



First Christian Reformed Church of Lynden  
From Generation to Generation for the Glory of God

***God's precious and exceedingly great promises in hard times***

***Colossians 3:16*** *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,  
teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,  
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,  
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

**Scripture**

***Hebrews 4:12*** *For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

**John 16:33**

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

**Romans 5:3-5**

<sup>3</sup> Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

**II Corinthians 4:16-18**

<sup>16</sup> So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup> as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

**James 1:2-4, 12**

<sup>2</sup> Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup> And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

**I Peter 4:12-13**

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

**Song**

***Psalms 59:16*** *But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.  
For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.*

[You can Google the hymn to hear it if you would like to sing along.]

**Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near**

Old hymn, can be sung to tune of “When I Survey The Wondrous Cross”

[Deut. 33:25 As your days, so shall your strength be.]

Afflicted saint, to Christ draw near,  
Your Savior's gracious promise hear;  
His faithful Word you can believe:  
That as your days your strength shall be.

Let not your heart despond and say,  
"How shall I stand the trying day?"  
He has engag'd by firm decree,  
That as your days your strength shall be.

Your faith is weak, your foes are strong,  
And if the conflict should be long,  
The Lord will make the tempter flee  
That as your days your strength shall be.

Should persecution rage and flame,  
Still trust in your Redeemer's name.  
In fiery trials you shall see  
That as your days your strength shall be.

When called to bear your weighty cross  
Or sore affliction, pain, or loss,  
Or deep distress or poverty,  
Still as your days your strength shall be.

So, sing with joy, afflicted one;  
The battle's fierce, but the victory's won!  
God shall supply all that you need;  
Yes, as your days your strength shall be.

## **Prayer**

*Hebrews 4:16* Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Pray this Holy Spirit inspired prayer written by Paul for yourself, your family, your church family, and all those touched by the pandemic.

### **Ephesians 1:16-23**

<sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, <sup>18</sup> having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup> that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.