

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
September 14, 2025 ~ 10:30 AM Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11*

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

“Be still, and know that I am God.

I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

God’s Greeting

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother – all who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o’er us, brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

(“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” words by Henry Van Dyke, Public Domain, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies;
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For Thyself, best gift divine, to our race so freely given;
For that great, great love of Thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

(“For the Beauty of the Earth” words by S. Pierpoint, alt., adapted by Conrad Kocher © Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

His Mercy Is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more.

Refrain: Praise the Lord, His mercy is more; stronger than darkness, new every morn.
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more. *Repeat Refrain*

(“His Mercy is More” words and music by Matt Papa and Matt Boswell. © 2016 Getty Music Hymns and Song/ Getty Music Publishing/ Love Your Enemies Publishing/ Messenger Hymns, CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Call to Confession: *based on Psalm 66:16, 18-20 (NRSV)*

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer.

Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

Prayer of Confession and Preparation

Assurance: *Romans 5:8-9 (NIV)*

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

Here is Love

Here is love, vast as the ocean, loving-kindness as the flood,
When the Prince of Life, our Ransom, shed for us His precious blood.
Who His love will not remember? Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten throughout heav'n's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion, fountains opened deep and wide;
Through the floodgates of God's mercy flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers, poured incessant from above,
And heav'n's peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love.

Reception of New Members

Profession of Faith and Baptism: Aubrey B, Vance E, Jordan H, Mary L, Makenna T

Reaffirmation of Faith: Brad & Pam H, Jeff & Kathy M, Bill & Mary Q

Transfer: Bill & Karen D, Gene & Dorothy G

Here is Love

Let me all Thy love accepting, love Thee, ever all my days;
Let me see Thy kingdom only and my life be to Thy praise;
Thou alone shalt be my glory, nothing in the world I see.
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me, Thou Thyself hast set me free.

In Thy truth Thou dost direct me by Thy Spirit through Thy Word;
And Thy grace my need is meeting as I trust in Thee, my Lord.
Of Thy fullness Thou art pouring Thy great love and pow'r on me,
Without measure, full and boundless, drawing out my heart to Thee.

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Offertory Prayer and Offering: Ray & Angie, East-West Ministries

Offertory Ministry of Music: *Be Devoted*

Congregational Prayer

Scripture: *Romans 12:9-13*

⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Let Love Be Genuine*

Christian Hearts in Love United

Christian hearts in love united: search to know God's holy will.
Let his love, in us ignited, more and more our spirits fill.
Christ the head, and we his members – we reflect the light he is.
Christ the master, we disciples – he is ours and we are his.

Grant, Lord that with your direction "love each other" we comply.
Help us live in true affection, your love to exemplify.
Let our mutual love be glowing brightly so that all may view
That we, as on one stem growing, living branches are in you.

("Christian Hearts in Love United" words by Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf music by Maravian chorale book manuscript Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

God of Mercy, God of Grace

Let the people praise you, Lord; earth shall then its fruits afford.
Unto us your blessing give, we to you devoted live,
All below and all above, one in joy and light and love.

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