

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
July 27, 2025 ~ 6:00 p.m. Worship Service

Call to Worship: *based on Joel 2:1, NIV*

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill.

Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming. It is close at hand.

Come, let us worship God.

Opening Prayer

Come, All you People, Praise Our God

Come, all you people, praise our God and tell his glorious works abroad, who holds our souls in life;
He never lets our feet be moved and, though our faith has often proved, upholds us in the strife.

We come with offerings to his house, and here we pay the solemn vows we uttered in distress;
To him our all we dedicate, to him we wholly consecrate the lives his mercies bless.

Come, listen, all who fear the Lord, while I with grateful heart record what God has done for me;
I cried to him in deep distress, and now his wondrous grace I bless, for he has set me free.

("Come, All You People, Praise Our God" words Psalm 66 and music by Charles H. Gabriel, © Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell, come ye before Him and rejoice.

O enter then His gates with praise, approach with joy His courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His name always, for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good, His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

("All People That on Earth Do Dwell" words by William Kethe music by Louis Bourgeois Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

We Praise Thee, O God, our Redeemer

We praise Thee, O God, our Redeemer, Creator
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring;
We lay it before Thee, we kneel and adore Thee,
We bless Thy holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship Thee, God of our fathers, we bless Thee
Thru life's storm and tempest, our guide hast Thou been;
When perils o'er take us, Thou wilt not forsake us,
And with Thy help, O Lord, life's battles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our song of true worship we raise.
Thy strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us,
To Thee, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

("We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer" words by Julia C. Cop, arr. Edward Kremser © Public Domain, CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Profession of Faith: *Westminster Confession*

**There is only one living and true God,
who is infinite in being and perfection.**

He is unchangeable, boundless, eternal, and incomprehensible.

**He is almighty, most wise, most holy,
most free, and most absolute.**

**He works all things according to the counsel
of his own unchangeable
and most righteous will, for his own glory.**

**He is most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering,
abundant in goodness and truth,
forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin,**

and he is the rewarder of those who diligently seek him.

**He is also most just and terrifying in his judgments, hating all sin,
and will by no means acquit the guilty.**

Offering: Benevolence

Evening Prayer

Tell Your Children

God the Father, God of glory, miracles, and mystery;
Generations all adore him, God the same through history.

Refrain: Parents tell your children, age to age the same.

Glorify the living Lord above, magnify his holy name, magnify his holy name.

Awe inspiring deeds of splendor, these proclaim his mighty power;

Interwoven with compassion is his strength for every hour. *Refrain*

("Tell Your Children" words Grace Hawthorne, music Tome Fetke © 1980, Lillenas Publishing Co. CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

Scripture: Joel 1:1-4

¹ *The word of the Lord that came to Joel, the son of Pethuel:*

² *Hear this, you elders; give ear, all inhabitants of the land!*

Has such a thing happened in your days, or in the days of your fathers?

³ *Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children to another generation.*

⁴ *What the cutting locust left, the swarming locust has eaten.*

What the swarming locust left, the hopping locust has eaten,

and what the hopping locust left, the destroying locust has eaten.

Joel 2:1-2,12-13, 25-29

¹ *Blow a trumpet in Zion;*

sound an alarm on my holy mountain!

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,

for the day of the Lord is coming; it is near,

² *a day of darkness and gloom,*

a day of clouds and thick darkness!

Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains

a great and powerful people;

their like has never been before,

nor will be again after them through the years of all generations.

¹² *"Yet even now," declares the Lord,*

"return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

¹³ *and rend your hearts and not your garments."*

Return to the Lord your God,

for he is gracious and merciful,

slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;

and he relents over disaster.

²⁵ *I will restore to you the years*

that the swarming locust has eaten,

the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,

my great army, which I sent among you.

²⁶ *"You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,*

and praise the name of the Lord your God,

who has dealt wondrously with you.

And my people shall never again be put to shame.

²⁷ *You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,*

and that I am the Lord your God and there is none else.

And my people shall never again be put to shame.

²⁸ *"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh;*

your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams,

and your young men shall see visions.

²⁹ *Even on the male and female servants*

in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *A Walk Through the Bible: Joel*

O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire

O Christ, our hope, our heart's desire, redemption's only spring,
Creator of the world art thou, its Savior and its King.

How vast the mercy and the love which laid our sins on thee,
And led thee to a cruel death to set thy people free.

O Christ, be thou our lasting joy, our ever great reward;
Our only glory may it be to glory in the Lord!

(^oO Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire^o Gioacchino Antonio Rossini, Henry Wellington Greatorex, John Chandler © words and music Public Domain , CCLI# 358926 Streaming #20317932)

God's Blessing

O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire

All praise to you, ascended Lord; all glory ever be
To Father, Son, and Spirit blest through all eternity.

(^oO Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire^o Gioacchino Antonio Rossini, Henry Wellington Greatorex, John Chandler © words and music Public Domain , CCLI# 358926 Streaming #20317932)

Pastors: Zac H, Robert W

Music: Lee V

Offering will be received for the First CRC Benevolence Fund, used to help local people and families in times of need.

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".

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

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