

God's Word Gives Our Lives Direction



First
Christian
Reformed Church



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

Rooted in CHRIST

Colossians 2:6-7

October 4, 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 4, 2026 ♦ 10:30 am Service

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

"What can wash away my sin?"

Prelude

Welcome

* Call to Worship:

Leader: There is none like you, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.

**People: All the nations you have made shall come
and bow down before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name.
For you are great and do wondrous things,
you alone are God.**

—from Psalm 86:8-10, NRSV

* Opening Hymn of Praise: "As the Deer" (PP #246)

1. As the deer panteth for the water,
so my soul longeth after Thee.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship Thee.

Chorus:

*You alone are my Strength, my Shield,
To You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship Thee.*

2. You're my friend and You are my brother
even though You are a King.
I love You more than any other,
so much more than anything.

Chorus

3. I want You more than gold or silver,
only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver,
and the apple of my eye.

Chorus

"As the Deer" Psalm 42:1 Martin Nystrom, ©1984 Maranatha! Music CCLI# 678905

* Song of Praise: "Cornerstone"

1. My hope is built on nothing less,
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

Repeat Verse 1

Chorus

*Christ alone. Cornerstone.
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.*

2. When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.
My anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus

3. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
oh may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone.
Faultless stand before the throne.

Chorus (2x)

Words by Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, and Edward Mote;
Music by Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, and William Batchelder
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* God's Greeting/Congregational Greeting

* Announcements

"Nothing but the blood of Jesus"

Celebrating Missions

Time of Prayer

* Song of Thanksgiving: "There is one Gospel" (City Alight)

1. There is one Gospel on which I stand
For all eternity
It is my story, my Father's plan
The Son has rescued me
Oh what a Gospel, Oh what a peace
My highest joy and my deepest need
Now and forever He is my light
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
2. There is one Gospel to which I cling
All else I count as loss
For there where justice and mercy meet
He saved me on the cross
No more I boast in what I can bring
No more I carry the weight of sin
For He has brought me from death to life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
3. There is one Gospel where hope is found
The empty tomb still speaks
For death could not keep my Saviour down
He lives and I am free
Now on my Saviour I fix my eyes
My life is His and His hope is mine
For he has promised I too will rise
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
4. And in this Gospel the church is one
We do not walk alone
We have His Spirit as we press on
To lead us safely home
And when in glory still I will sing
Of this old story that rescued me
Praise to my Savior the King of life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ending

And when in glory still I will sing
Of this old story that rescued me
Praise to my Saviour the King of life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ
Praise to my Saviour the King of life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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Offering: General Fund

Offertory

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

"What can make me whole again?"

* Song of Preparation: "Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me" (City Alight)

1. What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me
2. The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Saviour he will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed
To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me
3. No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

4. With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Ending

When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me
Yet not I but through Christ in me

CCLI Song # 7121852 Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson
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Scripture Reading: Colossians 2:6-15

Prayer of Illumination

Message: "Rooted in the Fullness of Christ"

Time of Prayer

"Nothing but the blood of Jesus"

Hymn of Application: "Nothing But the Blood" (Old Psalter #337)

1. What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus

*O precious is the flow
that makes me white as snow;
no other fount I know,
nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

2. For my pardon this I see,
nothing but the blood of Jesus.
For my cleansing, this my plea,
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus

3. Nothing can for sin atone,
nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Naught of good that I have done,
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus

4. This is all my hope and peace,
nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness,
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus

Text: Robert Lowry; Music: Robert Lowry; Public Domain

We Profess our Faith

Leader: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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

Leader: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: 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.**

-based on Apostles' Creed

* God's Blessing

- * Parting Hymn of Praise: "Ancient of Days" (City Alight)
1. Though the nations rage Kingdoms rise and fall
There is still one King reigning over all
So I will not fear for this truth remains
That my God is the Ancient of Days.

Chorus:

*None above Him none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne, it shall remain and ever stand
All the power all the glory I will trust in His name
For my God is the Ancient of days.*

2. Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul
He is here with me I am not alone
O His love is sure and He knows my name
For my God is the Ancient of Days.

