

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
May 8, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 29:1-2*

*Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.*

Opening Prayer

O Worship the King

O worship the King all glorious above,
O gratefully sing his power and his love:
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might and sing of his grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In you do we trust, nor find you to fail.
Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

("O Worship the King" text by Robert Grant, music adapted from Johann Michael Haydn, CCLI 358926, Streaming 20317932)

Because He Lives

God sent His Son – they called Him Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my pardon;
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

Refrain: Because He lives I can face tomorrow;
Because He lives, all fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

And then one day I'll cross the river;
I'll fight life's final war with pain.
And then, as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns. *Refrain*

("Because He Lives" words and music by William and Gloria Gaither © 1971 William Gaither CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

Beautiful Savior

Beautiful Savior! King of creation! Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

("Beautiful Savior" words Gesangbuch tr. Joseph A. Seiss music Schleisische Volkslieder Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

Profession of Our Faith: *Our World Belongs to God Art. 37*

**In our world, bent under the weight of sin, Christ gathers a new community.
Satan and his evil forces seek whom they may confuse and swallow;
but Jesus builds his church, his Spirit guides, and grace abounds.**

Offering: Christian School Tuition Assistance

Evening Prayer

More Love to Thee, O Christ

#476:1,2 (HFG)

More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee;
This is my earnest plea: more love O Christ to Thee,
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
Now Thee alone I seek, give what is best;
This all my prayer shall be: more love O Christ to Thee,
More love to Thee more love to Thee!

("More Love to Thee, O Christ" words by Elizabeth P. Prentiss, music by William H. Doane © words and music Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 4:1-16 (ESV)

¹Again 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. ²And I thought the dead who are already dead more fortunate than the living who are still alive. ³But better than both is he who has not yet been and has not seen the evil deeds that are done under the sun. ⁴Then I saw that all toil and all skill in work come from a man's envy of his neighbor. This also is vanity and a striving after wind. ⁵The fool folds his hands and eats his own flesh. ⁶Better is a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil and a striving after wind. ⁷Again, I saw vanity under the sun: ⁸one person who has no other, either son or brother, yet there is no end to all his toil, and his eyes are never satisfied with riches, so that he never asks, "For whom am I toiling and depriving myself of pleasure?" This also is vanity and an unhappy business. ⁹Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. ¹⁰For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! ¹¹Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? ¹²And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken. ¹³Better was a poor and wise youth than an old and foolish king who no longer knew how to take advice. ¹⁴For he went from prison to the throne, though in his own kingdom he had been born poor. ¹⁵I saw all the living who move about under the sun, along with that youth who was to stand in the king's place. ¹⁶There was no end of all the people, all of whom he led. Yet those who come later will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and a striving after wind.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: The Vanity of Toil, Part 2

May the Mind of Christ, My Savior

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day,
By His love and power controlling all I do and say.

May the word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph only through His power.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea.

Him exalting, self abasing: this is victory.

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God's Blessing

*** May the Mind of Christ, My Savior**

May we run the race before us, strong and brave to face the foe,
Looking only unto Jesus as we onward go.

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Pastors: David W, Robert W

Music: Lisa Q

Offering will be received 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.

An assistive listening system is available in the sanctuary; to use this system, switch hearing aids to "T".

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

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