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 15, 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 15, 2026 ◆ 10:30 am Service

** Please stand in body or in spirit

"Our children, Lord,
in faith and prayer,"

Prelude

Welcome

* Call to Worship:

Leader: God of grace and glory,
you call us with your voice of flame
to be your people, faithful and courageous.

People: As your beloved Son embraced his mission
in the waters of baptism,
Inspire us with the fire of your Spirit
to join in his transforming work.

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #795 v. 1-4
"We Know that Christ is Raised"

1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.
Alleluia!

2. We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life
as living members of a living Christ.
Alleluia!

3. The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's power shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God, the Three in One.
Alleluia!

4. A new creation comes to life and grows
   as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
   The universe, restored and whole, will sing:
   Alleluia!

   Words: John B. Geyer, 1967, alt., © 1969 John B. Geyer; Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924); P.D.; CCLI# 678905

* Opening Prayer

* Hymn of Praise: LUYH #802 V. 1-3
"Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"

1. Wash, O God, your sons and daughters,
   where your cleansing waters flow.
   Number us among your people;
   bless as Christ blessed long ago.
   Weave us garments bright and sparkling;
   compass us with love and light.
   Fill, anoint us; send your Spirit,
   holy dove and heart's delight.

2. We who gather long for nurture;
   by your milk may we be fed.
   Let us join your feast,
   partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
   God, renew us, guide our footsteps,
   free from sin and all its snares,
   one with Christ in living, dying,
   by your Spirit, children, heirs.

3. Oh, how deep your holy wisdom!
   Unimagined, all your ways!
   To your name be glory, honor!
   With our lives we worship, praise!
   We your people stand before you,
   water-washed and Spirit-born.
   By your grace, our lives we offer.
   Recreate us: God, transform!

   Words: Ruth Duck (b. 1947) © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company CCLI #678905

* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

"We baptize in your name."

Welcome/Announcements

We Celebrate the Baptism of James Matthew Vogel – GH pg. 960

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH #805 v. 1-3
"Our Children, Lord in Faith and Prayer"

1. Our children, Lord, in faith and prayer,
   we baptize in your name.
   Let them your covenant mercies share
   as we our faith proclaim.

2. Such children you did once embrace
   while dwelling here below;
   to us and ours, O Lord of grace,
   the same compassion show.

3. In all their days their hearts secure
   from sinful snares, we pray.
   Throughout their lives let them endure
   in every righteous way.

Words: Thomas Haweis (1732-1820), alt., P.D. CCLI #678905

Offering: General Fund

Offertory Video: Jesus Strong and Kind – CityAlight

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

* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #790 v. 1-3 *"Baptized in Water"*

1. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
   cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
   heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
   faithfully now God's praise we sing.

2. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
   dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;
   one with his rising, freed and forgiven,
   thankfully now God's praise we sing.

3. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,

marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
born of one Father, we are his children,
joyfully now God's praise we sing.

Words: Michael Saward, 1981, © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Company; Music: Gaelic; harm. Dale Grotenhuis (1931-2012), 1985, © 1987 faith Alive Christian Resources; CCLI #678905

"Let them your covenant mercies share"

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:2-6

Prayer of Illumination

Message: "***Continue in Prayer"***

Time of Prayer

* Hymn of Application: LUYH #772 v. 1-4
"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

1. My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Chorus:
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

2. When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus

3. His oath, His covenant, His blood
support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

Chorus

4. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found,
dressed in His righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.

Chorus

Words: Edward Mote (1797-1874), Tune: William B. Bradbury (1816-1868), Public Domain. CCLI# 678905

"As we our faith proclaim."

* We Profess our Faith Together – Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 69-70

Leader: Q. How does holy baptism remind and assure you that Christ's one sacrifice on the cross benefits you personally?

People: A. In this way: Christ instituted this outward washing and with it promised that, as surely as water washes away the dirt from the body, so certainly his blood and his Spirit wash away my soul's impurity, that is, all my sins.

Leader: Q. What does it mean to be washed with Christ's blood and Spirit?

People: A. To be washed with Christ's blood means that God, by grace, has forgiven our sins because of Christ's blood poured out for us in his sacrifice on the cross. To be washed with Christ's Spirit means that the Holy Spirit has renewed and sanctified us to be members of Christ, so that more and more we become dead to sin and live holy and blameless lives.

* God's Blessing

* Parting Song of Praise: LUYH #797 v. 1-3 *"Sing! A New Creation"*

1. Sing! A new creation calls us:
   God's Son, firstborn from the dead,
   makes the drowning which befalls us
   into cleansing birth instead.
   Singing water, wild with wonder,
   washing, more than what it seems,
   baptizes and drags us under,
   lifts us as our Christ redeems.

2. Sing anew! Creation flowers
as the Spirit draws us near,
safe from storming earth-bound powers
on this ark, though tossed by fear.
Sing as family, filled, forgiven,
fed by joyous table-grace.
Baptized, we receive God's leaven,
rising in our time and place.

3. Sing, a new creation growing
life-trees by the Father's stream.
Go and teach, send justice flowing,
quench dry souls, compose a dream.
Sing amens, alive and agile,
answering God's creating song.
Baptize peoples, parched and fragile,
in the Name that makes us strong.

Words: James Hart Brumm (b. 1962) © 2000 Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc.; Music: Thomas J. Williams (1869-1944), 1890, P.D.; CCLI #678905

* Postlude

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.

Tech Team	Today: November 15	Next Week: November 22	Thanksgiving Eve
Sound:	Tim H.	Henry VZ	Tim H.
Projection:	Isaac D.	Tim H.	Beth B.
Video:			
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund	Designated

First CRC Bulletin Announcements

November 15, 2026

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

There is no Sunday School November 15 and November 29th!

