

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
November 3, 2024 ~ 6:00 PM Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 145:1-3*

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

Opening Prayer

Great is the LORD Our God

Great is the LORD our God, and greatly to be praised.
Upon a hill God's city stands in glorious beauty raised,
His holy mountain high, the city of our King,
The joy of all the earth below; in praise of God we sing.

God makes his city strong by living in her halls.
When kings join forces and advance, they marvel at her walls.
God scatters those around whose pride makes them so sure.
As we have heard, so have we seen: God's city is secure.

Within your temple, LORD, in your most holy place,
We on your loving-kindness dwell, the wonders of your grace.
Your people sing your praise where'er your name is known.
By every deed your hand has done your righteousness is shown.

("Great is the LORD Our God" words Psalm 48, tune George J. Elvey (1868) © 1987 CRC Publications, CCLI# 358926 Streaming #20317932)

We Gather Together

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing,
Sing praises to His name: He forgets not His own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining His Kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning:
Thou, Lord, was at our side – all glory be Thine.

We all do extol Thee, Thou leader triumphant,
And pray that Thou still our defender wilt be.
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation:
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

("We Gather Together" words and music Netherlands Folk Song, harm. Edward Kremser, descant Tom Fetteke, © 1976 Paragon Assoc., CCLI 358926, Streaming 20317932)

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

I love Thy kingdom, Lord, the house of Thine abode,
The Church our blest Redeemer saved with His own precious blood.

I love Thy Church, O God! Her walls before Thee stand,
Dear as the apple of Thine eye, and graven on Thy hand.

Sure as Thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be given
The brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heaven.

("I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" words Aaron Williams, Raymond Haan, music Timothy Dwight © 1990 The Sacred Music Press CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Profession of Faith: *Psalm 121:1-8*

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Offering: Christian School Tuition Assistance

Evening Prayer

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art,
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

("Be Thou My Vision" words by William Hiram Foulkes music by Calvin W. Laufer Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Scripture: *Nehemiah 1:3-4, 11*

³ *They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire."* ⁴ *When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.*

¹¹ *Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man."*

Nehemiah 2:17-20

¹⁷ *Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace."* ¹⁸ *I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.*

¹⁹ *But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard about it, they mocked and ridiculed us. "What is this you are doing?" they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?"* ²⁰ *I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it."*

Nehemiah 6:15-16

¹⁵ *So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days.* ¹⁶ *When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.*

Nehemiah 8:1-3

¹ *All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel.* ² *So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand.* ³ *He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *A Walk Through the Bible – Nehemiah*

Who Is On the Lord's Side?

Who is on the Lord's side? Who will serve the King? Who will be His helpers, other lives to bring?
Who will leave the world's side? Who will face the foe? Who is on the Lord's side? Who for Him will go?
By Thy call of mercy, by Thy grace divine, we are on the Lord's side, Savior, we are Thine!

Not for weight of glory, nor for crown and palm, enter we the army, raise the warrior psalm;
But for love that claimeth lives from whom He died: He whom Jesus nameth must be on His side.
By Thy love constraining, by Thy grace divine, we are on the Lord's side, Savior, we are Thine!

Fierce may be the conflict, strong may be the foe, but the King's own army none can overthrow;
'Round His standard ranging, victory is secure; for His truth unchanging makes the triumph sure.
Joyfully enlisting, by Thy grace divine, we are on the Lord's side, Savior, we are Thine!

("Who Is On the Lord's Side" words Frances R. Havergal (1877), Public Domain, CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

For All the Saints

For all the saints, who from their labors rest, who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest: Alleluia, Alleluia!

("For All the Saints" words by William W. How, music by Ralph Vaughn Williams, © words and music Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastors: Zac H, Robert W

Music: Sharon A

Offering will be received for Christian School Tuition Assistance,
a fund used to help First Church families who send their children to Christian schools.

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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