

* **Call to Worship:** *based on Psalm 91:2; Romans 10:9,13*
Let us worship God.
“**He is our refuge and our fortress,
our God, in whom we trust.**”
Let us confess with our mouths, “Jesus is Lord,” and
believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead.
“**Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord
will be saved.**”
Let us call upon our true God, believing him in our
hearts, confessing him with our mouths, worshiping him
in spirit and in truth.

* **Opening Prayer**

* **Revive Us Again** #574:1,3,4 (HFG)
We praise Thee, O God, for the Son of Thy love;
For Jesus, who died and is now gone above.

Refrain: Hallelujah! Thine the glory! Hallelujah! Amen!
Hallelujah! Thine the glory! Revive us again.

All glory and praise to the Lamb that was slain,
Who has taken our sins and has cleansed every stain. *Refrain*

Revive us again; fill each heart with Thy love;
May each soul be rekindled with fire from above. *Refrain*

* **Jesus Is All the World to Me** #627:1,3,4 (HFG)
Jesus is all the world to me, my life, my joy, my all;
He is my strength from day to day,
Without Him I would fall.
When I am sad, to Him I go,
No other one can cheer me so;
When I am sad, He makes me glad, He’s my Friend.

Jesus is all the world to me, and true to Him I’ll be;
Oh, how could I this Friend deny,
When He’s so true to me?
Following Him I know I’m right,
He watches o’er me day and night;
Following Him by day and night, He’s my Friend.

Jesus is all the world to me, I want no better Friend;
I trust Him now, I’ll trust Him when
Life’s fleeting days shall end.
Beautiful life with such a Friend,
Beautiful life that has no end;
Eternal life, eternal joy, He’s my Friend.

* **Beautiful Savior** #461:1,4 (PH)
Beautiful Savior! King of creation!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I’d love thee, truly I’d serve thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be thine!

Profession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A #88-91

What is involved in genuine repentance or conversion?
**Two things:
the dying-away of the old self,
and the coming-to-life of the new.**

What is the dying-away of the old self?
**It is to be genuinely sorry for sin,
to hate it more and more,
and to run away from it.**

What is the coming-to-life of the new self?
**It is wholehearted joy in God through Christ
and a delight to do every kind of good
as God wants us to.**

What do we do that is good?
**Only that which arises out of true faith,
conforms to God's law, and is done for his glory;
and not that which is based on what we think is right
or on established human tradition.**

Offering: Christian School Tuition Assistance

Evening Prayer

* **Teach Me Your Way, O Lord** #472:1,4 (HFG)
Teach me Your way, O Lord, teach me Your way!
Your guiding grace afford - teach me Your way!
Help me to walk aright, more by faith, less by sight;
Lead me with heavenly light, teach me Your way!

Long as my life shall last, teach me Your way!
Where’er my lot be cast, teach me Your way!
Until the race is run, until the journey’s done,
Until the crown is won, teach me Your way!

* **Scripture:** *Esther 1:10-22 (ESV)* pg. 521
¹⁰ On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha and Abagtha, Zethar and Carkas, the seven eunuchs who served in the presence of King Ahasuerus, ¹¹ to bring Queen Vashti before the king with her royal crown, in order to show the peoples and the princes her beauty, for she was lovely to look at. ¹² But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king's command delivered by the eunuchs. At this the king became enraged, and his anger burned within him. ¹³ Then the king said to the wise men who knew the times (for this was the king's procedure toward all who were versed in law and judgment, ¹⁴ the men next to him being Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, the seven princes of Persia and Media, who saw the king's face, and sat first in the kingdom): ¹⁵ “According to the law, what is to be done to Queen Vashti, because she has not performed the command of King Ahasuerus delivered by the eunuchs?” ¹⁶ Then Memucan said in the presence of the king and the officials, “Not only against the king has Queen Vashti done wrong, but also against all the officials and all the peoples who are in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus. ¹⁷ For the queen's behavior will be made known to all women, causing them to look at their husbands with contempt, since they will say, ‘King Ahasuerus commanded Queen Vashti to be brought before him, and she did not come.’” ¹⁸ This very day the noble women of Persia and Media who have heard of the queen's behavior will say the same to all the king's officials, and there will be contempt and wrath in plenty. ¹⁹ If it please the king, let a royal order go out from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes so that it may not be repealed, that Vashti is never again to come before King Ahasuerus. And let the king give her royal position to another who is better than she. ²⁰ So when the decree made by the king is proclaimed throughout all his kingdom, for it is vast, all women will give honor to their husbands, high and low alike.” ²¹ This advice pleased the king and the princes, and the king did as Memucan proposed. ²² He sent letters to all the royal provinces, to every province in its own script and to every people in its own language, that every man be master in his own household and speak according to the language of his people.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Queen Vashti Refuses King Ahasuerus' Request
Esther 1:10-22

The king's request, the queen's refusal, vss. 10-12.

Message: *Queen Vashti Refuses
King Ahasuerus' Request*

Prayer

* ***God Moves in a Mysterious Way*** #603:1,4 (HFG)

God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform,
He plants His footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm.

His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower.

* **God's Blessing**

* ***Our God Reigns*** #195 (PH)

How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him
Who brings good news, good news
Announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness.
Our God reigns; our God reigns!
Our God reigns; our God reigns!
Our God reigns; our God reigns!

The King's reaction, the queen's rejection, vss. 13-22.

Implications and application.

The sanctuary is equipped with an assistive listening system.
Please switch hearing aids to "T" to use this system.

Pastor: Robert W
Music: Perlene H

Offering: Christian School Tuition Assistance is used to help
cover the cost of tuition for First Church families who send
their children to a Christian school.

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First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
August 6, 2017
6:00 p.m. Worship Service