

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
January 4, 2026 ~ 6:00 PM Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 150:1-2, 6*

*Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens!
Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness!
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!*

Opening Prayer

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord! The Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
Come, all who hear, brothers and sisters, draw near, join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again, gladly forever adore Him!

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" words by Joachim Neander, Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

Rejoice, the Lord is King

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord the judge shall come
And take His servants up to their eternal home:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

("Rejoice, the Lord is King" words by Charles Wesley, music by John Darwall © Public Domain words and music, CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts,
Thou fount of life, Thou light of men,
From the best bliss that earth imparts
We turn unfilled to Thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood,
Thou savest those that on Thee call;
To them that seek Thee Thou art good,
To them that find Thee all in all.

O Jesus, ever with us stay,
Make all our moments calm and bright;
Chase the dark night of sin away,
Shed o'er the world Thy holy light.

("Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts" Bernard of Clairvaux, Tr. By Ray Palmer, Public Domain, music Henry Baker words © 1960 Broadman Press CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

Profession of Faith: Our World Belongs to God #4

**Our world has fallen into sin;
but rebellion and sin can never dethrone God.
He does not abandon the work of his hand;
the heavens still declare his glory.
He preserves his world,
sending seasons, sun, and rain,
upholding his creatures, renewing the earth,
directing all things to their purpose.
He promised a Savior;
now the whole creation groans
in the birth pangs of a new creation.**

Offering: Christian School Tuition Assistance

Evening Prayer

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth You have for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unlock and set me free.
Silently now I wait for You, ready, my God, Your will to do;
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth so sharp and clear;
And while the message sounds in my ear, everything else will disappear.
Silently now I wait for You, ready, my God, Your will to do;
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

("Open My Eyes That I May See" words and music by Clara H Scott and Jeff Redd, © Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Scripture: *Revelation 1:4-8*

⁴ *John to the seven churches that are in Asia:*

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

⁸ *"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Three Questions About Jesus for 2026*

He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

Refrain: He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His Promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost; He will hold me fast. *Refrain*

("He Will Hold Me Fast" words by Ada Ruth Habershon, music by Matthew Merker © 2013 Getty Music Publishing, Matthew Merker Music, CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

God's Blessing

He Will Hold Me Fast

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!

Refrain: He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

("He Will Hold Me Fast" words by Ada Ruth Habershon, music by Matthew Merker © 2013 Getty Music Publishing, Matthew Merker Music, CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

Pastors: Zac H, Jonathan U, Jim V

Music: Lee V

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.

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.