



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

Reflections on longing after God and being in His house:

Psalm 23:6

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 26:8

O Lord, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.

Psalm 27:4-5

⁴ One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.
⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

Psalm 42:1-4

¹ As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.
² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When shall I come and appear before God?
³ My tears have been my food day and night,
while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?"
⁴ These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:
how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God
with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival.

Psalm 63:1-4

¹ O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
² So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
³ Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.
⁴ So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.

Psalm 65:4

Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts!
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple!

Psalm 84:1-4

¹ How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
² My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.
³ Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
⁴ Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!

Psalm 122:1

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of 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.

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

In The Presence of a Holy God

In the presence of Your infinite might
I'm so small and frail and weak
When I see Your power and wisdom, Lord
I have no words left to speak

In the presence of a holy God
There's new meaning now to grace
You took all my sins upon Yourself
I can only stand amazed

Chorus: And I cry holy, holy, holy God
How awesome is Your name
Holy, holy, holy God
How majestic is Your reign
And I am changed in the presence of a holy God

In the power of Your glory
All my crowns lie in the dust
You are righteous in Your judgments, Lord
You are faithful true and just

("In The Presence of a Holy God" Words and music by Mark Altrogge, © 1998 Integrity's Praise! Music/Sovereign Grace Praise (BMI), 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.

"Longings After God"

A prayer from The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers.

My Dear Lord,

I can but tell you that you know
I long for nothing but yourself,
nothing but holiness,
nothing but union with your will.

You have given me these desires,
and you alone can give me the thing desired.

My soul longs for communion with you,
for mortification of indwelling corruption,
especially spiritual pride.

How precious it is
to have a tender sense and clear apprehension
of the mystery of godliness,
of true holiness!

What a blessedness to be like you
as much as it is possible for a creature
to be like its Creator!

Lord, give me more of your likeness;
Enlarge my soul to contain fullness of holiness;
Engage me to live more for you.

Help me to be less pleased with my spiritual experiences,
and when I feel at ease after sweet communings with you,
teach me it is far too little I know and do.

Blessed Lord,

let me climb up near to you,
and love, and long, and plead, and wrestle
with you,
and pant for deliverance from the body of sin,
for my heart is wandering and lifeless,
and my soul mourns to think it should ever
lose sight of its Beloved.

Wrap my life in divine love,
and keep me ever desiring you,
always humble and resigned to your will,
more fixed on yourself,
that I may be more fitted for doing
and suffering.