

First Christian Reformed Church  
Lynden, Washington  
September 7, 2025 ~ 10:30 AM Worship Service

**Call to Worship:** *Psalm 81:1-5*

*Sing aloud to God our strength;*

***Shout for joy to the God of Jacob.***

*Raise a song; sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.*

*Blow the trumpet at the new moon,*

***Blow the trumpet at the full moon,***

***Blow the trumpet on our festal day.***

*For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.*

*He made it a decree for Joseph, when he went out over the land of Egypt.*

***Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.***

**God's Greeting**

***O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing***

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of Thy name.

Jesus! The name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease,  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

("O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" words by Charles Wesley and music by Carl G. Glasser, © 1976 Paragon Associates, Inc., CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

***That's Why We Praise Him***

He came to live, live a perfect life; He came to be the living Word, our light.  
He came to die so we'd be reconciled; He came to rise to show his power and might.

*Refrain:* That's why we praise him, that's why we sing.  
That's why we offer him our everything.  
That's why we bow down and worship this king,  
'Cause he gave his everything; 'cause He gave his everything.

He came to live, live again in us; He came to be our conquering King and Friend.  
He came to heal and show the lost ones his love; He came to go prepare a place for us.

("That's Why We Praise Him" words and music by Tommy Walker © 1999 Doolos Publishing/We Mobile Music, admin. Music Services, Inc. CCLI #358926, Streaming #20317932)

***O God, You Are My God***

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways.

And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days. *Repeat All*

("O God, You Are My God" words and music by Beaker (DOP), © 1991 BMG Songs and Kid Brothers of St. Frank Publishing, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

**Call to Confession:** *Psalm 81:8-12*

Listen to God's lament.

*Hear, O my people, while I admonish you; O Israel, if you would but listen to me!*

*There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god.*

*I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.*

*Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.*

*"But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would not submit to me.*

*So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts, to follow their own counsels.*

**Prayer of Confession**

Having heard God's lament, let us pray,

Holy merciful God, unstop our ears that we may truly listen.

**Open our hearts to become one with yours. Forgive us for putting other gods before you.**

Forgive us for worshiping time, money, success, food, TV, relationships, or anything else good or bad, before you.

**Conform our will to yours so that we may fully love you with our heart, soul, and might,  
and our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

**Assurance:** *Psalm 81:13-16*

Listen to these words of promise spoken by God to each of us,  
*O that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!  
Then I would quickly subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes.  
Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, and their doom would last forever.  
I would feed you with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.”*

***Praise Him! Praise Him!***

Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!  
Sing, O earth, His wonderful love proclaim!  
Hail Him! Hail Him! Highest archangels in glory;  
Strength and honor give to His holy name!  
Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard His children;  
In His arms He carries them all day long.

*Refrain:* Praise Him! Praise Him! Tell of His excellent greatness;  
Praise Him! Praise Him! Ever in joyful song!

Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!  
For our sins He suffered, and bled, and died.  
He, our Rock, our Hope of eternal salvation.  
Hail Him! Hail Him! Jesus, the Crucified.  
Sound His praises! Jesus, who bore our sorrows;  
Love unbounded, wonderful, deep, and strong. *Refrain*

“Praise Him! Praise Him!” words and music by Fanny Crosby, 1869, Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317923

**Offertory Prayer and Offering:** Christian School Tuition Assistance Fund

**Congregational Prayer**

***In Christ There is No East or West***

In Christ there is no East or West, in Him no pride of birth,  
The chosen family God has blessed now spans the whole wide earth.

For God in Christ has made us one from every land and race;  
He reconciled us through his Son and met us with his grace.

In Christ there is no east or west; He breaks all barriers down;  
By Christ redeemed, by Christ possessed in Christ we live as one.

“In Christ There Is No East or West” text John Orenham, music by Alexander R. Reingold, words used by permission of Desmond Dunkerly, CCLI# 358926 Streaming #20317923

**Scripture:** *Romans 8:14-17*

<sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** *Enfolding*

**Ministry of Music:** *Asleep in the Night*

**God’s Blessing**

***Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing***

Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace.  
Let us each, Your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration for Your gospel’s joyful sound.  
May the fruits of Your salvation in our hearts and lives abound.  
Ever faithful, ever faithful to the truth may we be found.

“Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing” words by John Falsett © Public Domain, CCLI 358926, Streaming License 20317923

Leader: Gene T  
Pastor: Mitchell S  
Prayer: Brian K, Bill V  
Music: Cheryl K, Kaden K

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Offering will be received for Christian School Tuition Assistance, a fund used to help cover tuition cost of First church families who send their children to Christian schools.

Nursery is available with a paging system for children under 3 years during the service in the Education Building.

Children's Church is available for children 3 years – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Children are dismissed to the Ed. Building during the service.

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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