

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
February 20, 2022 - 6:00 p.m. Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 121:1-2*

*I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?
My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.*

Opening Prayer

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze: *Refrain*

("How Great Thou Art" words and music by Stuart K. Hine © 1953 Stuart K. Hine, Assigned to Manna Music, Inc. © 1955 Manna Music Inc., CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

I Know Whom I Have Believed

I know not why God's wondrous grace to me he has made known.
Nor why, unworthy, Christ in love redeemed me for his own.

Refrain: But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able
To keep that which I've committed unto him against that day."

I know not how this saving faith to me he did impart,
Nor how believing in his Word wrought peace within my heart. *Refrain*

("I Know Whom I Have Believed" words Daniel Whittle, music James McGranahan, CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

I Lift Up My Eyes to the Mountains

I lift up my eyes to the mountains, I look to the Lord for my aid;
My help is the Lord God Almighty; the earth and heavens he made.

The Keeper of Israel guards you and keeps you in pathways of right;
He circles his canopy round you for shelter by day and by night.

The Lord God will keep you from evil; your coming and going he knows;
Your life he preserves unimpered; look now to the Lord for repose.

("I Lift Up My Eyes to the Mountains" text Psalm 121; vers. Henry Zylstra, 1953, alt., tune Dick L. Van Halsema, 1954, alt., Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming #20317932)

Profession of Our Faith: Our World Belongs to God, Art. 15 & 18

Apart from grace we prove each day that we are guilty sinners.
Fallen in that first sin, we fail to thank God, we break his laws, we ignore our tasks.
Looking for life without God, we find only death;
grasping for freedom outside his law, we trap ourselves in Satan's snares;
pursuing pleasure, we lose the gift of joy.
**In all our strivings to excuse or save ourselves,
we stand condemned before the God of Truth.
But our world, broken and scarred, still belongs to God.
He holds it together and gives us hope.**

Offering: Building the Future

Evening Prayer

Nearer, Still Nearer

Nearer, still nearer, close to Thy heart, draw me, my Savior, so precious Thou art;
Fold me, O fold me close to Thy breast, shelter me safe in that "Haven of Rest,"
Shelter me safe in that "Haven of Rest."

Nearer, still nearer, nothing I bring, naught as an offering to Jesus my King;
Only my sinful, now contrite heart, grant me the cleansing Thy blood doth impart,
Grant me the cleansing Thy blood doth impart.

Nearer, still nearer, while life shall last, 'til safe in glory my anchor is cast;
Through endless ages, ever to be, nearer, my Savior, still nearer to Thee,
Nearer, my Savior, still nearer to Thee.

("Nearer, Still Nearer" text and music by Lelia N. Morris, CCLI #358926, Streaming #20317932)

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 1:1-11 (ESV)

- ¹ *The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.*
- ² *Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.*
- ³ *What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun?*
- ⁴ *A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever.*
- ⁵ *The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises.*
- ⁶ *The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north;
around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.*
- ⁷ *All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full;
to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again.*
- ⁸ *All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it;
the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.*
- ⁹ *What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done,
and there is nothing new under the sun.*
- ¹⁰ *Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"?*
It has been already in the ages before us.
- ¹¹ *There is no remembrance of former things, nor will there be any remembrance
of later things yet to be among those who come after.*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Our Search For Meaning in a Fallen World*

Be Still, My Soul

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on thy side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to thy God to order and provide.
In every change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul! Thy best, Thy heavenly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul; Thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as He has the past.
Thy hope, Thy confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul! The waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

("Be Still, My Soul" words Katharina von Schlegel, tr. Jane L. Borthwick, tune Jean Sibelius, © 1933 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education, admin. Westminster John Knox Press, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

God's Blessing

Lead On, O King Eternal

Lead on, O King Eternal, we follow, not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning where'er your face appears.
Your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light.
The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.

("Lead On, O King Eternal" text Ernest W. Shurtleff (1888), tune Henry T. Smart (1836), Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming #20317932)