

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
July 3, 2022 – 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Call to Worship:

From shore to shore

Let God's praise be sung.

From mountains to valleys low –

Let the echo praise resound.

From the mouths of children and the prayers of the saints –

Let thanksgiving abound.

For great is our God

And greatly to be praised.

God's Greeting

God of Our Fathers

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense;
Thy true religion in our hearts increase,
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way,
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

("God of Our Fathers" words by Daniel C. Roberts, music by George W. Warren, Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Be Exalted, O God

I will give thanks to Thee, O Lord, among the people.
I will sing praises to Thee among the nations.
For Thy steadfast love is great, is great to the heavens;
And Thy faithfulness, Thy faithfulness to the clouds.
Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;
Let Thy glory be over all the earth.
Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;
Let Thy glory be over all the earth.

("Be Exalted, O God" words and music by Brent Chambers © 1977 Scripture in Song CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Song for the Nations

May we be a shining light to the nations,
A shining light to the peoples of the earth,
Till the whole world sees the glory of Your name.
May Your pure light shine through us.

May we sing a song of joy to the nations,
A song of praise to the peoples of the earth,
Till the whole world rings with the praises of your name.
May Your song be sung through us.

May Your kingdom come to the nations,
Your will be done in the peoples of the earth,
Till the whole world knows that Jesus Christ is Lord.
May Your kingdom come on earth.

("Song for the Nations" text and music Chris Christensen © 1989 Integrity's Hosanna! Music CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Call to Confession: *Psalm 66:16-20*

*“Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what he has done for me.
If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.
But truly God has listened;
he has given heed to the words of my prayer.
Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer
or removed this steadfast love from me.”*
In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession

Assurance: *Micah 7:18-20*

*Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of your possession?
He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in showing clemency.
**He will again have compassion upon us;
he will tread out our iniquities under foot.
You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.
You will show faithfulness to Jacob
and unswerving loyalty to Abraham,
as you have sworn to our ancestors from the days of old.***

Cleanse Me

Search me, O God, and know my heart today;
Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray.
See if there be some wicked way in me;
Cleanse me from every sin, and set me free.

I praise Thee, Lord, for cleansing me from sin;
Fulfill Thy Word and make me pure within.
Fill me with fire, where once I burned with shame;
Grant me desire to magnify Thy name.

Lord, take my life, and make it wholly Thine;
Fill my poor heart with Thy great love divine,
Take all my will, my passion, self and pride,
I now surrender, Lord – in me abide.

“Cleanse Me” words by J. Edwin Orr, music by Maori Melody; arranged by Robert F. Douglas © 1986 Word Music CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Offertory Prayer

Offering: Christian School Tuition Assistance

Morning Prayer

Scripture: *Acts 22:1-21 (ESV)*

¹“Brothers and fathers, hear the defense that I now make before you.” ²And when they heard that he was addressing them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet. And he said:
³“I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day. ⁴I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering to prison both men and women, ⁵as the high priest and the whole council of elders can bear me witness. From them I received letters to the brothers, and I journeyed toward Damascus to take those also who were there and bring them in bonds to Jerusalem to be punished. ⁶“As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. ⁷And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ ⁸And I answered, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And he said to me, ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.’ ⁹Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. ¹⁰And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’ And the Lord said to me, ‘Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.’ ¹¹And since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus.

¹² “And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, ¹³ came to me, and standing by me said to me, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight.’ And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. ¹⁴ And he said, ‘The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from his mouth; ¹⁵ for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. ¹⁶ And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.’

¹⁷ “When I had returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance ¹⁸ and saw him saying to me, ‘Make haste and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.’ ¹⁹ And I said, ‘Lord, they themselves know that in one synagogue after another I imprisoned and beat those who believed in you. ²⁰ And when the blood of Stephen your witness was being shed, I myself was standing by and approving and watching over the garments of those who killed him.’ ²¹ And he said to me, ‘Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles.’”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Paul’s Story and Ours*

Faith of Our Fathers

Faith of our fathers, living still,
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene’er we hear that glorious Word!

Refrain: Faith of our fathers, holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death.

Faith of our fathers, we will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife;
And preach thee too as love knows how,
By kindly words and virtuous life. *Refrain*

(“Faith of Our Fathers” words by Frederick William Faber, 1849, music by Henri F Hemy, arr. by James G. Walton, 1874, Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

God’s Blessing

From Ocean Unto Ocean (tune of *Lead On, O King Eternal*)

Our Savior King, defend us and guide where we should go;
Forth with your message send us, Your love and light to show,
Till, fired with true devotion and kindled by your Word,
From ocean unto ocean our land shall name you Lord.

(“From Ocean Unto Ocean” text by Robert Murray, music by Henry T. Smart © Public Domain CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Pastors: Mike B, Robert W
Prayer: Dave R, Neil M
Music: Mike H, Valerie A, Nancy Z

Offering will be received for Christian School Tuition Assistance. This assistance fund is used to help cover tuition cost of First church families who send their children to Christian schools.

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

Children’s Church is available for children 3 years – 3rd grade. Children are dismissed to the Ed Building during the service.

Worship services are also broadcast live in the basement and streamed 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”.

*First Christian Reformed Church 1010 Front St. Lynden, WA 98264
360.354.4560 info@firstcreclynden.org www.firstcreclynden.org*