

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
November 23, 2025 ~ 6:00 p.m. Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 95:1-7 (NIV)*

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.

The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

***Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;
for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.***

Opening Prayer

Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms, has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world in the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son and Him who reigns, with them in highest heaven
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

("Now Thank We All Our God" words by Martin Rinchart (1636), tr. Catherine Winkworth (1863), music by Johann Crüger (1647), Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Let All Things Now Living

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, who guideth us on to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, his light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
'Til shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

His law he enforces; the stars in their courses the sun in His orbit, obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise,
'Til all things now living unite in thanksgiving: to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

("Let All Things Now Living" words by Katherine K. Davis, © 1939, 1966, E. C. Schirmer Music Co., CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Rejoice ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your festive banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King:
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice give thanks and sing.

Go on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go;
From youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe:
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice give thanks and sing.

Then on, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King:
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice give thanks and sing.

("Rejoice, O Pure in Heart" words by Edward H. Plumptre 1865, tune by Arthur H. Messier, 1883, Public Domain, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Profession of Faith: Our World Belongs to God, Art. 19

**While justly angry God did not turn his back on a world bent on destruction;
he turned his face to it in love.**

**With patience and tender care he set out on the long road of redemption
to reclaim the lost as his people and the world as his kingdom.**

O to Be Like Thee

O to be like Thee, Blessed Redeemer, this is my constant longing and prayer;
Gladly I'll forfeit all of earth's treasures, Jesus, Thy perfect likeness to wear.

Refrain: O to be like Thee! O to be like Thee, blessed Redeemer, pure as Thou art!
Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fullness; stamp Thine own image deep on my heart.

O to be like Thee, full of compassion, loving, forgiving, tender and kind.
Helping the helpless, cheering the fainting. Seeking the wandering sinner to find. *Refrain*

O to be like Thee, while I am pleading, pour out Thy Spirit; fill with Thy love.
Make me a temple deemed to receive You. Fit me for life and Heaven above. *Refrain*

("O to Be Like Thee" words by Thomas O Chisholm, music by William J Kirkpatrick © Public Domain CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

Offering: First CRC Street Ministry

Evening Prayer

* **Scripture:** *Malachi 1:1, 6, 11-14*

¹ *The oracle of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi.*

⁶ *A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is my fear? says the Lord of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name. But you say, 'How have we despised your name?'*

¹¹ *For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts. ¹² But you profane it when you say that the Lord's table is polluted, and its fruit, that is, its food, may be despised. ¹³ But you say, 'What a weariness this is,' and you snort at it, says the Lord of hosts. You bring what has been taken by violence or is lame or sick, and this you bring as your offering! Shall I accept that from your hand? says the Lord. ¹⁴ Cursed be the cheat who has a male in his flock, and vows it, and yet sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished. For I am a great King, says the Lord of hosts, and my name will be feared among the nations.*

Malachi 3:6-10

⁶ *For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. ⁷ From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?' ⁸ Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions.*

⁹ *You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. ¹⁰ Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.*

Malachi 4:5-6

⁵ *"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. ⁶ And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: A Walk Through the Bible – Malachi

We Rest on Thee

We rest on thee, our Shield and our Defender! We go not forth alone against the foe;
Strong in thy strength, safe in thy keeping tender, we rest on thee, and in thy name we go;
Strong in thy strength, safe in thy keeping tender, we rest on thee, and in thy name we go.

Yea, in thy name, O Captain of salvation! In thy dear name, all other names above:
Jesus our righteousness, our sure foundation, our Prince of glory and our King of love,
Jesus our righteousness, our sure foundation, our Prince of glory and our King of love.

("We Rest on Thee" text Edith G. Cherry (1895), music Jean Sibelius (1899), CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

We Rest on Thee

We go in faith, our own great weakness feeling, and needing more each day thy grace to know:
Yet from our hearts a song of triumph pealing, "We rest on thee, and in thy name we go,"
Yet from our hearts a song of triumph pealing, "We rest on thee, and in thy name we go."

("We Rest on Thee" text Edith G. Cherry (1895), music Jean Sibelius (1899), CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastors: Zac H, Jonathan U, Robert W

Music: Sharon A

Offering will be received for First CRC Street Ministry, a ministry of men from our congregation who work alongside Envision Mission sharing the gospel, prayer, food and clothing with the homeless community in Bellingham.

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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