

First Christian Reformed Church  
Lynden, Washington  
November 28, 2021 ~ 6:00 p.m. Worship Service

**Call to Worship:** *John 1:1-3, 14*

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
He was in the beginning with God.  
All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.  
And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,  
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

**Opening Prayer**

**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die;  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

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**LORD, Our Lord, Your Glorious Name**

LORD, our Lord, your glorious name all your wondrous works proclaim;  
In the heavens with radiant signs evermore your glory shines.  
How great your name!

*Refrain:* LORD, our Lord, in all the earth, how great your name!  
Yours the name of matchless worth, excellent in all the earth.  
How great your name!

Infant voices chant your praise, telling of your glorious ways;  
Weakest means work out your will, mighty enemies to still.  
How great your name! *Refrain*

Who are we that we should share in your love and tender care  
Raised to an exalted height, crowned with honor in your sight!  
How great your name! *Refrain*

("LORD, Our Lord, Your Glorious Name" text Psalm 8; vers. Psalter. 1912 alt., tune William F. Sherwin, 1877, © 2008 Hymnary.org., CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

**Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You**

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Angels lifting praise before You, sing through out this holy night.  
In a manger lies a Baby, Child of Mary, Son of God.  
Voices joined in joyful chorus praise You for Your gift of love.

All Your works declare Your glory, all creation joins to sing.  
Praise resounds as earth rejoices in the birth of Christ, the King.  
Shepherds kneel before the infant, trumpets sound and anthems raise  
As with joy our hearts are lifted, joined in wonder, love, and praise.

("Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You" music by Ludwig van Beethoven; adapted by Edward Hodges; words by Linda Lee Johnson; text © 1986 Lillenas Publishing Co.; arr. © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music and Words (a div. of Word Music) CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

**Profession of Our Faith:** Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 53

What do you believe concerning "the Holy Spirit"?

**First, he, as well as the Father and the Son, is eternal God.**

**Second, he has been given to me personally, so that, by true faith, he makes me share in Christ and all his blessings, comforts me, and remains with me forever.**

**Offering:** Benevolence Fund – Flood Relief

**Evening Prayer**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light:  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!

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**Scripture:** *1 Corinthians 13 (ESV)*

<sup>1</sup> *If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.*

<sup>4</sup> *Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

<sup>8</sup> *Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.*

<sup>9</sup> *For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup> but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child.*

*When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. <sup>12</sup> For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.*

<sup>13</sup> *So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** *Faith, Hope, and Love: Love*

***And Can It Be That I Should Gain***

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

*Refrain:* Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite His grace!  
Emptied Himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race!  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free, for, O my God, it found out me. *Refrain*

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night.  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray; I woke – the dungeon flamed with light!  
My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed Thee. *Refrain*

**God's Blessing**

***And Can It Be That I Should Gain***

No condemnation now I dread: Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

*Refrain:* Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

("And Can It Be That I Should Gain?" words by Charles Wesley music by Thomas Campbell Public Domain CCLI #358926)