

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
September 18, 2022 – 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 47:1-2*

*Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!
For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.*

God's Greeting

Come, Thou Almighty King

Come, thou Almighty King, help us thy name to sing; help us to praise.
Father all glorious, o'er all victorious, come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be hence evermore!
Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

("Come, Thou Almighty King" words anonymous music by Felice de Giardini Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Rejoice ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your festive banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King:
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice give thanks and sing.

Go on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go;
From youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe:
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice give thanks and sing.

Then on, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King:
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice give thanks and sing.

("Rejoice, O Pure in Heart" words by Edward H. Plumptre 1865, tune by Arthur H. Messier, 1883, Public Domain, 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.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin, He sets the prisoner free:
His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me.

("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)

Call to Confession: *1 John 1:8-10 (ESV)*

*If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.*

Prayer of Confession

Assurance: *And Can It Be*

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

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray, I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth and followed Thee.
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 Streaming License #20317932)

Commissioning of Teachers

To teacher and leaders: Do you promise to prepare your programs with hearts and minds open to the leading and inspiration of the Holy Spirit? Do you promise to carry out this work with enthusiasm and joy, patience and courage, trust and love?

We do, God helping us.

Do you promise to trust in God's guidance, ever seeking to learn as you lead, to listen as much as you speak, and to walk with people with faith and authenticity?

We do, God helping us.

To children and students: You are a very important part of our congregation. Thank you for being here! We have a question for you. Will you participate with enthusiasm and joy, always showing respect, and will you bring your questions with you as you explore with your teachers God's wisdom and will?

We will! God helping us.

To Congregation: These teachers and leaders have a vital role in the nurturing of our faith. Will you support them with prayer, encouragement, interest and compassion?

We will! God helping us.

Offertory Prayer and Offering

Morning Prayer

Teach Me, O Lord, Your Way of Truth

Teach me, O Lord, your way of truth, and from it I will not depart;
That I may steadfastly obey, give me an understanding heart.

Your word sheds light upon my path; a shining light, it guides my feet;
Your righteous judgments to observe, my solemn vow I now repeat.

(“Teach Me, O Lord, Thy Way of Truth” words and music by Joseph P Holbrook © words and music Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Scripture: Acts 25:23-26:11 (ESV)

²³ So on the next day Agrippa and Bernice came with great pomp, and they entered the audience hall with the military tribunes and the prominent men of the city. Then, at the command of Festus, Paul was brought in. ²⁴ And Festus said, “King Agrippa and all who are present with us, you see this man about whom the whole Jewish people petitioned me, both in Jerusalem and here, shouting that he ought not to live any longer. ²⁵ But I found that he had done nothing deserving death. And as he himself appealed to the emperor, I decided to go ahead and send him. ²⁶ But I have nothing definite to write to my lord about him. Therefore I have brought him before you all, and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that, after we have examined him, I may have something to write. ²⁷ For it seems to me unreasonable, in sending a prisoner, not to indicate the charges against him.”

^{26:1} So Agrippa said to Paul, “You have permission to speak for yourself.” Then Paul stretched out his hand and made his defense:

² “I consider myself fortunate that it is before you, King Agrippa, I am going to make my defense today against all the accusations of the Jews, ³ especially because you are familiar with all the customs and controversies of the Jews. Therefore I beg you to listen to me patiently. ⁴ My manner of life from my youth, spent from the beginning among my own nation and in Jerusalem, is known by all the Jews. ⁵ They have known for a long time, if they are willing to testify, that according to the strictest party of our religion I have lived as a Pharisee. ⁶ And now I stand here on trial because of my hope in the promise made by God to our fathers, ⁷ to which our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly worship night and day. And for this hope I am accused by Jews, O king! ⁸ Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead? ⁹ I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things in opposing the name of Jesus of Nazareth. ¹⁰ And I did so in Jerusalem. I not only locked up many of the saints in prison after receiving authority from the chief priests, but when they were put to death I cast my vote against them. ¹¹ And I punished them often in all the synagogues and tried to make them blaspheme, and in raging fury against them I persecuted them even to foreign cities.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: Paul Before King Agrippa

Prayer

Fill Thou My Life, O Lord, My God

Fill thou my life, O Lord my God, in every part with praise,
That my whole being may proclaim Thy being and thy ways.
Not for the lip of praise alone, nor e'en the praising heart
I ask, but for a life made up of praise in every part.

Praise in the common words I speak, life's common looks and tones,
In fellowship enjoyed at home with my beloved ones,
Enduring wrong, reproach, or loss with sweet and steadfast will,
Forgiving freely those who hate, returning good for ill.

("Fill My Cup, Lord" text and words by Richard Blanchard © 1959 Richard Blanchard. Assigned 1964 Curb Word Music, CCLI 358926, Streaming License 20317932)

God's Blessing

Fill Thou My Life, O Lord, My God

So shall each fear, each fret, each care be turned into a song,
And every winding of the way the echo shall prolong.
So shall no part of day or night from sacredness be free,
But all my life, in every step, be fellowship with thee.

("Fill My Cup, Lord" text and words by Richard Blanchard © 1959 Richard Blanchard. Assigned 1964 Curb Word Music, CCLI 358926, Streaming License 20317932)

Pastor: Mike B, Robert W
Prayer: Rob H, David W
Music: Mike H, Nancy Z

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