

First Christian Reformed Church  
Lynden, Washington  
January 21, 2024 ~ 10:30 AM Worship Service

**Call to Worship:** *Psalm 118:1, 6, 14-16, 28-29*

*Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;*

*his love endures forever.*

***The LORD is with me; I will not be afraid.***

***What can mere mortals do to me?***

***The LORD is my strength and my defense;***

***he has become my salvation.***

*Shouts of joy and victory*

*resound in the tents of the righteous:*

*“The LORD’s right hand has done mighty things!*

*The LORD’s right hand is lifted high;*

*the LORD’s right hand has done mighty things!”*

***You are my God, and I will praise you;***

***you are my God, and I will exalt you.***

***Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;***

***his love endures forever.***

### **God’s Greeting**

#### ***Great Is Thy Faithfulness***

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father!

There is no shadow of turning with Thee;

Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not:

As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain:* Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness,

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided –

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,

Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow –

Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

(“Great is Thy Faithfulness, text Thomas O Chisholm, tune William M Runyan, © 1923 Renewed 1951 Hope Publishing Company, CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

#### ***God of Grace***

God of grace, amazing wonder, irresistible and free;

Oh, the miracle of mercy, Jesus reaches down to me.

God of grace, I stand in wonder,

As my God restores my soul.

His own blood has paid my ransom;

Awesome cost to make me whole.

God of grace, who loved and knew me

Long before the world began;

Sent my Savior down from heaven;

Perfect God and perfect man.

God of grace, I trust in Jesus; I’m accepted as His own.

Every day new grace sustains me, as I lean on Him alone.

(“God of Grace” words and music by Jonathan Rea | Keith Getty © 2003 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

### ***Here is Love***

Here is love, vast as the ocean, loving-kindness as the flood,  
When the Prince of Life, our Ransom, shed for us His precious blood.  
Who His love will not remember? Who can cease to sing His praise?  
He can never be forgotten throughout heav'n's eternal days.

Let me all Thy love accepting, love Thee, ever all my days;  
Let me see Thy kingdom only and my life be to Thy praise;  
Thou alone shalt be my glory, nothing in the world I see.  
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me, Thou Thyself hast set me free.

("Here is Love" words by William Edwards, music by William Rees ©words and music Public Domain, CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

### **Sanctity of Life Litany**

God formed man from the dust of the earth.  
**We praise God for His gift of life to man and woman.**  
God breathed into man the breath of life.  
**The gift of life is precious in the sight of God.**  
Man became a living being filled with the Holy Spirit.  
**God formed man and woman in His own image  
from the dust of the earth.**  
Life is sanctified and held holy by all who believe in God.  
**The gift of life is precious and holy in His sight.**  
**We praise God for the gift of life  
and for the courage to embrace it, protect it, and honor it.**  
**We offer prayers of thanksgiving to honor  
the sanctity of human life.**  
**We ask God to bless all who bring life into the world. Amen.**

### **Call to Confession: *Psalm 119:36-37***

***Incline my heart to your testimonies,  
and not to selfish gain!  
Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things;  
and give me life in your ways.***

### **Prayer of Confession**

#### **Assurance: *Christ Our Hope in Life and Death***

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone.  
What is our only confidence? That our souls to Him belong.  
Who holds our days within His hand?  
What comes, apart from His command?  
And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.

*Refrain:* O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.  
Where is His grace and goodness known?  
In our great Redeemer's blood.  
Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial?  
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh unto the shore, the rock of Christ? *Refrain*

Unto the grave, what will we sing? Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!  
And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with Him.  
There we will rise to meet the Lord,  
Then sin and death will be destroyed,  
And we will feast in endless joy, when Christ is ours forevermore. *Refrain*

("Christ Our Hope in Life and Death" Jordan Kauflin | Keith Getty | Matt Boswell | Matt Papa | Matthew Merker © 2020 Getty Music: Hymns and Songs Getty Music Publishing Jordan Kauflin Music Love Your Enemies Publishing Matthew Merker Music Messenger Hymns CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

## Offertory Prayer

**Offering:** Lynden Human Life

**Offertory Music:** *Amazing Grace*

## Morning Prayer

### *Change My Heart, O God*

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.

You are the Potter, I am the clay;  
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.  
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.

("Change My Heart, O God" words and music by Eddie Espinosa © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (Breathe on Me, Breath of God" words by Edwin Hatch music by Robert Jackson Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

### **Scripture:** *Romans 5:1-5 (ESV)*

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
<sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Message:** *Perseverance*

#### *Because He Lives*

God sent His Son – they called Him Jesus;  
He came to love, heal and forgive.  
He lived and died to buy my pardon;  
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

*Refrain:* Because He lives I can face tomorrow;  
Because He lives, all fear is gone.  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

And then one day I'll cross the river;  
I'll fight life's final war with pain.  
And then, as death gives way to victory,  
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns. *Refrain*

("Because He Lives" words and music by William and Gloria Gauthier © 1971 William Gauthier CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

## God's Blessing

### *Glory Be to the Father*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.

("Glory Be to the Father" words are Gloria Patri, tune by Charles Meineke © Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

Pastors: Mitchell S, Robert W  
Prayer: Tabin B, Wes VP  
Music: Lee VB, Nancy Z

Offering will be received for Lynden Human Life, an organization which offers pro-life educational materials and resources to the residents of Whatcom County and beyond. For more information, visit [www.lyndenhumanlife.org](http://www.lyndenhumanlife.org).

*Perseverance*  
*Romans 5:1-5*

1. Stand

2. Joy/Satisfaction

3. Don't Give Up