Beth is on the search for Advent Readers! Young or old, big or small, Beth will take them ALL. Just let her know soonish so she can get to put into a slot. Thank you much!

There are new Children In Worship schedules in your mailboxes if you are a part of this program.

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.

With the Christmas season upon us, it's that time to bless children in our community through **ANGEL TREE**. Angel Tree is a program of Prison Fellowship that serves incarcerated parents by providing a pathway for strengthening and restoring their relationships with their children and families. As a church, this gives us the opportunity to share Christ's love by purchasing Christmas gifts for the children on their parent's behalf. Each child receives a gift valued at around $35. On November 22nd following the service, Angel Tree tags with the child's name, age and suggested gift ideas will be available for you to pick up. Any questions? Please reach out to Catherine Vander Kooy 360-982-8429.

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.

Worship Service YouTube Links:
November 8 Service:
https://youtube.com/live/wexk1zW4Uls?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, December 13 :
5:45 pm: Darryl & Deb S., Minne VDH, Jack & Trudy VK
7:00 pm: Mardick & Jill S., Jason & Kari VDB, Luke & Bailey V.

(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 15: Brooke K., Hank & Sylvia VZ
Next Week, Nov. 22: Jeannette & Fred F., Cody & Amy S.
Nov. 25, Thanksgiving Eve: Darrel & Sunee L.

Worship Team: Today, November 15: Kevin K., Eliot B., Heidi B., Emma S.
Next Week, November 22: Greg & Beth B., Linda G., France B.
Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 25: Men's Group

Nursery: Today, Nov. 15: Jennie VDV, Myra VDB
Next Week, Nov. 22: Reese VDV & Macy VDP
Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 25: Angela S., Maddie D.

Children in Worship: Today, Nov. 15: Jodi VDP, Jennaya B.
Next Week, November 22: Julie S., Maddie D.
Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 25: Heidi B., France B.

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:
Today, Nov. 15: Mardick S.
Next week, 22: Greg A.
Thanksgiving Eve: Mardick S.

TODAY/THIS WEEK:
Sunday, November 15:
NO Sunday School
10:30 am: Morning Service
Choir Practice after the service
6:15pm: Youth Group
6:30 pm: Women's Bible Study
Tues., Nov. 17, 7:00am: Men's Breakfast Bible Study
Weds., Nov. 18, 6:30-8:30pm: GEMS

UPCOMING EVENTS:
Weds. November 25, 7:00pm: Thanksgiving Eve Service
December 2, 6:30-8:30pm: GEMS

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:
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
Chaplaincy Sunday Today! - Churches throughout the CRCNA take time to pray for, support, and encourage the frontline work of chaplains today. Thrive's work with chaplains involves professional endorsement, training, and providing care for these specialized ministers and pastors as they serve in institutional

settings. Support this essential and exciting ministry by giving at: crcna.org/thrive/donate

Kids Corner Devotions: What Does It Mean to be Holy? - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "What Does It Mean to be Holy?" at www.kidscorner.net. This week, we talk about how holiness is God's amazing gift to help us shine God's light wherever we go. We don't have to be perfect to be holy. We just have to keep trying, loving, and trusting God. Check out the new Kids Corner Devotions app at https://kidscorner.net/app



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 keep the **Van Beek and Kok families** in your prayer following the loss of their loved ones.

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: He is home! After spending a month in the hospital, Kevin is building up strength at home. Please continue to pray for Kevin and the family in the weeks to come as he continues to climb back to better health.

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

It is 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 9 - ***Church Renewal: Church plants***
Pray for the growing number of church planters in ethnic-minority communities. Three quarters of CRC church plants are ethnic-minority or multiethnic churches, many of which form in communities of people from countries outside North America. Pray for the needs of these congregations as they serve in and reach out to their surrounding communities.
Tuesday November 10 - ***World Renew: Local partners and churches***
Give thanks for the churches and community organizations that partner with us around the world. Ask God to grant local leaders wisdom, perseverance, and strong relationships as they walk alongside their neighbors and help communities build on their strengths to pursue lasting change.

Wednesday November 11 - ***Thrive: Remembrance Day/Veterans Day***
Pray for our U.S. and Canadian military chaplains serving on active duty and in reserves. Many spend time away from their families in training and deployments as they minister to service members. Pray for all service personnel and their families as they serve their country.

Thursday November 12 - *Resonate: West Africa*
Pray for missionaries serving among unreached people in West Africa. Thank God for gospel seeds planted through relationships and conversations. Ask the Holy Spirit to keep opening doors for the good news to be shared, and pray that people's hearts may be ready to receive the hope of Jesus.

Friday November 13 - *Kuyper College: Leadership and students*
Pray for Kuyper College's new president, Dan Churchwell, and its board as they begin working together. Pray also for our students as they integrate God's Word into their hearts and minds, for our graduates across 60 nations, and for generous financial support to further our mission and vision.

Saturday November 14 - *ReFrame: Hong Kong*
Pray for the strengthening of our Hong Kong office as the team there works to build deep, sustainable relationships with local churches. Ask God to raise up an additional local leader to serve on the board and an additional team leader to help guide and expand the ministry.

Sunday November 15 - *Thrive: Chaplains*
Please pray for chaplains who dedicate their lives to being with others in times of challenge and crisis in hospitals, nursing homes, hospices, workplaces, and military installations. May they have the peace that surpasses understanding to be the presence of Christ for others. Pray also for all who are discerning becoming chaplains.