First Christian Reformed Church
God's Word Gives Our Lives Direction

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



November 8, 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
November 8, 2026 ◆ 10:30 am Service

* Please stand in body or in spirit

"The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;"

Prelude

Welcome

* Call to Worship:

Leader: The God of creation makes us one in body!

People: Let us join hearts and voices in praise of the Lord!

Leader: The God of Christ makes us one in the Spirit!

People: Let us join hearts and voices in praise of the Lord!

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #251 v. 1-5
"The Church's One Foundation"

1. The church's one foundation
   is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
   she is his new creation
   by water and the Word.
   From heaven he came and sought her
   to be his holy bride;
   with his own blood he bought her,
   and for her life he died.

2. Elect from every nation,
   yet one o'er all the earth;
   her charter of salvation:
   one Lord, one faith, one birth.
   One holy name she blesses,
   partakes one holy food,
   and to one hope she presses,
   with every grace endued.

3. Though with a scornful wonder
   The world sees her oppressed
   By schisms rent asunder
   By heresies distressed
   Yet saints their watch are keeping
   Their cry goes up how long
   And soon the night of weeping
   Shall be the morn of song

4. 'Mid toil and tribulation
   And tumult of her war
   She waits the consummation
   Of peace forevermore
   Till with the vision glorious
   Her longing eyes are blest
   And the great Church victorious
   Shall be the Church at rest

5. Yet she on earth has union
   with God the Three in One,
   and mystic sweet communion
   with those whose rest is won:
   O happy ones and holy!
   Lord, give us grace that we,
   like them, the meek and lowly,
   may live eternally.

Words: Samuel J. Stone, 1866, P.D.; Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1864, P.D.
CCLI #67895

* Opening Prayer

* Song of Praise: LUYH #529 v. 1-4 *"Gather Us In"*

1. Here in this place the new light is streaming,
   now is the darkness vanished away;
   see in this space our fears and our dreamings
   brought here to you in the light of this day.
   Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
   gather us in, the blind and the lame;
   call to us now, and we shall awaken,
   we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Words and Music (G ATH ER US IN 10.9.10.10 D): Marty Haugen © 1982 G IA Publications, Inc. CCLI#678905

* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

"She is his new creation by water and the Word."

Welcome/Announcements

Ministry Report: Gideons – Mr. Sam Brode

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Call to Confession

Seeing that we have a great High Priest
who has entered the inmost heaven, Jesus the Son of God,
let us therefore approach the throne of grace
with fullest confidence,
that we may receive mercy for our failures
and grace to help in the hour of need.
In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

We declare with joy:
Christ suffered once for sins,
the righteous for the unrighteous,
to bring us to God.
He was put to death in the body
but made alive in the Spirit.
Now he has gone into heaven
and is at God's right hand—
with angels, authorities, and powers in submission to him.
—based on 1 Peter 3:18, 22

God's Law:

As the chosen of God, then, the holy people
whom he loves, you are to be clothed
in heartfelt compassion,
in generosity and humility, gentleness and patience.
Bear with one another; forgive each other
if one of you has a complaint against another.
The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same.
Over all these clothes, put on love, the perfect bond.
And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts,
because it is for this that you were called together
in one body.
Always be thankful.
—Colossians 3:12-15, NJB

Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH #682 v. 1-3
"Before the Throne of God Above"

1. Before the throne of God above
   I have a strong and perfect plea,
   a great High Priest whose name is Love,
   who ever lives and pleads for me.
   My name is graven on his hands,
   my name is written on his heart;
   I know that while in heaven he stands
   no tongue can bid me thence depart,
   no tongue can bid me thence depart.

2. When Satan tempts me to despair
   and tells me of the guilt within,
   upward I look and see him there
   who made an end of all my sin.
   Because the sinless Savior died,
   my sinful soul is counted free;
   for God the Just is satisfied
   to look on him and pardon me,
   to look on him and pardon me.

3. Behold him there! The risen Lamb,
   my perfect, spotless righteousness;
   the great unchangeable "I AM,"
   the King of glory and of grace!
   One with himself I cannot die,
   my soul is purchased by his blood;
   my life is hid with Christ on high,
   with Christ, my Savior and my God,
   with Christ, my Savior and my God.

