

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
September 25, 2022 – 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Presentation of Bibles to 4th Grade Students

Call to Worship: *Psalm 68:32-35*

*O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God;
sing praises to the Lord, Selah
to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.
Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel,
and whose power is in the skies.
Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—
he is the one who gives power and strength to his people.
Blessed be God!*

God's Greeting

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty 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!

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain*

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And claim his own, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" *Refrain*

("How Great Thou Art" words and music by Stuart K. Hine © 1953, 1981, Manna Music, Inc. CCLI #358926, Streaming #20317932)

Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice. All creation rises to rejoice.

Refrain: Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King, nothing can compare. Come let us adore Him!

Who has felt the nails upon His hands, bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave. Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign! *Refrain*

("Behold Our God" words and music by Ryan, Jonathan and Meghan Baird and Stephan Altrogge © 2011 Sovereign Grace Worship CCLI #358926, Streaming #20317932)

Call to Confession and Preparation: adapted from pg. 978 (PH)

Let all of us examine our lives and, considering our own sin and the wrath of God on it, be sure that we humble ourselves in repentance before God.

**Let us examine our hearts to be sure that we trust in Jesus Christ alone for our salvation,
and that we believe our sins are forgiven wholly by grace, for the sake of our Lord's sacrifice on the cross.**

And let us examine our consciences to be sure that we resolve to live in faith and obedience before our Lord, and in love and peace with our neighbors. Then all who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who earnestly desire to lead a godly life, ought to accept the invitation given and come next week with gladness to the table of their Lord.

Prayer of Confession

Assurance: *Christ Our Hope in Life and Death*

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone.
What is our only confidence? That our souls to Him belong.
Who holds our days within His hand? What comes, apart from His command?
And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.

Refrain: O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.
Where is His grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.
Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh unto the shore, the rock of Christ? *Refrain*

("Christ Our Hope in Life and Death" Jordan Kauflin | Keith Getty | Matt Boswell | Matt Papa | Matthew Merker © 2020 Getty Music Hymns and Songs, Jordan Kauflin Music, Love Your Enemies Publishing, Matthew Merker Music, Messenger Hymns (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Offertory Prayer

Offering: Benevolence

Morning Prayer

Blessed Jesus, At Your Word

Blessed Jesus, at your word we are gathered all to hear you.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred now to seek and love and fear you.
By your gospel pure and holy, teach us, Lord, to love You solely.

Glorious Lord, yourself impart; light of Light, from God proceeding,
Open lips and ears and heart; help us by your Spirit's leading.
Hear the cry your church now raises; Lord, accept our prayers and praises.

("Blessed Jesus, at Your Word" words by Tobias Clausnitzer music by Johann R. Ahle Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Scripture: Acts 26:12-23 (ESV)

¹² "In this connection I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. ¹³ At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me. ¹⁴ And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' ¹⁵ And I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. ¹⁶ But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, ¹⁷ delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you ¹⁸ to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' ¹⁹ "Therefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, ²⁰ but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance. ²¹ For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. ²² To this day I have had the help that comes from God, and so I stand here testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass: ²³ that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Paul's Conversion and Commissioning*

Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound – that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

("Amazing Grace" words by John Newton and John P. Rees music by Carrell and Clayton's Virginia Harmony Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

We Receive Your Blessing

We receive Your blessing, we receive Your grace,
As we walk in the light shining from Your face.
May the peace that You give change the way that we live.
We receive Your blessing as we leave this place.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him, above You heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and praise the Holy Ghost.
We receive Your blessing, as we leave this place.

("We Receive Your Blessing" words and music by Grace Moes and Natasha Moes © 2003 Unity Music Ministries, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

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