

* **Call to Worship:** *Psalm 31:23, 24*
Love the LORD, all you his saints!
The LORD preserves the faithful
but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.
Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the LORD!

* **Opening Prayer**

* **Great Is Thy Faithfulness** #98:1,2,3 (HFG)

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father!
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not:
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided –
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow –
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

* **Rise Up, O Men of God** #398:1,3,4 (HFG)

Rise up, O men of God!
Have done with lesser things;
Give heart and soul and mind and strength
To serve the King of kings.

Rise up, O men of God!
The church for you doth wait,
Her strength unequal to her task;
Rise up, and make her great!

Lift high the cross of Christ,
Tread where His feet have trod;
As brothers of the Son of Man,
Rise up, O men of God!

* indicates to stand if able

* **He Hideth My Soul** #120:1,2 (HFG)

A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord,
A wonderful Savior to me;
He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock,
Where rivers of pleasure I see.

Refrain: He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock,
That shadows a dry, thirsty land;
He hideth my life in the depths of His love,
And covers me there with His hand,
And covers me there with His hand.

A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord.
He taketh my burden away.
He holdeth me up and I shall not be moved.
He giveth me strength for each day. *Refrain*

Profession of Faith: *Heidelberg Catechism* Q&A 96-98

What is God's will for us in the second commandment?

**That we in no way make any image of God
nor worship him in any other way
than he has commanded in his Word.**

May we then not make any image at all?

**God can not and may not
be visibly portrayed in any way.
Although creatures may be portrayed,
yet God forbids making or having such images
if one's intention is to worship them
or to serve God through them.**

But may not images be permitted in the churches
as teaching aids for the unlearned?

**No, we shouldn't try to be wiser than God.
He wants his people instructed
by the living preaching of his Word—
not by idols that cannot even talk.**

Offering: World Renew – Hurricane Harvey Relief

Evening Prayer

* **Scripture:** *Esther 2:19-23, 3:1 (ESV)* pg. 522

¹⁹ Now when the virgins were gathered together the second time, Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate. ²⁰ Esther had not made known her kindred or her people, as Mordecai had commanded her, for Esther obeyed Mordecai just as when she was brought up by him. ²¹ In those days, as Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, who guarded the threshold, became angry and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus. ²² And this came to the knowledge of Mordecai, and he told it to Queen Esther, and Esther told the king in the name of Mordecai. ²³ When the affair was investigated and found to be so, the men were both hanged on the gallows. And it was recorded in the book of the chronicles in the presence of the king. ^{3:1} After these things King Ahasuerus promoted Haman the Agagite, the son of Hammedatha, and advanced him and set his throne above all the officials who were with him.

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

Message: *Mordecai Saves the King*

* **Faith of Our Fathers** #526:1,2 (HFG)

Faith of our fathers, living still,
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious Word!

Refrain: Faith of our fathers, holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death.

Faith of our fathers, God's great power
Shall win all nations unto thee,
And through the truth that comes from God
Mankind shall then indeed be free. *Refrain*

* **God's Blessing**

* **Faith of Our Fathers** #526:3 (HFG)

Faith of our fathers, we will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife;
And preach thee, too, as love knows how
By kindly words and virtuous life.

Refrain: Faith of our fathers, holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death.

Mordecai Saves the King

Esther 2:19-23; 3:1

Mordecai's promotion.

Mordecai foils a conspiracy to kill the king.

Fate vs. Providence.

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

Pastor: Robert W

Music: Lee V

Offering: World Renew is helping with flood relief for Texas and other areas affected by Hurricane Harvey. If you would like more information on the work being done in these areas, visit www.worldrenew.net.

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First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
September 17, 2017
6:00 p.m. Worship Service