

**First Christian Reformed Church**  
Lynden, Washington  
May 1, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. Worship Service

**Call to Worship:** *Psalm 63:1-8*

*O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.  
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.  
Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.  
So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,  
when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;  
for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.  
My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.*

**Opening Prayer**

***O Father, You Are Sovereign***

O Father, You are sovereign in all the worlds You made;  
Your mighty Word was spoken and light and life obeyed.  
Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore,  
Set stars within their courses and stills the tempest's roar.

O Father You are sovereign in all affairs of man;  
No powers of death or darkness can thwart Your perfect plan.  
All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space,  
You hold Your trusting children secure in Your embrace.

O Father You are sovereign! We see You dimly now,  
But soon before Your triumph earth's every knee shall bow.  
With this glad hope before us our faith springs up anew:  
Our Sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship You.

("O Father, You Are Sovereign" Margaret Clarkson | Melchior Teschner, © Words: 1982 Christianity Today. Assigned 1983 To Hope Publishing Company, Music: Public Domain CCLI License # 358926. Streaming License 20317932)

***Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God Almighty***

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who wert and art and ever-more shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see.  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee;  
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

("Holy, Holy, Holy" words by Reginald Heber music by John B. Dykes © 1948, renewed 1976 by the H.W. Gray Company, Inc. CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

***O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing***

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of Thy name.

Jesus! The name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease,  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

("O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" words by Charles Wesley and music by Carl. G. Glasser, © 1976 Paragon Associates, Inc., CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

**Profession of Our Faith: Psalm 1**

*Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;  
but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.  
He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.  
In all that he does, he prospers. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.  
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;  
for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.*

**Offering:** First CRC GEMS

**Evening Prayer**

***I Need Thee Every Hour***

I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord; no tender voice like Thine can peace afford.  
I need Thee, O I need Thee; every hour I need Thee!  
O bless me now, my Savior – I come to Thee.

I need Thee every hour, teach me Thy will, and Thy rich promises in me fulfill.  
I need Thee, O I need Thee; every hour I need Thee!

O bless me now, my Savior – I come to Thee.  
("I Need Thee Every Hour" words and music by Annie S. Hawks and Robert Lowry, © Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming 20317932)

**Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:16-22; 4:1-3 (ESV)**

<sup>16</sup> Moreover, I saw under the sun that in the place of justice, even there was wickedness, and in the place of righteousness, even there was wickedness. <sup>17</sup> I said in my heart, God will judge the righteous and the wicked, for there is a time for every matter and for every work. <sup>18</sup> I said in my heart with regard to the children of man that God is testing them that they may see that they themselves are but beasts. <sup>19</sup> For what happens to the children of man and what happens to the beasts is the same; as one dies, so dies the other. They all have the same breath, and man has no advantage over the beasts, for all is vanity. <sup>20</sup> All go to one place. All are from the dust, and to dust all return. <sup>21</sup> Who knows whether the spirit of man goes upward and the spirit of the beast goes down into the earth? <sup>22</sup> So I saw that there is nothing better than that a man should rejoice in his work, for that is his lot. Who can bring him to see what will be after him?

<sup>1</sup> Again I saw all the oppressions that are done under the sun. And behold, the tears of the oppressed, and they had no one to comfort them! On the side of their oppressors there was power, and there was no one to comfort them. <sup>2</sup> And I thought the dead who are already dead more fortunate than the living who are still alive.

<sup>3</sup> But better than both is he who has not yet been and has not seen the evil deeds that are done under the sun.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message: From Dust to Dust**

***I Know Who Holds Tomorrow***

I don't know about tomorrow, I just live from day to day;  
I don't borrow from its sunshine, for its skies may turn to gray  
I don't worry o'er the future, for I know what Jesus said  
And today I'll walk beside Him, for He knows what is ahead.

*Refrain:* Many things about tomorrow I don't seem to understand,  
But I know who holds tomorrow and I know who holds my hand.

("I Know Who Holds Tomorrow" words and music by Ira Stanphill © 1950 New Spring CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

**\* God's Blessing**

**\* *I Know Who Holds Tomorrow***

Ev'ry step is getting brighter as the golden stairs I climb;  
Ev'ry burden's getting lighter, ev'ry cloud is silver-lined  
There the sun is always shining, there no tear will dim the eye  
At the ending of the rainbow, where the mountains touch the sky.

*Refrain:* Many things about tomorrow I don't seem to understand;  
But I know who holds tomorrow, and I know who holds my hand.

("I Know Who Holds Tomorrow" words and music by Ira Stanphill © 1950 New Spring CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Pastors: Mike B, Robert W

Music: Ruth H, Nancy Z

Offering will be received for the GEMS Girls Club. GEMS is an acronym for Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior. Their vision is to see girls around the world actively and enthusiastically expressing love for God and others—girls equipped, motivated, and passionately engaged in living out their faith. Their mission is to bring girls everywhere into a living, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ. GEMS was founded on the principles defined in Titus 2, to help women show girls how to live God-honoring lives. At First CRC, GEMS is led by women who are members of First church for girls in 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade from First church and from the community. For more information, visit [www.gemsgc.org](http://www.gemsgc.org).