Chorus:

3. Though I may not see what the future brings
I will watch and wait for the Savior king
Then my joy complete standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days

Chorus:

*None above Him none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne, it shall remain and ever stand
All the power all the glory I will trust in His name
For my God is the Ancient of days.*

Tag:

For my God is the Ancient of Days

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- * Postlude

Welcome! The psalmist prayed: "Restore us, O Lord God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved" (Psalm 80:19). May all who have come to worship find restoration, inner peace and spiritual strength. 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.

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

October 4, 2026

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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

The Adult Sunday school class begins this morning at 9:30!

Attention Choir Members:

Our first choir practice will begin today, October 4, 2026. Join us as we prepare music for the Reformation Day service, Thanksgiving, and Christmas!

🎵 🎵 To God be the glory 🎵 🎵 Any questions, contact Joni Beezhold

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 three children are here this morning. We look forward to hearing what God is doing through their ministry!

Women's Bible Study begins tonight at 6:30. 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.

Men's Breakfast Bible Study will be starting up again Tuesday, October 6, 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, September 27 Service: <https://youtube.com/live/0sNbgljmJK4?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. 4: Greg & Beth B., Mardy & Kristi S.
Next Week, Oct. 11:

Worship Team: Today, Oct. 4: Henry & Pam VZ, Mandi D., Jennaya B.
Next Week, Oct. 11:

Nursery: Today, Oct. 4: Angela S., Emma S.
Next Week, Oct. 11:

Children in Worship: Today, Oct. 4: Jennie VDV, Tess VDH
Next Week, Oct. 11:

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:
Today, Oct. 4: Julie W.
Next week, Oct. 11: Keith & Jean R.

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 4:

9:30am Children and Adult Sunday School

10:30 am: Morning Service

Choir Practice after the service

6:00 pm: Youth Group

6:30 pm: Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 7:00 am: Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 6:30 pm: GEMS

Dear Friends,

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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

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.

CRC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Groundwork: Finding Meaning In Life And The Passing Of Time - In Ecclesiastes 3, the Teacher advises, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." He later calls time a burden, but also says God has "set eternity in the human heart." Join Groundwork as we study Ecclesiastes 3:1-11, 12:1-14 to glean wisdom from the Teacher for how to find meaning in life through our time. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - God's big family is made up of people from every country on earth! Print off a world map and put it on your refrigerator or kitchen table. Each day, or once a week, choose a country (or if there are kids in your household, take turns choosing). Learn about that country and pray for the needs of its people. 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:

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.

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 28 - Church Renewal: Support

Acts 13:1-3 reveals how Saul and Barnabas were called by the Spirit to spread the gospel. And they left with the blessing and support of the church, symbolized by the laying on of hands. As congregations and classes support church planting in the CRCNA, pray that they will bless and support all who are planting churches in their regions.

Tuesday September 29 - Thrive: Staff

Please pray for guidance and wisdom for Thrive staff as they journey alongside congregations. May they provide meaningful support to church leaders and volunteers while seeking to cultivate increased spiritual growth and vibrant faith communities.

Wednesday September 30 - Indigenous Ministry: Truth and reconciliation

Today is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada. Pray for healing, comfort, and peace for residential school survivors and their families. Ask God to give our churches humble hearts to listen deeply, stand against injustice, and faithfully walk the long path of reconciliation alongside Indigenous neighbors.

Thursday October 1 - Resonate Global Mission: Uganda

Pray for missionary Anthony Sytsma's Soroti pastors book group, which he helps to lead in Uganda. Ask God to use this time of learning and fellowship to encourage and equip pastors, deepen their understanding of Scripture and ministry, and strengthen the churches and communities they serve.

Friday October 2 - *World Renew: Disaster recovery*

Many communities around the world continue to recover from floods, earthquakes, and other natural disasters. Pray for families in Nepal as they rebuild homes, restore livelihoods, and recover from the intense flooding there. Pray for communities in Colombia facing displacement and ongoing recovery needs following the earthquake there in August.

Saturday October 3 - *ReFrame Ministries: Japan*

Pray for the completion and launch of our Japanese ministry's long-awaited smartphone app, expected to be ready by the end of this year. It is designed to be highly customizable for users of all generations. May it be a helpful tool for sharing God's Word across Japan.

Sunday October 4 - *Thrive: All Nations Heritage Sunday*

Please pray for refugees and displaced people worldwide, that they may find safety and peace. Pray also for host nations that have received thousands of refugees, that God may give them compassion and logistical wisdom in caring for vulnerable individuals and families.

