

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
May 16, 2021

Call to Worship: *based on Psalm 103*

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me,

Bless God's Holy Name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and do not forget God's benefits,

who forgives all our iniquity,

who heals all our diseases,

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

who redeems our life,

who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

who satisfies us with good as long as we live

so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Bless the Lord.

God's Greeting

Bless the Lord, O My Soul

Refrain: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I worship your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning.
It's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. *Refrain*

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger.
Your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *Refrain*

("Bless the Lord, O My Soul" words and music by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman, © 2011 Shout! Publishing, Sixsteps Music, Said and Done Music and Thank You Music, CCLI 358926, Streaming License 20317932)

In the Presence

In the presence of a holy God
There's new meaning now to grace.
You took all my sins upon yourself;
I can only stand amazed.

Refrain: And I cry holy, holy, holy God,
How awesome is your name.
Holy, holy, holy God, how majestic is your reign;
And I am changed in the presence of a holy God.

In the presence of your infinite might,
I'm so small and frail and weak;
When I see your power and wisdom, Lord,
I have no words left to speak. *Refrain*

In the presence of your glory
All my crowns lie in the dust.
You are righteous in your judgments, Lord;
You are faithful, true and just. *Refrain*

("In the Presence" words and music by Mark Altrogge © Integrity's Praise! Music/Sovereign Grace Praise, a division of Sovereign Grace Ministries CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Call to Confession

Hear the good news of the Gospel. Jesus Christ came to save sinners.
We confess in the sure and certain knowledge that God's grace overflowed
to us while we were yet sinners. In confidence let us confess our sins before God.

Prayer of Confession and Preparation

Assurance: *from Luke 1*

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

Morning Prayer

Standing on the Promises

Standing on the promises of Christ, my King!
Through eternal ages let His praises ring;
"Glory in the highest" I will shout and sing,
Standing on the promises of God.

Refrain: Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God, my Savior;
Standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living Word of God I shall prevail,
Standing on the promises of God. *Refrain*

("Standing on the Promises" words by R. Kelso Carter music by Norman E. Johnson © 1973 by Covenant Press CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

* **Scripture:** *1 Corinthians 11:17-34 (ESV)*

¹⁷ *In the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse.* ¹⁸ *For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you. And I believe it in part,* ¹⁹ *for there must be factions among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized.*

²⁰ *When you come together, it is not the Lord's supper that you eat.* ²¹ *For in eating, each one goes ahead with his own meal. One goes hungry, another gets drunk.* ²² *What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not.*

²³ *For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread,* ²⁴ *and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."* ²⁵ *In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."* ²⁶ *For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

²⁷ *Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord.* ²⁸ *Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.* ²⁹ *For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.* ³⁰ *That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died.* ³¹ *But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged.*

³² *But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.* ³³ *So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for one another—* ³⁴ *if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home—so that when you come together it will not be for judgment. About the other things I will give directions when I come.*

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Message: *Getting Ready for Supper*

* ***Before the Throne of God Above***

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.

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.

("Before the Throne of God" words by Vikki Cook and Charitie Lees Bancroft, music by Vikki Cook © 1997 Sovereign Grace Music CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

* **God's Blessing**

* ***Before the Throne of God Above***

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.

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Pastors: Mike B, Robert W
Prayer: Tim V
Music: Ken Q, Brian K, Jack P

Offerings and tithes can be placed in the baskets in the narthex, mailed to the church (1010 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264), dropped off in the church mailbox, through a bill pay service, or electronically at www.tithe.ly (or through the app). If you would like to give to the First CRC operating fund, please use a blue envelope (on the Welcome Center) or designate on memo line.

This week the offering is for Ken & Chris. Ken & Chris serve as missionaries with Wycliffe Bible Translators and JAARS. They are in Waxhaw, North Carolina, the base of operations for the aviation programs. For information, visit www.wycliffe.net.

A nursery is available with paging system for children under 3 years during the 10:30 AM worship service in the Education Building.

Children's Church is available for children 3 years – 2nd grade during the 10:30 AM service. Children are dismissed to the Education Building during the worship service.

Worship services are also broadcast live in the church basement and streamed online for anyone unable to worship in the sanctuary.

An assistive listening system is available in the sanctuary; to use this system, switch hearing aids to "T".

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