

First Christian Reformed Church  
Lynden, Washington  
November 8, 2020

**Call to Worship:** *based on Psalm 98:1-6*

Sing a new song to the Lord, who has worked wonders,  
whose right hand and holy arm have brought salvation.

**The Lord has made known salvation;  
has shown justice to the nations;  
has remembered truth and love for the house of Israel.**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth, sing out your joy.**

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music.

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord.**

**God's Greeting**

***Come, People of the Risen King***

Come, people of the risen King, who delight to bring Him praise.  
Come, all, and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of grace.  
From the shifting shadows of the earth we will lift our eyes to Him,  
Where steady arms of mercy reach to gather children in.

*Refrain:* Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!  
One heart, one voice, O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun, and those weeping through the night.  
Come, those who tell of battles won, and those struggling in the fight.  
For His perfect love will never change, and His mercies never cease,  
But follow us through all our days with the certain hope of peace. *Refrain*

Come, young and old from every land, men and women of the faith.  
Come, those with full or empty hands; find the riches of His grace.  
Over all the world His people sing; shore to shore we hear them call  
The Truth that cries through every age: "Our God is all in all!" *Refrain*

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**Call to Confession:** *Isaiah 55:6-7*

*Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call on him while he is near.*

*Let the wicked forsake their ways  
and the unrighteous their thoughts.*

*Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.*

**Prayer of Confession**

**Assurance:** Our World Belongs to God

As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world—which some seek to control,  
but which others view with despair—we declare with joy and trust:

**Our world belongs to God!**

From the beginning, through all the crisis of our times,  
until his kingdom fully comes, God keeps covenant forever.

**Our world belongs to him!**

**God is King! Let the earth be glad!**

**Christ is Victor; his rule has begun. Hallelujah!**

**The Spirit is at work, renewing the creation.**

**Praise the Lord!**

## Morning Prayer

### *Christ Our Hope in Life and Death*

What is our hope in life and death?  
Christ alone, Christ alone.  
What is our only confidence?  
That our souls to Him belong.  
Who holds our days within His hand?  
What comes, apart from His command?  
And what will keep us to the end?  
The love of Christ, in which we stand.

*Refrain:* O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal  
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul?  
God is good, God is good.  
Where is His grace and goodness known?  
In our great Redeemer's blood.  
Who holds our faith when fears arise?  
Who stands above the stormy trial?  
Who sends the waves that bring us night?  
Unto the shore the rock of Christ. *Refrain*

Unto the grave, what will we sing?  
"Christ He lives, Christ He lives!"  
And what reward will heaven bring?  
Everlasting life with Him.  
There we will rise to meet the Lord,  
Then sin and death will be destroyed,  
And we will feast in endless joy,  
When Christ is ours forevermore.

*Refrain:* O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal  
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death. *Repeat Refrain*

("Christ Our Hope in Life and Death" words and music by Jordan Kauflin | Keith Getty | Matt Boswell | Matt Papa | Matthew Merker © 2020 Getty Music Hymns and.) CCLI #38926 Streaming License #20317932)

### **Scripture:** *Acts 14:19-28 (ESV)*

<sup>19</sup> But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having persuaded the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead. <sup>20</sup> But when the disciples gathered about him, he rose up and entered the city, and on the next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe.

<sup>21</sup> When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, <sup>22</sup> strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. <sup>23</sup> And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

<sup>24</sup> Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia.

<sup>25</sup> And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia, <sup>26</sup> and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled. <sup>27</sup> And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. <sup>28</sup> And they remained no little time with the disciples.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** *Paul Persecuted but Not Forsaken*

### ***For Such a Time As This***

A hymn of joy today we raise  
For ministries and gifts,  
For all the ways you bid us join  
Your cloud of witnesses.

Your faithful life, O Christ, inspires;  
Your brokenness makes whole;  
Your resurrection calls us forth  
And opens long-closed doors.

Our world cries out to hear your name;  
The church in mission risks  
As men and women join to serve  
For such a time as this.

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### **God's Blessing**

#### ***Sent Forth by God's Blessing***

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,  
The tasks of our everyday life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,  
Embracing God's children of each tribe and race.  
With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us:  
Unite us as one in his life that we share.  
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving  
Give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

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Prayer: Tim V

Music: Paul, Sharon and Emily A

Offering: Ken & Chris serve as missionaries with Wycliffe Bible Translators and JAARS. They are in Waxhaw, North Carolina, the base of operations for the aviation programs. For information, visit [www.wycliffe.net](http://www.wycliffe.net).

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