

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
May 11, 2025
6:00 p.m. Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 99:1-3*

The LORD reigns! Let the peoples tremble.

He is enthroned between the cherubim.

Let the earth quake.

The LORD is great in Zion;

he is exalted above all the peoples.

Let them praise your great

and awe-inspiring name.

He is holy.

Opening Prayer

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

Guide me, O my great Redeemer,

Pilgrim through this barren land;

I am weak, but You are mighty,

Hold me with Your pow'rful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,

Feed me now and ever-more.

Feed me now and ever-more.

Open now the crystal fountain,

Where the healing waters flow;

Let the fire and cloudy pillar

Lead me all my journey through.

Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,

Ever be my strength and shield;

Ever be my strength and shield.

("Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer" words by William Williams, music by John Hughes © Words and Music Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

O Master, let me walk with Thee

In lowly paths of service free;

Tell me Thy secret – help me bear

The strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move

By some clear, winning word of love;

Teach me the wayward feet to stay,

And guide them in the homeward way.

In hope that sends a shining ray

Far down the future's broadening way,

In peace that only Thou canst give,

With Thee, O Master, let me live.

("O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" words by Washington Gladden, tune by H. Percy Smith © Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Lead Me, Guide Me

Refrain: Lead me, guide me, along the way,
For if You lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with You,
Lead me my whole life through.

Help me walk in the paths of righteousness;
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am trusting You whatever may be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain*

I am lost if You take Your hand from me,
I am blind without Your light to see.
Lord, forever may I Your servant be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain*

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Profession of Faith: Belgic Confession Article 1

**We all believe with the heart,
and confess with the mouth,
that there is one only simple and spiritual Being,
which we call God;
and that he is eternal, incomprehensible,
invisible, immutable, infinite, almighty,
perfectly wise, just, good,
and the overflowing fountain of all good.**

Offering: TRIBE

Evening Prayer

Just a Closer Walk With Thee

I am weak but Thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

Refrain: Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Through this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee. *Refrain*

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Scripture: II Samuel 21:1-14

Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year. And David sought the face of the Lord. And the Lord said, "There is bloodguilt on Saul and on his house, because he put the Gibeonites to death." ² So the king called the Gibeonites and spoke to them. Now the Gibeonites were not of the people of Israel but of the remnant of the Amorites. Although the people of Israel had sworn to spare them, Saul had sought to strike them down in his zeal for the people of Israel and Judah. ³ And David said to the Gibeonites, "What shall I do for you? And how shall I make atonement, that you may bless the heritage of the Lord?" ⁴ The Gibeonites said to him, "It is not a matter of silver or gold between us and Saul or his house; neither is it for us to put any man to death in Israel." And he said, "What do you say that I shall do for you?" ⁵ They said to the king, "The man who consumed us and planned to destroy us, so that we should have no place in all the territory of Israel, ⁶ let seven of his sons be given to us, so that we may hang them before the Lord at Gibeah of Saul, the chosen of the Lord." And the king said, "I will give them."

⁷ But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Saul's son Jonathan, because of the oath of the Lord that was between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul. ⁸ The king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bore to Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth; and the five sons of Merab the daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholahtite; ⁹ and he gave them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they hanged them on the

mountain before the Lord, and the seven of them perished together. They were put to death in the first days of harvest, at the beginning of barley harvest.

¹⁰ Then Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it for herself on the rock, from the beginning of harvest until rain fell upon them from the heavens. And she did not allow the birds of the air to come upon them by day, or the beasts of the field by night. ¹¹ When David was told what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done, ¹² David went and took the bones of Saul and the bones of his son Jonathan from the men of Jabesh-gilead, who had stolen them from the public square of Beth-shan, where the Philistines had hanged them, on the day the Philistines killed Saul on Gilboa. ¹³ And he brought up from there the bones of Saul and the bones of his son Jonathan; and they gathered the bones of those who were hanged. ¹⁴ And they buried the bones of Saul and his son Jonathan in the land of Benjamin in Zela, in the tomb of Kish his father. And they did all that the king commanded. And after that God responded to the plea for the land.

John 19:25-27

But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Discipleship of Motherhood*

Prayer

Our Father, Whose Creative Love

(To the tune of *My God, How Wonderful You Are*)

Our Father, whose creative love the gift of life bestows,
Each child of early union born your heavenly likeness shows.

Teach them to meet the growing needs of infant, child, and youth;
To build the body, train the mind to know and love the truth.

All parents need your wisdom's light, your love within their heart;
Then bless their home, and for their task your Spirit's grace impart.

("Our Father, Whose Creative Love" Albert F. Bayly) Gordon Slater © Words: 1988 Oxford University Press; Music: 1988 Oxford University Press CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

("Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" words by Thomas Ken and music Louise Bourgeois, © Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Pastors: Don R
Music: Nancy Z

Offering First CRC High School Youth Group (TRIBE) and Post-High Group is a ministry for 9th-12th grade students and a separate ministry for post-high adults; both are led by Cal & Laura B and others from First CRC.

Worship services are also broadcast live in the church 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".

On the bulletin, * indicates standing and bold font is a response by the congregation. You are invited to join if you feel comfortable.

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