

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
September 10, 2023 ~ 6:00 PM Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 92:1-4*

*It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,
to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.
For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.*

Opening Prayer

We Gather Together

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing,
Sing praises to His name: He forgets not His own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining His Kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning:
Thou, Lord, was at our side – all glory be Thine.

("We Gather Together" words and music Netherlands Folk Song, harm. Edward Kremser, descant Tom Fetteke, © 1976 Paragon Assoc., CCLI 358926, Streaming 20317932)

What A Day That Will Be

There is coming a day when no heartaches shall come,
No more clouds in the sky, no more tears to dim the eye;
All is peace for evermore on that happy golden shore,
What a day, glorious day, that will be.

Refrain: What a day that will be when my Jesus I shall see,
And I look upon His face, the One who saved me by His grace;
When He takes me by the hand, and leads me through the Promised Land,
What a day, glorious day, that will be.

There'll be no sorrow there, no more burdens to bear,
No more sickness, no pain, no more parting over there;
And forever I will be with the One who died for me,
What a day, glorious day, that will be. *Refrain*

("What A Day That Will Be" words and music by Jill Hill © 1955 Ben L. Speer CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Profession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 22

What comfort does the "resurrection of the body" afford you?
**That not only my soul after this life shall be immediately taken up to Christ its Head;
but also, that this my body, raised by the power of Christ,
shall be reunited with my soul, and made like unto the glorious body of Christ.**
How does the article concerning "life everlasting" comfort you?
**Even as I already now experience in my heart the beginning of eternal joy,
so after this life I will have perfect blessedness such as
no eye has seen, no ear has heard, no human heart has ever imagined:
a blessedness in which to praise God eternally.**

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth, thro' all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art,
And make me love Thee as I ought to love.

Hast Thou not bid us love Thee, God and King?
All, all Thine own-soul, heart, and strength, and mind!
I see Thy cross-there teach my heart to cling;
O let me seek Thee, and O let me find!

("Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" Fredrick Cook Atkinson |George Croly © Public Domain CCLI 358926, Streaming 20317932)

Offering: Steve and Sandy

Evening Prayer

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away.
Oh let me from this day be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire.
As Thou has died for me, O may my love to Thee
Pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire.

When ends life's passing dream, when death's cold, threatening stream shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love, fear and distrust remove;
O lift me safe above, a ransomed soul!

("My Faith Looks Up to Thee" words by Ray Palmer, 1830, Public Domain, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Scripture: *Revelation 21:1-4*

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *What About Heaven?*

By the Sea of Crystal

By the sea of crystal saints in glory stand,
Myriads in number, drawn from every land.
Robed in white apparel, washed in Jesus' blood,
They now reign in heaven with the Lamb of God.

Out of tribulation, death, and Satan's hand,
They have been translated at the Lord's command.
In their hands they're holding palms of victory.
Hark! the jubilant chorus shouts triumphantly:

"Unto God Almighty, sitting on the throne,
And the Lamb, victorious, be the praise alone."
God has wrought salvation; He did wondrous things.
Who shall not extol thee, holy King of kings!

("By the Sea of Crystal" words by William Kuipers, music by John Vander hoven © 1933 CRC Publications / Faith Alive Christian Resources CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

God's Blessing

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him the Lord of heaven: one with the Father known,
One with the Spirit through Him given from yonder glorious throne.
To Thee be endless praise, for Thou for us hast died;
Be Thou, O Lord, through endless days adored and magnified.

("Crown Him with Many Crowns" words by Matthew Bridges and Godfrey Thring music by George J. Elvey, descant by Paul Sjolund © Public Domain, 1976 by Paragon Associates, Inc. CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastor: Mike B

Music: Mike H

Offering will be received for Steve & Sandy, serving with Africa Inland Mission in Canada ministering to a Muslim people group from northeastern Africa. Their focus is building relationships open opportunities to present the good news of Jesus Christ, through activities such as fixing and giving out bikes, tutoring homework, and teaching English as a second language.

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