Words: Charitie Lees DeCheney Bancroft (1841-1923), P.D.; Music: Vikki Cook, 1997, ©1997 Sovereign Grace Worship, admin. EMICMGPublishing,com; CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

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

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #746 v. 1-3
"Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God"

1. Holy Spirit, living Breath of God,
breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord
to renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your Word to come alive in me;
give me faith for what I cannot see;
give me passion for your purity;
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

2. Holy Spirit, come abide within,
may your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin,
in each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least,
gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace;
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

3. Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
giving life to all that God has made,
show your power once again on earth,
cause your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;
lead us on the road of sacrifice,
that in unity the face of Christ
may be clear for all the world to see.

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend; ©2006 Thankyou Music, CCLI# 678905

"From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;"

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:18-4:1

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"The Christian Household"***

Time of Prayer

* Song of Application: LUYH #309 v. 1-5 *"The Servant Song"*

1. Will you let me be your servant,
   let me be as Christ to you?
   Pray that I may have the grace to
   let you be my servant too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey;
   we are travelers on the road.
   We are here to help each other
   walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
   in the nighttime of your fear.
   I will hold my hand out to you,
   speak the peace you long to hear.

4. I will weep when you are weeping;
   when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
   I will share your joy and sorrow
   till we've seen this journey through.

5. Will you let me be your servant,
   let me be as Christ to you?
   Pray that I may have the grace to
   let you be my servant too.

Words: Richard Gillard (b. 1953) © 1977 Scripture in Song, a div. of Integrity Music/Maranatha Music, admin. Music Services CCLI #678905

"With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died."

* We Profess our Faith Together – Our World Belongs to God

In marriage and family, we serve God by reflecting
his covenant love in life-long loyalty,
and by teaching his ways,
so that children may know Jesus as their Lord
and learn to use their gifts in a life of joyful service.

* God's Blessing

* Parting Song of Praise: LUYH #861 *"In Our Lives, Lord, Be Glorified"*

1. In our lives Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
   in our lives, Lord, be glorified today.

2. In our homes Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
   in our homes, Lord, be glorified today.

3. In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
   in your church, Lord, be glorified today.

4. In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
   in your world, Lord, be glorified today.

"Lord, Be Glorified" Words and Music: Bob Kilpatrick (b. 1952), ©1978, Bob Kilpatrick Music, admin. Lorenz Publishing Co. CCLI# 678905

* 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.

Tech Team	Today: November 8	Next Week: November 15
Sound:	Mardick S.	Tim H.
Projection:	France B.	Isaac D.
Video:	Brandon S.	France B.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC
Bulletin Announcements
November 8, 2026

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

<u>OUR CHURCH FAMILY:</u>
There is choir practice today after the service.

Judy Velasquez's new address is:
1450 S. Ferry Street #202
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Whoever has absconded with Beth's black Sharpie marker labeled "RETURN TO OFFICE", please return it to the office. Thank you.

There are copies of the new Worship Schedule in your mailboxes. Please put them in a safe place. 😊

The Cadets would like to invite everyone to a "Breakfast for Dinner" fundraiser. We will be serving Pancakes, sausage patties and scrambled eggs from 5:00 to 7:00pm on November 11. Bring a date to enjoy an evening of fellowship with syrup and jelly toppings. All you can eat, free will offering to support the local Cadet Club activities."

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:
November 1 Service:
https://youtube.com/live/FumYi6hal_M?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 8: Harmen & Sue DJ
Next Week, Nov. 15: Brooke K., Hank & Sylvia VZ

Worship Team: Today, November 8: Greg B., Julie, Adriana & Tessa S.
Next Week, November 15: Kevin K., Eliot B., Heidi B., Emma S.

Nursery: Today, Nov. 8: Mandi D., Nellie VDH
Next Week, Nov. 15: Jennie VDV, Myra VDB

Children in Worship: Today, Nov. 8: Jenny VDV,
Lane VDH
Next Week, November 15: Jodi VDP, Jennaya B.

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:
Today, Nov. 8: Adam F.
Next week, Nov. 15: Mardick S.

