

First CRC Fulton  
Feb. 27, 2022  
Ephesians 2:11-22  
Access to the Father  
Bulletin/Leader

## **We Gather in Praise and Worship**

**Prelude:** Heart of the Father - Ryan Ellis

**Welcome:** Worship Leader

**Announcements:** Worship Leader

**Call To Worship:** Pastor John

**God's Greeting:** Pastor John

**Mutual Greeting**

**Prayer For Ukraine:** (From Resonate missionary in Ukraine, Rev. George de Vuyst.)

Heavenly Father, we come to you with heavy hearts as we see movements toward war in Ukraine. We pray that you would be merciful on the people of Ukraine and Russia and prevent this war. Grant wisdom to world leaders to effectively stop evil. Allow for the truth to be known, for lies to be shown for what they are, and for evil-doers to be thwarted.

Lord, we pray for those who have already lost loved ones, homes, and livelihoods. Comfort and provide for the needs of those who have been displaced. Lord,

we ask for mercy and we seek justice. We pray that you would be at work in both.

We pray for the day when all wars will cease and when your peaceful reign will come fully. But in the meantime, we pray that you would use us to facilitate the coming of your kingdom here and now.

Help us to take action to bring peace, to care for the victims of war, and to work for justice. Help us to live according to the principles of your Kingdom today, and to remain faithful until your Kingdom comes fully at your return. Grant courage to your church in Russia, in Ukraine, and here to speak truth to power and to prophetically proclaim the truths of your Kingdom as well as the day of grace that still remains for those who repent.

Lord, we pray for Vladimir Putin. We pray that you would change his heart and work your miracle of salvation in his life. If he continues in his wicked ways, we pray that you would restrain his evil and have mercy on those who suffer because of it.

In all these things, we trust you, because you are our loving Father. We ask that you would keep us faithful by the power of your Spirit and that you would be with your church in Ukraine—that in times of war it would faithfully follow you and represent you before the nations.

Heal the wounds, we pray, both physical and the wounds of the heart. Reconcile the nations with you and with each other by the power of the cross of our reigning Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

**Worship Through Song:**

You are my King

You Are Holy

Knowing You Jesus

**Congregational Prayer:** Stacy S.

**Worship Through Song:**

Cornerstone

**WE PREPARE FOR & HEAR GOD’S WORD**

Today’s Scripture: Ephesians 2:11-22

<sup>11</sup>Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)—<sup>12</sup>remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

<sup>14</sup>For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, <sup>15</sup>by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup>and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. <sup>17</sup>He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup>For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

<sup>19</sup>Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, <sup>20</sup>built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. <sup>21</sup>In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup>And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

**Sermon:** Access to the Father - Pastor John Byker

Prayer

**WE DEPART WITH GOD'S BLESSING**

Parting Song: How Great Thou Art

Blessing: Pastor John

## Church News

**This Morning** we welcome Pastor John Byker to First CRC to share God's word with us.

**Thank you** - "And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast." 1 Peter 5:10

The family of Carl Vander Eide would like to express our sincere Thankfulness for the many prayers, calls, cards, and words of comfort at the passing of our husband, father, grandpa, and great-grandpa. A special "Thank You" to Pastor Michael for all your hospital visits and calls. Thank You to the Ladies Steering Committee (and Bruce) for preparing the luncheon and donations of food. Your prayers and thoughtfulness are very much appreciated.

Wilma Vander Eide & Family

**Thank you** - The family of Kenneth Bielema would like to thank everyone for the cards, prayers and kind words during our time of loss. A special thank you to Pastor Hooker for presiding over the service. Steve Bielema and family.

**Congratulations** to Randy & Brenda Atherton on celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary today, February 27th.

**Youth Group** - We will have Youth Group this Sunday, February 27, 2022, at First CRC from 5:30 - 7:00. We will have a waffle bar (EggO waffles). We will hand out registration forms for those going to SERVE this year. We will need to have all the forms and payment by March 20. We will continue with our new lesson series, Not a Fan with Kyle Idleman. Hope to see you all there!

**Needed** - Mark Spangler is in need of a lift chair recliner, if you can help out, contact Mark at 815-590-8899.

**Remember in prayer our members in care facilities and those that are homebound:**

Dorothy B, Ken B, Jeanette B, Carroll E, John S, Betty S, Mark S, Albert W.

**Deacons News**

Please place your offerings in the plates located on the back table.

Offering received 2/20/22

Amount budgeted per week: \$1,925.52

Amount received: \$1,922.00

Amount short: \$ 3.52

Faith Promise: \$115.00

Offerings today: General Fund-GEMS

Offerings Next Sunday: General Fund-Building Fund

### Community News

**Denim and Diamonds Gala Auction** will be held on Saturday, March 19 from 5-10 p.m. at The Tuscany-2417 Cleveland St. Clinton, Iowa. Tickets are \$25 per person. There will be live entertainment, silent, live and dessert auctions and buffet style dining. Please come dressed in blue jeans and bling! All proceeds from this event will support Unity Christian School. any questions, please call 815-589-3912.

**Mission Starfish Haiti Trivia Night** will be held on Sunday, March 27th at 6:00 p.m. at the Fulton Presbyterian Church. The cost is \$15.00 per person and up to 8 members on each team. Refreshments will be provided and proceeds will benefit Mission Starfish Haiti School and community. to reserve a table contact Bill Wilkin at 563-249-3098 or 815-589-3580.

### **Weekly Calendar**

Sunday, February 27	Worship Service Youth Group	9:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.
---------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------

**Today****Next Sunday**

Recorder & Sound	Joe V	David D
Nursery Attendant	Lynell B	Michelle V
Snack Provider	Brenda A	Angie V
Server	Carman F	Angie V

Facebook: Fulton 1st Christian Reformed Church  
Pastor Michael Hooker-Email: [mhooke01@gmail.com](mailto:mhooke01@gmail.com)  
Church Email: Kay Bielema - [firstcrcfulton@live.com](mailto:firstcrcfulton@live.com)  
Office: 815-589-3790  
Website: [www.fultonfirstcrc.com](http://www.fultonfirstcrc.com)