

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
February 22, 2026 ~ 10:30 AM Worship Service

Call to Worship: *Psalm 89:1, 2, 52*

I will sing of the Lord's great love forever;

with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself.

Praise be to the Lord forever! Amen and Amen.

God's Greeting

The Love of God

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest hell;
The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled, and pardoned from his sin.

Refrain: O love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong!
It shall for evermore endure the saints' and angels' song.

Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above, would drain the ocean dry.
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky. *Refrain*

("The Love of God" text and music by Frederick M. Lehman, © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music and Word Music, CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Because He Lives

God sent His Son – they called Him Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my pardon;
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

Refrain: Because He lives I can face tomorrow;
Because He lives, all fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

And then one day I'll cross the river;
I'll fight life's final war with pain.
And then, as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns. *Refrain*

("Because He Lives" words and music by William and Gloria Gaither © 1971 William Gaither CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer.
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom,
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.
For my life is wholly bound to his.
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven,
The future sure, the price, it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
And He was raised to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold: my sin has been defeated.
Jesus now, and ever is my plea.
Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

("Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me" Leonard E. Smith, harm. Dale Grotenhuis, 1984 © 1974, 1978 L.E. Smith, Jr., New Jerusalem Music, CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Lenten Reading

The Power of the Cross

O, to see the dawn of the darkest day; Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then nailed to a cross of wood.
This the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath; we stand forgiven at the cross.

O, to see the pain written on Your face, bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Every bitter thought, every evil deed crowning Your bloodstained brow.
This the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath; we stand forgiven at the cross.

("Power of the Cross" text and tune by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © 2005 Thank-you Music/admin. Music Services CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Power of the Cross

O, to see my name written in the wounds, for through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, won through Your selfless love.
This the power of the cross: Son of God slain for us.
What a love, what a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross.

("Power of the Cross" text and tune by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © 2005 Thank-you Music/admin. Music Services CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Offertory Prayer

Offering: Julie M – Operation Mobilization

Congregational Prayer

Scripture: *Mark 7:1-23*

¹ Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, ² they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. ³ (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, ⁴ and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) ⁵ And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?"

⁶ And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;

⁷ in vain do they worship me,

teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'

⁸ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men."

⁹ And he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!"

¹⁰ For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.'

¹¹ But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban"' (that is, given to God)—¹² then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, ¹³ thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do."

¹⁴ And he called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him." ¹⁷ And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸ And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, ¹⁹ since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.)

²⁰ And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Clean Hands, Dirty Hearts*

Give of Your Best to the Master

Give of your best to the Master; give Him first place in your heart;
Give Him first place in your service; consecrate every part.
Give, and to you shall be given. God His beloved Son gave;
Gratefully seeking to serve Him, give Him the best that you have.

Refrain: Give of your best to the Master; give of the strength of your youth;
Clad in salvation's full armor, join in the battle for truth.

Give of your best to the Master, naught else is worthy His love;
He gave himself for your ransom, gave up His glory above;
Laid down His life without murmur, You from sin's ruin to save;
Give Him your heart's adoration, give Him the best that you have. *Refrain*

("Give of Your Best to the Master" words by Howard B Grose, music by Charlotte A. Barnard, CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

God's Blessing

By the Sea of Crystal

By the sea of crystal saints in glory stand,
Myriads in number, drawn from every land.
Robed in white apparel, washed in Jesus' blood,
They now reign in heaven with the Lamb of God.

"Unto God Almighty, sitting on the throne,
And the Lamb, victorious, be the praise alone."
God has wrought salvation; He did wondrous things.
Who shall not extol thee, holy King of kings!

("By the Sea of Crystal" words by William Kuipers, music by John Vander hoven © 1933 CRC Publications / Faith Alive Christian Resources CCLI #358926 Streaming #20317932)

Clean Hands, Dirty Hearts

Mark 7:1-23

1. Control Cannot Heal the Heart
2. A Wrong Diagnosis Demands the Wrong Cure
3. Only a New Heart Can Produce New Fruit

Pastors: Zac H, Jonathan U
Readers: Robert & Debbie S
Prayer: Carl R, Galen L
Music: Lee V, Nancy Z

Offering will be received for Julie, working with Operation Mobilization in Belgium. She is the OM bookkeeper for ZavCentre and a church plant. For more information, visit www.om.org/be/be_en.

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

Children's Church is available for children 3 years – 3rd grade. Children are dismissed to the Education Building during the service.

Worship services are also broadcast live in the church 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.

*First Christian Reformed Church - 1010 Front St. Lynden, WA 98264
360.354.4560 info@firstcrclinden.org www.firstcrclinden.org*