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

Psalm 104

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, you are very great!

You are clothed with splendor and majesty,

² covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent.

³ He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters;

he makes the clouds his chariot; he rides on the wings of the wind;

⁴ he makes his messengers winds, his ministers a flaming fire.

⁵ He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved.

- ⁶ You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.
- ⁷ At your rebuke they fled; at the sound of your thunder they took to flight.
- ⁸ The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place that you appointed for them.
- ⁹ You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.

¹⁰ You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills;

- ¹¹ they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst.
- ¹² Beside them the birds of the heavens dwell; they sing among the branches.
- ¹³ From your lofty abode you water the mountains;

the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

- ¹⁴ You cause the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth
- ¹⁵ and wine to gladden the heart of man,

oil to make his face shine and bread to strengthen man's heart.

¹⁶ The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.

¹⁷ In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees.

¹⁸ The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the rock badgers.

¹⁹ He made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting.

- ²⁰ You make darkness, and it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep about.
- ²¹ The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God.
- ²² When the sun rises, they steal away and lie down in their dens.

²³ Man goes out to his work and to his labor until the evening.

²⁴ O Lord, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

- ²⁵ Here is the sea, great and wide,
- which teems with creatures innumerable, living things both small and great.
- ²⁶ There go the ships, and Leviathan, which you formed to play in it.

- ²⁷ These all look to you, to give them their food in due season.
- ²⁸ When you give it to them, they gather it up;
- when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
- ²⁹ When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
 - when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.
- ³⁰ When you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.
- ³¹ May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works,
- ³² who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke!
- ³³ I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
- ³⁴ May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.
- ³⁵ Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord!

Song

Psalm 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.

This is my Father's World

This is my Father's world, And to my listening ears All nature sings, and round me rings The music of the spheres. This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world: The birds their carols raise, The morning light, the lily white, Declare their Maker's praise. This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair; In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. I walk a desert lone. In a bush ablaze to my wondering gaze God makes His glory known. This is my Father's world, A wanderer I may roam; Whate'er my lot, it matters not, My heart is still at home.

This is my Father's world: O let me ne'er forget That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet. This is my Father's world: Why should my heart be sad? The Lord is King: let the heavens ring! God reigns; let earth be glad! ("This is My Father's World" Words by Maltbie Babcock (1901), Public Domain, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Prayer

II Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Heavenly Father, You alone are sovereign over all the earth and all that is in it. How I rejoice that You are my God and I am Your child. Father, I pray that the words of my lips and the meditations of my heart may be pleasing to You. May I sing forth Your praises not only in my lips but in my life, by giving up myself into Your holy service and for Your greater glory and honor. How I praise You, for You alone are worthy of all honor and glory, for You alone are the Lord of heaven and earth. When I think of the glories of Your salvation, the excellencies of Your perfection and the unchanging faithfulness of Your promises to me, I praise Your name for ever and ever. Praise the Lord O my soul and all that is within me praise Your holy name. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Amen.