. Benjamin Carr, 1824; harm. David Evans (1874-1948); from *Revised Church Hymnary*, 1927, reproduced by permission of Oxford University Press; CCLI #678905

* Opening Prayer

* Hymn of Praise: LUYH #396 v. 1-3 *"For the Fruit of All Creation"*

1. For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.
For his gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.
2. In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.
3. For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1970, © 1970 Hope Publishing Company; Music: Welsh Melody (c.1784). P.D.; CCLI #678905

* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

“You have shown us, O God of compassion”

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Confession

In repentance and rest is your salvation,
in quietness and trust is your strength,
but you would have none of it.
Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you;
he rises to show you compassion.
For the LORD is God of justice.
Blessed are all who wait for him!

—Isaiah 30:15, 18, NIV

Prayer of Confession

Sung Prayer of Confession: *“Cares Chorus”* 2x

I cast all my cares upon You,
I lay all of my burdens down at Your feet;
And anytime that I don't know what to do,
I will cast all my cares upon You.

I will cast all my cares upon You.

“Cares Chorus” Kelly Willard, ©1978 Maranatha! Music, CCLI# 678905

Words of Assurance

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
As a father has compassion for his children,
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.
For he knows how we were made;
he remembers that we are dust.
But the steadfast love of the LORD is from
everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.

—Psalm 103:8, 13-14, 17-18, NRSV

God's Law:

God spoke all these words:

"I am the LORD your God. You shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol,
whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above,
or that is on the earth beneath,
or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

You shall not make wrongful use
of the name of the LORD your God.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house;

you shall not covet your neighbor's wife,
or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

—from Exodus 20:1-17, NRSV

Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH #370 v. 1-3 *"My Soul Finds Rest"*

1. My soul finds rest in God alone,
my rock and my salvation;
a fortress strong against my foes,
and I will not be shaken.
Though lips may bless and hearts may curse,
and lies like arrows pierce me,
I'll fix my heart on righteousness;
I'll look to him who hears me.

Refrain

*O praise him, hallelujah,
my delight and my reward;
everlasting, never failing,
my Redeemer, my God.*

2. Find rest, my soul, in God alone
amid the world's temptations;
when evil seeks to take a hold,
I'll cling to my salvation.
Though riches come and riches go,
don't set your heart upon them;
the fields of hope in which I sow
are harvested in heaven.

Refrain

3. I'll set my gaze on God alone
and trust in him completely;
with every day pour out my soul,
and he will prove his mercy.
Though life is but a fleeting breath,
a sigh too brief to measure,
my King has crushed the curse of death,
and I am his forever.

Refrain

Words and Music: Psalm 62:1-2, 4-8, 10, 12; Galatians 3:13, Aaron Keyes, Stuart Townend © 2008 ThankYou Music (PRS), admin. worldwide at EMICMGPublishing.com (excl. Europe admin. by Kingswaysongs) CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory Video: *"The Goodness of Jesus"*

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

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #755 v. 1-3 *"Speak, O Lord"*

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
to receive the food of Your holy word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
all Your purposes, for Your glory.

2. Teach us Lord full obedience,
holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail;
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.
3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
that will echo down through eternity,
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
and the earth is filled with Your glory.

Words and Music: Keith Getty / Stuart Townend; © 2005 Thankyou Music
(Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing); All rights Reserved. CCLI #678905

“Each day we live, an offering of praise”

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:12-17

Prayer of Illumination

Message: *“Clothed in the Love of Christ”*

Time of Prayer

* Song of Application: *“The Compassion Hymn”* (Getty) v. 1-4

1. There is an everlasting kindness
You lavished on us
When the radiance of heaven
Came to rescue the lost
You called the sheep without
A shepherd to leave their distress
For Your streams of forgiveness
And the shade of Your rest

2. And with compassion for the hurting
You reached out Your hand
As the lame ran to meet You
And the dead breathed again
You saw behind the eyes of
Sorrow and shared in our tears
Heard the sigh of the weary
Let the children draw near

Chorus

*What boundless love what fathomless grace
You have shown us O God of compassion
Each day we live an off'ring of praise
As we show to the world Your compassion*

3. We stood beneath the cross of Calv'ry
And gazed on Your face
At the thorns of oppression
And the wounds of disgrace
For surely You have borne our suff'ring
And carried our grief
As You pardoned the scoffer
And showed grace to the thief

Chorus

*What boundless love what fathomless grace
You have shown us O God of compassion
Each day we live an off'ring of praise
As we show to the world Your compassion*

4. How beautiful the feet
That carry this gospel of peace
To the fields of injustice
And the valleys of need
To be a voice of hope and healing
To answer the cries
Of the hungry and helpless
With the mercy of Christ

Chorus (2X)

©2008 Thankyou Music Ltd, Capitol CMG Publishing, © 2025 CCLI, LLC. All Rights Reserved.
CCLI #678905

“As we show to the world Your compassion.”

