

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
November 1, 2020

Call to Worship:

Let us worship God.

He is our refuge and our fortress, in whom we trust.

Let us confess with our mouths, "Jesus is Lord,"
and believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead.

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Let us call upon our true God,
believing him in our hearts,
confessing him with our mouths,
worshiping him in spirit and in truth.

God's Greeting

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God has willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them – abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is forever.

("A Mighty Fortress is Our God" Words and Music by Martin Luther Public Domain CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Call to Confession

Come now and let us make confession to God the Lord together;
let everyone, with me, acknowledge our sin and shortcomings.
Let each of us come before the face of the Lord, confessing our own faults.

Prayer of Confession

Assurance: Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 1

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I am not my own, but belong—
body and soul, in life and in death—
to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.**

**He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.**

**He also watches over me in such a way
that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven:
in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.**

**Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit,
assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready
from now on to live for him.**

Video Scripture

Morning Prayer

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

What is our hope in life and death?
Christ alone, Christ alone.
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to Him belong.
Who holds our days within His hand?
What comes, apart from His command?
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ, in which we stand.

Refrain: O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good.
Where is His grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer's blood.
Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us night?
Unto the shore the rock of Christ. *Refrain*

Unto the grave, what will we sing?
"Christ He lives, Christ He lives!"
And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with Him.
There we will rise to meet the Lord,
Then sin and death will be destroyed,
And we will feast in endless joy,
When Christ is ours forevermore. *Refrain*

("Christ Our Hope in Life and Death" words and music by Jordan Kauflin | Keith Getty | Matt Boswell | Matt Papa | Matthew Merker © 2020 Getty Music Hymns and.)
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Scripture: *Acts 14:1-18 (ESV)*

¹ Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed. ² But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. ³ So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. ⁴ But the people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews and some with the apostles. ⁵ When an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them, ⁶ they learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country, ⁷ and there they continued to preach the gospel.

⁸ Now at Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet. He was crippled from birth and had never walked. ⁹ He listened to Paul speaking. And Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be made well, ¹⁰ said in a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he sprang up and began walking. ¹¹ And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian, "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!"

¹² Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. ¹³ And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds. ¹⁴ But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their garments and rushed out into the crowd, crying out,

¹⁵ “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. ¹⁶ In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways. ¹⁷ Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.” ¹⁸ Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Apostles Vilified and Deified*

Prayer

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake!

(“How Firm a Foundation” words by J. Rippon’s Selection of Hymns and music by J. Funk’s A Compilation of Genuine Church Music 1832; harm. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985, Harmonization © 1987 CRC Publication , CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

God’s Blessing

For All the Saints

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor’s crown of gold:
Alleluia, Alleluia!

(“For All the Saints” Words by William Walsham How (1864), Music by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906), Public Domain CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastor: Robert W

Music: Valerie A, Mike H, Nancy Z

Offering: Christian School Tuition Assistance is used to help cover tuition cost of First church families who send their children to Christian schools.

Tithes and offering can be mailed to the church office (1010 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264), dropped off (in the mailbox), through a bill pay service, or electronically with Tithe.ly (www.tithe.ly or through the app).

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