

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
July 30, 2023 ~ 6:00 PM Worship Service

Call to Worship: Psalm 11:7

*For the LORD is righteous;
he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face.*

Opening Prayer

We Are God's People

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,
Born of His Spirit, established by His Word.
Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Him we stand;
O let us live transparently and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,
Called to obey Him, now risen from the dead.
He wills us be a family diverse, yet truly one;
O let us give our gifts to God and so shall His work on earth be done.

("We Are God's People" words by Bryan Jeffrey Leech, music by Johanne Brahms, arr. by Fred Brock © 1976 by Fred Brock Music Co. CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

Let's Just Praise the Lord

Refrain: Let's just praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let's just lift our hearts to heaven and praise the Lord;
Let's just praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let's just lift our hearts to heaven and praise the Lord!

O, we thank You for Your kindness, we thank You for Your love,
We have been in heavenly places, felt blessings from above;
We've been sharing all the good things, the family can afford,
Let's just turn our praise toward heaven and praise the Lord. *Refrain*

Just the precious name of Jesus is worthy of our praise,
Let us bow our knees before Him, our hands to heaven raise;
When He comes in clouds of glory, with Him to ever reign,
Let's just lift our happy voices, and praise His name. *Refrain*

("Let's Just Praise the Lord" Bill Gaither/ Gloria Gaither © 1972 Hanna Street Music CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Children of the Heavenly Father

Children of the heavenly Father safely in his bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.

God his own shall tend and nourish; in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil powers he spares them; in his mighty arms he bears them.

God has given, he has taken, but his children ne'er forsaken;
His the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.

("Children of the Heavenly Father" words by Caroline V. Sandell Berg tr. Ernest W. Olson © 1978 Board of Publication of the Lutheran Church in America music Swedish Public Domain (Breathe on Me, Breath of God" words by Edwin Hatch music by Robert Jackson Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Profession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 114-115

Can those converted to God obey these commandments perfectly?

No.

In this life even the holiest have only a small beginning of this obedience.

**Nevertheless, with all seriousness of purpose,
they do begin to live according to all, not only some,
of God's commandments.**

No one in this life can obey the Ten Commandments perfectly: why then does God want them preached so pointedly?

**First, so that the longer we live the more we may come to know our sinfulness
and the more eagerly look to Christ for forgiveness of sins and righteousness.**

Second, so that,

**while praying to God for the grace of the Holy Spirit,
we may never stop striving to be renewed more and more after God's image,
until after this life we reach our goal: perfection.**

Offering: Benevolence

Evening 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.

In your commandments make me walk, for in your law my joy shall be;
Give me a heart that loves your will, from discontent and envy free.

Your wondrous testimonies, Lord, my soul will keep and greatly praise;
Your word, by faithful lips proclaimed, to simplest minds the truth conveys.

("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: *Exodus 20:1-21*

¹ *And God spoke all these words, saying,*

² *"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.*

³ *"You shall have no other gods before me.*

⁴ *"You shall not make for yourself a carved image. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them.*

⁷ *"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.*

⁸ *"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

¹² *"Honor your father and your mother.*

¹³ *"You shall not murder.*

¹⁴ *"You shall not commit adultery.*

¹⁵ *"You shall not steal.*

¹⁶ *"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*

¹⁷ *"You shall not covet."*

¹⁸ *Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off ¹⁹ and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die." ²⁰ Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin." ²¹ The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *God's Law and Grace*

Jehovah's Perfect Law

Jehovah's perfect law restores the soul again; His testimony sure gives wisdom unto men;
The precepts of the Lord are right, and fill the heart with great delight.

The Lord's commands are pure, they light and joy restore; Jehovah's fear is clean, enduring evermore;
His statutes, let the world confess, are wholly truth and righteousness.

They are to be desired above the finest gold; than honey from the comb more sweetness far they hold;
With warnings they Thy servant guard, in keeping them is great reward.

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God's Blessing

Tell Your Children

God the Father, God of glory, miracles, and mystery;
Generations all adore him, God the same through history.

Refrain: Parents tell your children, age to age the same.

Glorify the living Lord above, magnify his holy name, magnify his holy name.

("Tell Your Children" words Grace Hawthorne, music Tome Fetke © 1980, Lillenas Publishing Co. CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastors: Mike B, Robert W

Music: Nancy Z

Offering will be received for the First CRC Benevolence Fund, used to help local people and families in times of need. For more information on the benevolence fund talk to any deacon.