

First Christian Reformed Church

Lynden, Washington

Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 2023 ~ 10:00 AM Worship Service

Call to Worship: Psalm 105:1-4

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!

God's Greeting

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.

All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.

God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.

Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

For the Lord our God shall come and shall take His harvest home;

From His field shall in that day all offenses purge away,

Give His angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,

But the fruitful ears to store in His garner evermore.

Even so Lord, quickly come to Thy final harvest home;

Gather Thou Thy people in free from sorrow free from sin;

There forever purified, in Thy presence to abide.

Come, with all Thine angels come; raise the glorious harvest home.

("Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" words by Job Elvey, music by Henry Alford © words and music Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise;

With joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise.

By him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move;

Sing to the Lord of harvest, a joyful song of love.

God makes the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and spring;

The hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.

He fills from his great fullness all things with large increase;

He crowns the year with goodness, with plenty, and with peace.

Heap on his sacred altar the gifts his goodness gave,

The golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.

Your hearts lay down before him when at his feet you fall,

And with your lives adore him who gave his life for all.

("Sing to the Lord of Harvest" words and music by Johann Steurlein, John Monsell, Michael Larkin © 1992 Jubilate Music Group LLC, CCLI #358926, Streaming Lic 20317932)

Let All Things Now Living

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving

To God the Creator triumphantly raise,

Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,

Who guides us and leads to the end of our days.

His banners are o'er us, his light goes before us,

A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,

Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,

As forward we travel from light into light.

His law he enforces; the stars in their courses

And sun in its orbit obediently shine;

The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,

The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.

We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;

With glad adoration a song let us raise,

Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:

To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

("Let All Things Now Living" words Katherine K. Davis, © 1939, 1966, E. C. Schirmer Music Co., CCLI #358926, Streaming 20317932)

Thanksgiving Litany

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our rock, our fortress, and our deliverer.

Let us remember his mercy, for he is gracious and compassionate.

We thank you for calling us to faith in Christ, for putting your Spirit within us, for giving us the mind of Christ, for gathering us into your church.

We thank you, Lord, for extending your grace to us,

for calling us to a life of gratitude, for calling us to service in your kingdom.

Thanks be to God!

Let us give thanks to the Lord, for he satisfies the thirsty,

he fills the hungry with good things, and he heals the afflicted.

Let us celebrate his abundant goodness.

We thank you, gracious Father, that you provide for all our needs, for the food on our tables, for the clothes on our bodies, for the beds we sleep in, and for the dwellings that shelter us.

We praise you for all your gifts that go beyond our basic needs,

for the things that make our work easier, for the conveniences of modern life,

for the beauty and pleasure that you bring into our lives.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land.

But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand.

He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,

The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain: All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.

He only is the maker of all things near and far;

He paints the wayside flower, he lights the evening star.

The wind and waves obey him, by him the birds are fed;

Much more to us, his children, he gives our daily bread. *Refrain*

We thank you, our Creator, for all things bright and good:

The seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.

Accept the gifts we offer for all your love imparts;

Accept what you most welcome: our humble, thankful hearts! *Refrain*

(*"We Plow the Fields and Scatter"* text Matthias Claudius (1782) tune Johann A.P. Schulz (1800) Public Domain CCLI #358926, Streaming #20317932)

Psalm 100

Thanksgiving Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Scripture: *Psalm 136:1-9; 23-26*

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

² Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever.

³ Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁴ to him who alone does great wonders, for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁵ to him who by understanding made the heavens, for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁶ to him who spread out the earth above the waters, for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁷ to him who made the great lights, for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁸ the sun to rule over the day, for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁹ the moon and stars to rule over the night, for his steadfast love endures forever;

²³ It is he who remembered us in our low estate, for his steadfast love endures forever;

²⁴ and rescued us from our foes, for his steadfast love endures forever;

²⁵ he who gives food to all flesh, for his steadfast love endures forever.

²⁶ Give thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Give Thanks For His Steadfast Love Endures Forever*

Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
To keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills of this world in the next.

("Now Thank We All Our God" words by Martin Rinchart (1636), tr. Catherine Winkworth (1863), music by Johann Cruger (1647), Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

Now Thank We All Our God

#454:3 (PH)

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

("Now Thank We All Our God" words by Martin Rinchart (1636), tr. Catherine Winkworth (1863), music by Johann Cruger (1647), Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastor: Robert W
Readers: Elias and Avery
Music: Sharon A, Paul A, Cheryl K

Offering will be received for the designated Thanksgiving causes.

All loose monies will be for the First CRC Benevolence fund.

Nursery is available with a paging system for children under 3 years during worship service in the Education Building.

Worship services are also broadcast live in the basement and streamed online for anyone unable to worship in the sanctuary.

An assistive listening system is available in the sanctuary; to use this system, switch hearing aids to "T".

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