

First Christian Reformed Church  
Lynden, Washington  
September 12, 2021  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

**Call to Worship:** *Psalm 86:8-10 (NRSV)*

*There is none like you, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.  
All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord,  
and shall glorify your name.  
For you are great and do wondrous things, you alone are God.*

**God's Greeting**

***Joyful, Joyful***

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

("Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" words by Henry Van Dyke, Public Domain, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

***God of Grace and God of Glory***

God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power;  
Crown your ancient church's story, bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,  
For the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,  
For the living of these days.

("God of Grace and God of Glory" words by Harry E. Fosdick and music by John Hughes, © 1969 Concordia Publishing House, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

***Praise Him, Praise Him, All Ye Little Children***

Praise, Him, praise Him, all ye little children,  
God is love, God is love;  
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children,  
God is love, God is love.

Love Him, love Him, all ye little children,  
God is love, God is love;  
Love Him, love Him, all ye little children,  
God is love, God is love;

Thank Him, thank Him, all ye little children,  
God is love, God is love;  
Thank Him, thank Him, all ye little children,  
God is love, God is love;

("Praise Him, Praise Him, All Ye Little Children" text anonymous, music Carey Bonner, Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

**Call to Confession:** *based on Romans 8:39*

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ.  
**Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.**

**Prayer of Confession**

### **Assurance: *The Love of God***

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell;  
It goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest hell;  
The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win;  
His erring child He reconciled, and pardoned from his sin.

*Refrain:* O love of God, how rich and pure!  
How measureless and strong!  
It shall for evermore endure  
The saints' and angels' song.

When years of time shall pass away, and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,  
When men, who here refuse to pray, on rocks and hills and mountains call,  
God's love so sure, shall still endure, all measureless and strong;  
Redeeming grace to Adam's race, the saints' and angels' song. *Refrain*

Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made,  
Were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade,  
To write the love of God above, would drain the ocean dry.  
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky. *Refrain*

("The Love of God" Fredrick M. Lehman, © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music and Word Music, CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

### **Offertory Prayer**

**Offering:** African Inland Mission

### **Morning Prayer**

#### ***Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts***

Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts,  
Thou fount of life, Thou light of men,  
From the best bliss that earth imparts  
We turn unfilled to Thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood,  
Thou savest those that on Thee call;  
To them that seek Thee Thou art good,  
To them that find Thee all in all.

("Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts" attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, tr. Ray Palmer, music Henry Baker ©1960 Broadman Press, CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

### **Scripture: Acts 19:23-41 (ESV)**

<sup>23</sup> About that time there arose no little disturbance concerning the Way. <sup>24</sup> For a man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no little business to the craftsmen. <sup>25</sup> These he gathered together, with the workmen in similar trades, and said, "Men, you know that from this business we have our wealth. <sup>26</sup> And you see and hear that not only in Ephesus but in almost all of Asia this Paul has persuaded and turned away a great many people, saying that gods made with hands are not gods. <sup>27</sup> And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be counted as nothing, and that she may even be deposed from her magnificence, she whom all Asia and the world worship."

<sup>28</sup> When they heard this they were enraged and were crying out, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" <sup>29</sup> So the city was filled with the confusion, and they rushed together into the theater, dragging with them Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians who were Paul's companions in travel. <sup>30</sup> But when Paul wished to go in among the crowd, the disciples would not let him.

<sup>31</sup> And even some of the Asiarchs, who were friends of his, sent to him and were urging him not to venture into the theater. <sup>32</sup> Now some cried out one thing, some another, for the assembly was in confusion, and most of them did not know why they had come together. <sup>33</sup> Some of the crowd prompted Alexander, whom the Jews had put forward. And Alexander, motioning with his hand, wanted to make a defense to the crowd. <sup>34</sup> But when they recognized that he was a Jew, for about two hours they all cried out with one voice, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

<sup>35</sup> And when the town clerk had quieted the crowd, he said, "Men of Ephesus, who is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper of the great Artemis, and of the sacred stone that fell from the sky?" <sup>36</sup> Seeing then that these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rash. <sup>37</sup> For you have brought these men here who are neither sacrilegious nor blasphemers of our goddess. <sup>38</sup> If therefore Demetrius and the craftsmen with him have a complaint against anyone, the courts are open, and there are proconsuls. Let them bring charges against one another. <sup>39</sup> But if you seek anything further, it shall be settled in the regular assembly. <sup>40</sup> For we really are in danger of being charged with rioting today, since there is no cause that we can give to justify this commotion." <sup>41</sup> And when he had said these things, he dismissed the assembly.

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

**Message:** *Peacemaking in the Midst of Conflict*

### ***Be Thou My Vision***

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art,  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

("Be Thou My Vision" words by William Hiram Foulkes music by Calvin W. Laufer, Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

### **God's Blessing**

#### ***Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God***

Now blessed be the Lord our God, the God of Israel,  
For He alone does wondrous works: His glorious deeds excel;  
For He alone does wondrous works: His glorious deeds excel.

And blessed be His glorious name through all eternity;  
The whole earth let His glory fill: Amen! so shall it be;  
The whole earth let His glory fill: Amen! so shall it be.

("Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God" words Psalm 72:18-19; Scotch Psalter, 1650, alt., tune Grace Oliver Holden, 1793, Public Domain, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastors: Mike B, Robert W  
Prayer: Mike S  
Music: Mike H

Offerings and tithes can be placed in the offering bags, mailed to the church office (1010 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264), dropped off in the church mailbox, through a bill pay service, or at [www.tithe.ly](http://www.tithe.ly). 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.

Nursery is available with a paging system for children under 3 years during the 10:30 AM worship service in the Ed. Building.

Children's Church is available for children 3 years – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Children are dismissed to the Ed Building during the service.

Worship services are also broadcast live in the church basement and 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".

On the bulletin, bold font is a response by the congregation. You are invited to join if you feel comfortable.

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