

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
January 14, 2024 ~ 10:30 AM Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 99:1-3*

*The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.
Let us praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!*

God's Greeting

Our God Reigns

How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, good news
Announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness.
Our God reigns; our God reigns!
Our God reigns; our God reigns!
Our God reigns; our God reigns!

("Our God Reigns" words and music by Leonard F. Smith, © 1974, 1978 by L. E. Smith, Jr./New Jerusalem Music, CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

We Praise You, O God

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;
We bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our fathers, we bless you;
Through life's storm and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'er take us, you never forsake us.
And with your help, O Lord, our battles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer;
Our songs of thanksgiving to you we now raise.
Your strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us.
To you, our great Redeemer, fore'er be praise!

("We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer" words by Julia C. Cory, arr. Edward Kremser © Public Domain, CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

The Wonder of It All

There's a wonder of sunset at evening, the wonder as sunrise I see;
But the wonder of wonders that thrills my soul is the wonder that God loves me.

Refrain: O, the wonder of it all! The wonder of it all!
Just to think that God loves me.
O the wonder of it all! The wonder of it all!
Just to think that God loves me.

There's a wonder of springtime and harvest, the sky, the stars, the sun;
But the wonder of wonders that thrills my soul is a wonder that's only begun. *Refrain*

("The Wonder of It All" George Beverly Shea © 1957 Word Music LLC, CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Call to Confession: *Proverbs 28:13 and Psalm 32:5*

*"Whoever conceals his sins will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."
"Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.
I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.'
And you forgave the guilt of my sin."*

Prayer of Confession

Assurance: *John 3:16-17, NRSV*

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast; when the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path; for my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

Refrain: He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast; precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His Promises shall last; bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast. *Refrain*

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast; justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last! *Refrain*

("He Will Hold Me Fast" words by Ada Ruth Habershon, music by Matthew Merker © 2031 Getty Music Publishing, Matthew Merker Music, CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

Offertory Prayer

Offering: Al & Julie

Morning Prayer

May the Mind of Christ My Savior

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day,
By His love and power controlling all I do and say.

May the word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph only through His power.

May the peace of God, my Father, rule my life in everything,
That I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

("May the Mind of Christ, My Savior" words by Kate B. Wilkinson and music by A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925, desc. Emily R. Brink, 1986. Tune by permission of the estate A.C. Barham-Gould. © Public Domain, Descant © 1987 CRC Publications, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

Scripture: *Luke 9:10-17 (ESV)*

¹⁰ On their return the apostles told him all that they had done. And he took them and withdrew apart to a town called Bethsaida. ¹¹ When the crowds learned it, they followed him, and he welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God and cured those who had need of healing. ¹² Now the day began to wear away, and the twelve came and said to him, "Send the crowd away to go into the surrounding villages and countryside to find lodging and get provisions, for we are here in a desolate place." ¹³ But he said to them, "You give them something to eat." They said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people." ¹⁴ For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." ¹⁵ And they did so, and had them all sit down. ¹⁶ And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing over them. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. ¹⁷ And they all ate and were satisfied. And what was left over was picked up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Our Inadequacy, Christ's Abundance*

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone, my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song,
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ, I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God, in helpless Babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on the cross, as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live.

("In Christ Alone" words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © 2002 Kingsway's Thankyou Music, CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

In Christ Alone

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me.
From life's first cry, to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand.
'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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Our Inadequacy, Christ's Abundance
Luke 9:10-17 ESV

1) People are needy. Vs. 10-11

2) We are inadequate to meet the overwhelming needs of people. Vs. 11-15

a) Jesus uses tired, emotionally drained people. Vs.10.

b) Jesus uses busy people. Vs 12.

c) Jesus uses people who lack resources. Vs. 13.

3) Jesus gives His abundance when we give our inadequacy to Him Vs. 16-17

Pastors: Jim V, Robert W
Prayer: Paul A, Jacob A
Music: Nancy Z, Mike S

Offering will be received for Al & Julie, working with Operation Mobilization in Belgium, one of the least reached nations in the world. For more information, visit www.om.org/be/be_en.

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

Children's Church is available for children 3 years – 3rd grade. Children are dismissed during the worship service.

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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