

**First Christian Reformed Church**  
Lynden, Washington  
September 24, 2023 ~ 6:00 PM Worship Service

**Call to Worship:** *Psalm 9:1-2, 11*

*Sing praises to the LORD, who sits enthroned in Zion! Tell among the peoples his deeds!  
I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.  
I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.*

**God's Greeting**

***Come, People of the Risen King***

Come, people of the risen King, who delight to bring Him praise.  
Come, all, and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of grace.  
From the shifting shadows of the earth we will lift our eyes to Him,  
Where steady arms of mercy reach to gather children in.

*Refrain:* Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice! One heart, one voice, O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun, and those weeping through the night.  
Come, those who tell of battles won, and those struggling in the fight.  
For His perfect love will never change, and His mercies never cease,  
But follow us through all our days with the certain hope of peace. *Refrain*

Come, young and old from every land, men and women of the faith.  
Come, those with full or empty hands; find the riches of His grace.  
Over all the world His people sing; shore to shore we hear them call  
The Truth that cries through every age: "Our God is all in all!" *Refrain*

("Come, People of the Risen King" words and music by Keith & Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townsend, © 2008 Thankyou Music/Adm. by worshiptogether.com songs excl. UK & Europe, adm. by Kingsway Music, tym@kingsway.co.uk, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

***Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer***

Jesus, draw me ever nearer as I labor through the storm.  
You have called me to this passage, and I'll follow though I'm worn.

*Refrain:* May this journey bring a blessing; may I rise on wings of faith;  
And at the end of my heart's testing with your likeness let me wake.

Jesus, guide me through the tempest, keep my spirit staid and sure.  
When the midnight meets the morning, let me love you even more. *Refrain*

Let the treasurers of the trial form within me as I go,  
And at the end of this long passage let me leave them at your throne. *Refrain*

("Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer" words by Margaret Becker © Modern M. Music; music by Keith Getty © 2001 Kingsway's Thankyou Music CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

***I Set My Hope on Jesus***

When this life of trials tests my faith, I set my hope on Jesus.  
When the questions come and doubts remain, I set my hope on Jesus.  
For the deepest wounds that time won't heal there is joy that runs still deeper  
There's a truth that's more than all I feel, I set my hope on Jesus.

*Refrain:* I set my hope on Jesus, my rock, my only trust  
Who set His heart upon me first, I set my hope on Jesus.

Though I falter in this war with sin, I set my hope on Jesus.  
When I fail the fight and sink within, I set my hope on Jesus.  
Though the shame would drown me in its sea and I dread the wave of justice,  
I will cast my life on Calvary. I set my hope on Jesus. *Refrain*

Though the world call me to leave my Lord, I set my hope on Jesus.  
Though it offer all its vain rewards, I set my hope on Jesus  
Though this heart of mine is prone to stray give me grace enough to finish  
'Till I worship on that final day, I set my hope on you. *Refrain*

("I Set my Hope on Jesus" Keith & Kristyn Getty/ Matt Boswell/ Matt Papa © 2023 Getty Music Hymn and Songs, Getty Music Publishing, Love Your Enemies Publishing, Messenger Hymns CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

**Call to Confession:** *based on Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16*

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us.  
Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help  
in time of need. Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

## Prayer of Preparation and Confession

**Assurance:** *based on Romans 8:34; 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

**Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.**

**Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.**

Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

### *Wonderful, Merciful Savior*

Wonderful, merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and Friend;

Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?

Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

*Refrain:* You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore.

You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,

Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace;

You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way,

Oh, we hopelessly lost the way. *Refrain*

("Wonderful, Merciful Savior" words by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse and music by Vine Ridge, Dawn Rodgers, © 1989 Word Music, LLC & Dayspring Music, LLC, CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

## Offertory Prayer and Offering: Benevolence

### Morning Prayer

#### *Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord*

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here;

Come bow before him now with reverence and fear:

In him no sin is found; we stand on holy ground.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

("Be Still, for the Presence" words and music by David Evan © 1986 Thankyou Music CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

### Scripture: *Romans 4:9-12*

<sup>9</sup> *Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness.* <sup>10</sup> *How then was it counted to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised.* <sup>11</sup> *He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well,* <sup>12</sup> *and to make him the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Message: *When Did God Count Faith as Righteousness?*

#### *His Robes For Mine*

His robes for mine: O wonderful exchange! Clothed in my sin, Christ suffered 'neath God's rage.

Draped in His righteousness, I'm justified. In Christ I live, for in my place He died.

*Refrain:* I cling to Christ, and marvel at the cost: Jesus forsaken, God estranged from God.

Bought by such love, my life is not my own. My praise-my all-shall be for Christ alone.

His robes for mine: what cause have I for dread? God's daunting Law Christ mastered in my stead.

Faultless I stand with righteous works not mine, Saved by my Lord's vicarious death and life. *Refrain*

(His Robes for Mine words Chris Anderson, music, Greg Habegger © 2008 churchworksmedia.com, CCLI #358926, Streaming #20317932)

## God's Blessing

### *My Friends May You Grow in Grace*

My friends, may you grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

My friends, may you grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

("My Friends, May You Grow in Grace" words and music by Timothy James Meaney and Sean Diamond © 1991, 2011 Wiseman Music, CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)