

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
December 29, 2024 ~ 10:30 AM Worship Service

Gathered by God's Grace

Call to Worship: *from Psalm 90*

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

*Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.*

A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.

Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

God's Greeting

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

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Gratitude for God's Past Grace Received in 2024

Scripture: *Hebrews 4:14-16*

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Grace Greater Than Our Sin

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

Refrain: Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin!

Sin and despair, like the seawaves cold, threaten the soul with infinite loss:
Grace, that is great – yes grace untold points to the Refuge, the mighty Cross. *Refrain*

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe!
You that are longing to see His face, will you this moment His grace receive? *Refrain*

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Prayers of Thanksgiving for 2024

Silent prayers from congregation

Offertory Prayer and Offering: Envision Mission

Petition for God's Future Grace Needed in 2025

Scripture: *Philippians 1:9-11*

⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Meditation: *That Your Love May Abound*

Our God Will Go Before Us

Our God will go before us and guide us by His presence.
What confidence this promise is; we will never walk alone.

Refrain: Our God will go before us, the Lord of Hosts is with us.
O praise the One who leads us on for His grace will bring us home.

Through unknown paths through shadows, our hearts fear not tomorrow,
For every step His faithfulness is the truth that lights our way. *Refrain*

Though evil forms against us, all heaven will defend us.
The gates of hell shall not prevail for the battle is the Lord's. *Refrain*

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Prayers of Petition For Our Church's Future

Silent prayers from congregation

Service of Covenant Renewal

Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

All Glory Be to Christ

Should nothing of our efforts stand, no legacy survive;
Unless the Lord does raise the house, in vain its builders strive.
To you who boast tomorrow's gain, tell me what is your life
A mist that vanishes at dawn all glory be to Christ!

Refrain: All glory be to Christ our king! All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, all glory be to Christ!

His will be done His kingdom come, on earth as is above;
Who is Himself our daily bread, praise Him the Lord of love.
Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price
We'll take a cup of kindness yet, all glory be to Christ! *Refrain*

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God's Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.**

To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory, to God be the glory, to God be the glory for the things he has done:
With his blood he has saved me; with his power he has raised me.
To God be the glory for the things he has done.

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Pastors: Zac Harrison, Robert Woodyard Prayer: Dustin Heeringa Music: Sharon Assink

Offering will be received for Envision Mission, ministry created to work with the street culture of downtown Bellingham. Their mission is to commune with God in prayer as a group, to make disciples of Jesus who obey all He commands, and to save the lost in Bellingham. For more information, visit www.envisionmission.org.

Love Offering will be received for Eagle's Wings, is a Christian home for teenage girls in Albania, organized by Jack & Susannah Dabney and several colleagues of Pastor Robert & Phama. The home provides a safe haven for girls vulnerable to exploitation, violence and trafficking and here girls experience God's unconditional love, learn important life skills and receive job training. For more information, visit www.eagleswingsalbania.org.