*** We Profess our Faith Together – Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

—Apostles’ Creed

*** God’s Blessing**

*** Parting Song of Praise: LUYH #334 v. 1-5**

“May the Mind of Christ, My Savior”

- 1. May the mind of Christ, my Savior,
live in me from day to day,
by his love and power controlling
all I do and say.**
- 2. May the word of God dwell richly
in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph
only through his power.**
- 3. May the peace of God, my Father,
rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort
sick and sorrowing.**

4. May the love of Jesus fill me
as the waters fill the sea.
Him exalting, self abasing:
this is victory.

Acapella

5. May we run the race before us,
strong and brave to face the foe,
looking only unto Jesus
as we onward go.

Words: Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925, P.D.; Music: A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925 © Estate of A.C. Barham-Gould; desc. Emily R. Brink, 1986, © Faith Alive Christian Resources; CCLI #678905

* Postlude

Tech Team	Today: November 1	Next Week: November 8
Sound:	Henry H.	Mardick S.
Projection:	Tim H.	France B.
Video:	Maddie D.	Brandon S.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

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.

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

November 1, 2026

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

There is no choir practice today after the service.

Please join us after the service for our church potluck!

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

The Women's Bible Study is tonight, Nov. 1, at 6:30pm at church.

Judy Velasquez's new address is:

1450 S. Ferry Street #202

Grand Haven, MI 49417

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.

November 22 there will be a second offering for Resonate Global Mission.

Worship Service YouTube Links:

October 25AM Service:

<https://youtube.com/live/QUPmipPLxJE?feature=share>

October 25PM Reformation Service:

<https://youtube.com/live/DdRRYyIV5Gk?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, November 1: Terry & Joni B., Jon & Catherine VDK

Next Week, Nov. 8: Harmen & Sue DJ

Worship Team: Today, November 1: Henry & Pam VZ, Mandi D., Jennaya B.

Next Week, November 8: Greg B., Julie, Adriana & Tessa S.

Nursery: Today, Nov. 1: Adriana S., Riley VDV

Next Week, Nov. 8: Mandi D., Nellie VDH

Children in Worship: Today, Nov. 1: Amy S., Sadie B.

Next Week, November 8: Jenny VDV, Lane VDH

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:

Today, Nov. 1: Julie W.

Next week, Nov. 8: Adam Faber

TODAY/THIS WEEK:

Sunday, November 1:

9:30am Children and Adult Sunday School

10:30 am: Morning Service

NO Choir Practice after the service

Church Potluck following the service.

6:15: Youth Group

6:30pm: Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 7:00am: Men's Bible Study at IHOP

Weds., Nov. 4: 6:30-8:30pm: GEMS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thanksgiving Eve Service: November 25

Weds. Nov. 11, 7:00-9:00pm: Cdets

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

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - The Examen is a helpful daily prayer tool that Christians have used for hundreds of years to review their day in a godly way. This is a great bedtime practice for people of all ages. Try this simplified Examen this week: First, pray that God will give you insight. Then ask yourself two questions: "What was I most grateful for today?" and "What was I least grateful for today?" Close in prayer, thanking God for the blessings of the day, and asking God's help with your shortcomings. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive



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:

Karen Jones is currently at Mira Vista to receive physical therapy and healing measures. She is currently in room 313. Please pray for relief from pain, for patience and strength for Karen and her family as she takes the next few months to recuperate.

Kevin Maas: Received good news that the 'cause' of the meningitis has been determined and that additional antibiotics have been prescribed accordingly. Please pray for his appetite to increase, his confusion to lessen, and for God's healing hand to be at work.

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! She and John are residing with their daughter Julie Hamilton at the following address:

5112 332nd St. NW, Stanwood, WA 98292 Dena's Cell #: 360-540-2484

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 26 - Church Renewal: Resources

In Acts 13 we read that Saul and Barnabas were sent and supported on their missionary journey by the church in Antioch. We learn later that Paul also engaged in bivocational work to make ends meet. Ask God to provide all of us as his servants with the resources needed to do the work he has called us to, however he chooses.

Tuesday October 27 - Resonate: Japan

Resonate missionaries Charles and Hensel Oh, who serve in Japan, ask you to pray for "wisdom and spiritual discernment" as they listen to people's stories and "seek to speak with grace, compassion, and the heart of God."

Wednesday October 28 - ReFrame: Prayer ministry

Maura asks for prayer for her sons, Luis and Antonio, to be free of addictions. She feels powerless to help but knows that God is a miracle worker. She has placed them at his feet and trusts in him for their healing.

Thursday October 29 - *Thrive: Hunger*

Gracious God, we lift up all who face hunger across our nations. Bless children, parents, and families struggling to find nourishing meals. Open our eyes to people's suffering, soften our hearts with compassion, and guide us to share generously. Give wisdom and justice to our leaders, strengthening systems, policies, budgets, and communities so that everyone's needs may be filled.

Friday October 30 - *World Renew: Peacebuilding*

In our work within many countries we often encounter long-held tensions and conflicts between neighbors. Pray that we may help to strengthen ideals of peace, to help build societies where all members can flourish and be treated equally, regardless of their language or ethnic background.

Saturday October 31 - *CRC Communications: Reformation Day*

As we mark another year since Martin Luther nailed his theses to a church door for public discussion, pray that God will guide us to seek truth, to follow his leading, and to embrace all followers of Jesus as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Sunday November 1 - *World Renew: World Hunger Sunday*

On World Hunger Sunday, pray for families around the world who struggle to put nourishing food on the table. Ask God to bless our work addressing hunger and its underlying causes, and to inspire the church to respond with generosity, compassion, and a commitment to reconciled relationships with God, creation, and our global neighbors.