

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
Easter, March 31, 2024 ~ 10:30 AM Worship Service

Call to Worship: *based on 1 Peter 1:3-5*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope. He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia!

Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply: Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!

Dying once, He all doth save, Alleluia!

Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids him rise; Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

("Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" words Charles Wesley, music Easter Hymn descant by Paul Sjolund ©1976 Paragon Associates. Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

He Lives

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;

I know that He is living, whatever men may say;

I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,

And just the time I need Him He's always near.

Refrain: He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian lift up your voice and sing

Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!

The Hope of all who seek Him the Help of all who find,

None other is so loving, so good and kind. *Refrain*

("I Serve a Risen Savior" author A.H. Ackley, © 1933. Renewed 1961 Word Music, LLC. CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.

Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!

Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee;

And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of life: who triumphed o'er the grave,

Who rose victorious to the strife for those He came to save;

His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,

Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

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 Matthew Bridges and Godfrey Thring, music George J. Elvey, descant Paul Sjolund © Public Domain, 1976 by Paragon Associates, Inc. CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Easter Reading: *Matthew 28:1-20*

I Corinthians 15:54-57

*“Death is swallowed up in victory,
O death, where is your victory?
O death, where is your sting?”
The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.
But thanks be to God,
who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Christ Arose

Low in the grave He lay, Jesus, my Savior!
Waiting the coming day, Jesus, my Lord!

Refrain: Up from the grave He arose
With a mighty triumph o’er His foes;
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever with His saints to reign;
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Death could not keep his prey, Jesus, my Savior!
He tore the bars away, Jesus, my Lord! *Refrain*

“Christ Arose” Robert Lowry, Public Domain (Breathe on Me, Breath of God” words Edwin Hatch, music Robert Jackson Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

Offertory Prayer

Offering: Helping Hands for Babies

Morning Prayer

See, What a Morning

See, what a morning, gloriously bright,
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;
Folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light,
As the angels announce, "Christ is risen!"
See God's salvation plan,
Wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,
Fulfilled in Christ, the Man,
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

See Mary weeping, "Where is He laid?"
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb.
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name;
It's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!
The voice that spans the years,
Speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,
Will sound till He appears,
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

One with the Father, Ancient of Days,
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty.
Honor and blessing, glory and praise
To the King crowned with pow'r and authority.
And we are raised with Him;
Death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered.
And we shall reign with Him,
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead.

“See, What a Morning”, music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © 2002 Thankyou Music/Adm. by worshiptogether.com songs UK & Europe, adm. by Kingsway Music. tym@kingsway.co.uk ., CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Scripture: *I Corinthians 15:3-8, 12-22, 54-58*

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *He Is Alive*

Thine Is the Glory

Thine is the glory, risen conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.

Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let His church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth: death hath lost its sting. *Refrain*

(“Thine is the Glory” Edmond Louis Budry, George Frideric Handel, Richard Birch Hoyle © words and music Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

God’s Blessing

Rejoice, the Lord is King

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

(“Rejoice, the Lord is King” words by Charles Wesley; music by John Darwall © Public Domain words and music, CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Pastor: Robert W

Readers: Andrew and Elias R

Prayer: Tabin B

Music: Valerie A, Emily A, Paul A, Sharon A, Brad H, Mike H, Brian K

Offering will be received for Helping Hands, a ministry of First CRC. Donations help cover fabric and shipping costs for the thousands of blankets and baby clothing made to send to people in need. For more information, talk to Leona Oostema.