

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
October 2, 2022 – 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 47:7, 48:1*

*For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!
Great is LORD and greatly to be praised in the city of our God!*

God's Greeting

Praise the LORD! Sing Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD! Sing hallelujah! Come, our great Redeemer praise.
I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days.
Put no confidence in princes, nor on human help depend.
They shall die, to dust returning; all their thoughts and plans shall end.

Praise the LORD! Sing hallelujah! Come, our great Redeemer praise.
I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days.
Over all God reigns forever; through all ages he is King.
Unto him, your God, O Zion, joyful hallelujahs sing.

("Praise the Lord! Sing Hallelujah!" text Psalm 146; tune by Lowell Mason © Public Domain CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him

Praise the Lord! Ye heavens, adore Him; praise Him, angels, in the height.
Sun and moon, rejoice before Him; praise Him, all ye stars of light.
Praise the Lord! for He hath spoken; worlds His mighty voice obeyed.
Laws which never shall be broken for their guidance hath He made.

Worship, honor, glory, blessing, Lord, we offer unto Thee.
Young and old, Thy praise expressing, in glad homage bend the knee.
All the saints in heaven adore Thee; we would bow before Thy throne.
As Thine angels serve before Thee, so on earth Thy will be done.

("Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him" Founding Hospital Collection, 1796; Edward Osler, st 3; based on Psalm 148, music: Franz Joseph Haydn, CCLI #358926, Streaming #20317932)

Ministry of Music: *Wonderful, Merciful Savior*

Call to Confession: *Matthew 22:37-40*

And he said to them, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Prayer of Confession

Assurance: *God of Grace*

God of grace, amazing wonder, irresistible and free;
Oh, the miracle of mercy, Jesus reaches down to me.
God of grace, I stand in wonder, as my God restores my soul.
His own blood has paid my ransom; awesome cost to make me whole.

God of grace, I stand astounded, cleansed forgiven and secure.
All my fears are now confounded and my hope is ever sure.
God of grace, now crowned in glory, where one day I'll see Your face;
And forever I'll adore You in Your everlasting grace.

("God of Grace" words and music by Jonathan Rea | Keith Getty © 2003 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Offering: Christian School Tuition Assistance

Morning Prayer

Scripture: Acts 26:24-32 (ESV)

²⁴ And as he was saying these things in his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, "Paul, you are out of your mind; your great learning is driving you out of your mind." ²⁵ But Paul said, "I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking true and rational words. ²⁶ For the king knows about these things, and to him I speak boldly. For I am persuaded that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this has not been done in a corner. ²⁷ King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe." ²⁸ And Agrippa said to Paul, "In a short time would you persuade me to be a Christian?" ²⁹ And Paul said, "Whether short or long, I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am— except for these chains."

³⁰ Then the king rose, and the governor and Bernice and those who were sitting with them. ³¹ And when they had withdrawn, they said to one another, "This man is doing nothing to deserve death or imprisonment." ³² And Agrippa said to Festus, "This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Almost Persuaded*

Almost Persuaded

"Almost persuaded" now to believe; "Almost persuaded" Christ to receive:
Seems now some soul to say, "Go, Spirit go Thy way; some more convenient day on Thee I'll call."

"Almost persuaded" come, come today; "Almost persuaded" turn not away:
Jesus invites you here, angels are lingering near, prayers rise from hearts so dear, O wanderer come.

("Almost Persuaded" words and music by Philip Bliss © words and music Public Domain, CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Behold the Lamb (A Love Offering will be received for Helping Hands for Babies during this song.)

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us – and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior Jesus Christ, torn for you – eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you – drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond, and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering we proclaim Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King.

("Behold the Lamb" words and music by Keith & Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townsend © 2006 Thankyou Music CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

("Glory Be to the Father" words are Gloria Patri, tune by Charles Meineke © Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastor: Mike B, Robert W Prayer: Matt H
Music: Shelby B, Mike H, Ella MK, Maya M, Ella VV, 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.

Love Offering will be received for Helping Hands for Babies, a ministry of First CRC. Donations help cover expenses of the fabric and shipping for the thousands of blankets and baby clothing made by women of First CRC to send to people in need.

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