

Second Sunday of Lent
First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
March 16, 2025 ~ 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 118:22-24*

*The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.*

This is the Lord's doing;

it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

God's Greeting

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*

("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 License #20317932)

Stronger

There is Love, that came for us.

Humbled to a sinner's cross.

You broke my shame, and sinfulness.

You rose again, victorious.

Faithfulness none can deny.

Through the storm, and through the fire.

There is truth that sets me free,

Jesus Christ who lives in me.

Refrain: You are stronger, You are stronger.
Sin is broken, You have saved me.
It is written, Christ is risen. Jesus, You are Lord of all.

No beginning, and no end.

You're my hope, and my defense.

You came to seek, and save the lost.

You paid it all, upon the cross.

Refrain: You are stronger, You are stronger.
Sin is broken, You have saved me.
It is written, Christ is risen.
Jesus, You are Lord of all.

So let Your name be lifted higher,
Be lifted higher, be lifted higher.
So let Your name be lifted higher,
Be lifted higher, be lifted higher. *Refrain*

("Stronger" Ben Fielding, Reuben Morgan © 2007 Hillsong Music Pub. (admin. Capitol CMG Pub.) CCLI# 358926 Streaming #20317932)

I Come to the Cross

I come to the cross seeking mercy and grace,
I come to the cross where You died in my place.
Out of my weakness and into Your strength,
Humbly, I come to the cross.
Your arms are open, You call me by name.
You welcome this child that was lost.
You paid the price for my guilt and my shame.
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come to the cross.

("I Come to the Cross" words and music by Bill Batstone and Bob Somma © 1996 Universal Music, Meadowgreen Music Co., CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Lenten Reading: *Isaiah 49:3-6*

But for the Cross of Christ

What is the truth that ever anchors me
Amidst the waves of all my guilt?
That Christ has shed His blood and pardoned me
At the cross, at the cross.

He bore my sin, I bear His righteousness.
Oh what a glorious exchange.
The wrath of God laid on the spotless Lamb.
Oh what grace, oh what grace,

Refrain: Behold the cross, there is no greater love.
Heaven's Son laid down His life for us.
Oh my soul would be lost with no hope to find,
But for the cross of Christ.

How do I walk with humble confidence?
I look to Christ, who is my peace.
He sealed my hope and my inheritance
At the cross, at the cross.

When I am weak and stumble into sin,
There is an ever-flowing stream.
His cleansing blood revives my soul again.
Oh what grace, oh what grace.

Refrain: Behold the cross, there is no greater love.
Heaven's Son laid down His life for us.
Oh my soul would be lost with no hope to find,
But for the cross of Christ.

("But for the Cross of Christ" Bryan Fowler | Jessica Waterman | Kristyn Getty © 2023 Getty Music Publishing, Watermann Music, Be Essential Songs; bryanfowersongs CCLI License # 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Offertory Prayer

Offering: Samaritans Purse – California Wildfire Relief

Congregational Prayer

Scripture: *Romans 9:30 – 10:4*

³⁰ *What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; ³¹ but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. ³² Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, ³³ as it is written,*

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

10 Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. ² For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. ³ For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. ⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *The Stumbling Stone*

Praise the Savior, Now and Ever

Praise the Savior now and ever;
Praise him, all beneath the skies;
Self denying, suffering, dying, on the cross a sacrifice.
Victory gaining, life obtaining, now in glory he doth rise!
Our work faileth, Christ's availeth;
He is all our righteousness.
He, our Savior, has forever set us free from dire distress.
Through his merit we inherit light and peace and happiness.

For his favor, praise forever unto God the Father sing.

Praise the Savior, praise him ever,

Son of God, our Lord and King.

Praise the Spirit; through Christ's merit

He doth us salvation bring.

("Praise the Savior, Now and Ever" words by Venantius Honorius Fortunatus © Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

* **God's Blessing**

To God Be the Glory

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,

To every believer the promise of God;

The vilest offender who truly believes,

That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain: Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear his voice.
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice.
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give him the glory, great things he has done.

("To God Be the Glory" words by Franny Crosby and music by William H. Doane © Public Domain CCLI# 358926 Streaming #20317932)

Pastors: Zac H, Robert W

Prayer: Dustin H, Roger P

Readers: Dennis & Jeanne J

Music: Kaden K, Kara H, Micah K, Jack P, Brian K, Ken Q, Nancy Z

Offering Samaritans Purse – California Wildfire Relief - When a disaster strikes, it's urgent to get help fast to those affected. That's why Samaritan's Purse responds immediately, quickly deploying our staff, equipment, supplies and an army of volunteers to help devastated homeowners.