TODAY/THIS WEEK:

Sunday, November 8:
9:30am Children and Adult Sunday School
10:30 am: Morning Service
Choir Practice after the service
6:15pm: Youth Group
Weds., Nov. 11, 5:00-7:00pm:
Cadet Pancake "Breakfast for Dinner"

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Weds. Nov. 18, 6:30-8:30pm: GEMS
Sun., Nov. 15, 6:30pm: Women's Bible Study
Tues., Nov. 17, 7:00am: Men's Breakfast Bible Study
Weds. November 25, 7:00pm: Thanksgiving Eve Service

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)

Noel Christmas Concert: Experience the delight of a Celtic Christmas with the acclaimed Noël harp ensemble, Friday December 4 at 7:00 pm at Bethany Covenant Church. A freewill offering benefits New Earth Recovery. We would be delighted to see you there!

CRC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - "Wondering questions" are an excellent way to engage kids (and people of all ages!) with Scripture. For example, after you read the creation story, ask open-ended questions like "I wonder what it looked like when God created the

stars?" "I wonder what it would be like if there were no predators in our world?" "I wonder what you would feel like if you were the first person in God's creation?" Take some time to read a favorite Bible passage this week, asking wondering questions to explore the text in a new way. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

Chaplaincy Sunday - November 15 - Next week we will recognize and celebrate the work of the 90+ chaplains of the CRC. These specialized ministers bring the presence of God into institutional settings, such as prisons, hospitals, hospice, long-term care, counseling centers, industrial and workplace settings, and military installations. Learn more about Thrive and their work with chaplains at: crcna.org/Chaplaincy



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 REQUESTS:

Please keep **Bryan, Deanna Van Beek** and their family in your prayers as they mourn Bryan's father's passing and celebrate his entry into heaven.

Please also keep **Kevin, Glenda Kok** and their family as Kevin's mother, Joyce, passed away this past week in Lynden.

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: Please continue to pray for healing for Kevin and for his entire family as they walk beside him as they go through this difficult time.

Please continue to pray for **Pastor Brad Diekema's father,** as he continues to receive treatment for his pancreatic cancer.

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 November 2 - ***Church Renewal: God's call***
Ask the Holy Spirit to raise up disciples and leaders in our local churches and in each classis. Pray that many will hear the call to ministry as pastors, elders, deacons, church planters, and more, responding to God's call. "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few" (Matt. 9:37).

Tuesday November 3 - ***ReFrame Ministries: Burkina Faso***
French ministry leader Rev. Marc Nabié requests prayers for rain that is critically needed to restore crops in Burkina Faso. Yields have been low, and there is growing concern over provisions for local communities. Pray for gentle rains to nourish the fields.

Wednesday November 4 - ***Resonate Global Mission: California***
Eric Sarwar, who planted both Artesia City Church and Fresno Punjabi Fellowship, asks for prayer for a third church plant starting in Central California. "Punjabi-, Urdu-, and Hindi-speaking immigrant families throughout the Central Valley area need opportunities to hear Scripture and build Christian community in their heart languages," he said.

Thursday November 5 - ***Diaconal Ministries Canada: Milestone***
We give thanks for 25 years of serving deacons in their churches and local communities in Canada. We give thanks also for the creation of the New Ground Endowment Fund, and we look forward to what God

plans to do in the next 25 years as we work alongside churches and communities.

Friday November 6 - *Calvinist Cadet Corps: Leaders and cadets*
Please pray for cadet counselors as they help boys discover the many ways God blesses and cares for them. Ask God to give these leaders wisdom, patience, and enthusiasm as they nurture each cadet's faith. May our cadets grow in their trust in the Lord, find comfort in his constant presence, and be inspired to live boldly for Jesus each day.

Saturday November 7 - *Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee: Relationship*
We give thanks to God for loving us unconditionally, we thank Jesus for showing us humility and love in action, and we thank the Holy Spirit for living in us. We also give thanks for each member of the EIRC and their commitment to want the best for the church worldwide. Lord, as we strive to maintain connections and encourage churches at home and in other countries, we pray that your church worldwide may grow into a deeper relationship with you.

Sunday November 8 - *ReFrame: International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church*
Pray for Christians throughout the world who carry the weight of isolation, threat, and unjust suffering for following Christ. May God sustain their faith when weariness sets in, guard their bodies and minds, and give them strength. May their persistent, grace-filled endurance in Christ move the hearts of people who oppose them.