

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
July 4, 2021

Call to Worship: *from Psalm 134*

Praise the Lord all you servants of the Lord

Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord.

May the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth, bless you from Zion.

God's Greeting

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King,

Lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia! alleluia!

O burning sun with golden beam,

And shining moon with silver gleam,

O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

People and nations, take your part;

Sing praise to God with all your heart: Alleluia! alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless

And worship Him in lowliness:

O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

("All Creatures of Our God and King" words by Francis of Assisi music by Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesange Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God of Our Fathers

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand

Leads forth in beauty all the starry band

Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,

Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,

Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense;

Thy true religion in our hearts increase,

Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way,

Lead us from night to never-ending day;

Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,

And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

("God of Our Fathers" words by Daniel C. Roberts, music by George W. Warren, Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Call to Confession: *Ephesians 4:17-24*

Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. But that is not the way you learned Christ!— assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Prayer of Confession and Preparation

Assurance of Pardon: *Ephesians 2:4-10*

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

How Blest Are They Whose Trespass

How blest are they whose trespass has freely been forgiven,
Whose sins are wholly covered before the sight of heaven.
Blest they to whom the LORD God does not impute their sin,
Who have a guileless spirit, whose heart is true within.

So let the godly seek you in times when you are near;
No whelming floods shall reach them or cause their hearts to fear.
O LORD, you are my refuge, you are my hiding place,
And you surround me always with songs of saving grace.

("How Blest Are They Whose Trespasses" text Psalm 32, music Chretien Urhan, 1834, arr. Edward F. Rimbault, 1867, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

Morning Prayer

Scripture: *John 6:25-35*

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶ Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸ Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" ²⁹ Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰ So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?" ³¹ Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³² Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴ They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." ³⁵ Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *The Bread of Life*

Prayer

Break Thou the Bread of Life

Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
As Thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee, Lord;
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word.

Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me
Thy holy Word the truth that saveth me;
Give me to eat and live with Thee above;
Teach me to love Thy truth, for Thou art love.

(*Break Thou the Bread of Life words by Mary A. Lathbury and Alexander Groves music by William F. Sherwin Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

Faith of Our Fathers

Faith of our fathers, living still,
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious Word!

Refrain: Faith of our fathers, holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death.

Faith of our fathers, we will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife;
And preach thee too as love knows how,
By kindly words and virtuous life. *Refrain*

("Faith of Our Fathers" words by Frederick William Faber, 1849, music by Henri F Hemy, arr. by James G. Walton, 1874, Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

Pastors: Mike B
Prayer: Gene T
Music: Mike H, Valerie A

Offerings and tithes can be placed in the baskets in the narthex,
mailed to the church office (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 Christian School Tuition Assistance. Christian School Assistance is used
to help cover tuition cost of First church families who send their children to Christian schools.

Nursery is available with a 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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