

* **Call to Worship:** *Psalm 121:1-2*
I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

* **Opening Prayer**

* ***How Great Thou Art*** #483:1,4 (PH)
O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And claim his own, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, “My God, how great thou art!” *Refrain*

* ***How Lovely Is Your Dwelling*** #243:1,3 (PH)
How lovely is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts, to me;
my soul is longing, fainting, the courts of God to see.
The beauty of your dwelling will bring me joy anew.
My heart and flesh are crying, O living God, for you.

Blest they who love and serve you,
Whose joy and strength you are.
Forever they will praise you,
Your ways are in their heart.
Though tried, their tears like showers
Shall fill the springs of peace;
And all the way to Zion their strength shall still increase.

* ***We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer*** #334:1,3 (HFG)
We praise Thee, O God, our Redeemer, Creator
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring;
We lay it before Thee, we kneel and adore Thee,
We bless Thy holy name, glad praises we sing.

* indicates to stand if you are able

With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our song of true worship we raise.
Thy strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us,
To Thee, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Profession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 103
What is God's will for you in the fourth commandment?
First,
that the gospel ministry and education
for it be maintained,
and that, especially on the festive day of rest,
I regularly attend the assembly of God's people
to learn what God's Word teaches,
to participate in the sacraments,
to pray to God publicly,
and to bring Christian offerings for the poor.
Second,
that every day of my life
I rest from my evil ways,
let the Lord work in me through his Spirit,
and so begin already in this life
the eternal Sabbath.

* ***Come to the Savior Now*** #535:1,2 (PH)
Come to the Savior now, he gently calls to you;
In true repentance bow, let him your heart renew.
Christ came that you may know
Salvation, peace and love,
True joy on earth below, a home in heaven above.

Come to the Savior now, all who have wandered far;
Renew your solemn vow, for his by right you are;
Come like poor, wandering sheep returning to his fold;
His arm will safely keep, his love will ne'er grow cold.

Offering: TRIBE ~ First CRC High School Youth Group

Evening Prayer

Children’s Message

* ***Seek Ye First*** #209:1,2,3 (PH)
Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you;
Seek and you shall find;
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone,
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alleluia.

* **Scripture:** *Esther 5:1-14 (ESV)* pg. 525
On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, in front of the king's quarters, while the king was sitting on his royal throne inside the throne room opposite the entrance to the palace. ² And when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, she won favor in his sight, and he held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther approached and touched the tip of the scepter. ³ And the king said to her, “What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given you, even to the half of my kingdom.” ⁴ And Esther said, “If it please the king, let the king and Haman come today to a feast that I have prepared for the king.”⁵ Then the king said, “Bring Haman quickly, so that we may do as Esther has asked.” So the king and Haman came to the feast that Esther had prepared. ⁶ And as they were drinking wine after the feast, the king said to Esther, “What is your wish? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” ⁷ Then Esther answered, “My wish and my request is: ⁸ If I have found favor in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my wish and fulfill my request, let the king and Haman come to the feast that I will prepare for them, and tomorrow I will do as the king has said.” ⁹ And Haman went out that day joyful and glad of heart. But when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he neither rose nor trembled before him, he was filled with wrath against Mordecai.¹⁰ Nevertheless, Haman restrained himself and went home, and he sent and brought his friends and his wife Zeresh. ¹¹ And Haman recounted to them the splendor of his riches, the number of his sons, all the promotions with which the king had honored him, and how he had advanced him above the officials and the servants of the king. ¹² Then Haman said,

“Even Queen Esther let no one but me come with the king to the feast she prepared. And tomorrow also I am invited by her together with the king. ¹³ Yet all this is worth nothing to me, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.” ¹⁴ Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, “Let a gallows fifty cubits high be made, and in the morning tell the king to have Mordecai hanged upon it. Then go joyfully with the king to the feast.” This idea pleased Haman, and he had the gallows made.

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

Message: *Esther’s First Feast*

* ***Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*** #559:1,3 (PH)
Stand up, stand up for Jesus, as soldiers of the cross;
Lift high His royal banner, it must not suffer loss;
From vict'ry unto vict'ry His army shall He lead,
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished and Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, stand in His strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you, You dare not trust your own.
Put on the Gospel armor, each piece put on with prayer;
Where duty calls, or danger, be never wanting there.

* **God’s Blessing**

* ***Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*** #559:4 (PH)
Stand up, stand up for Jesus; the fight will not be long;
This day the noise of battle, the next the victor’s song.
To every one who conquers, a crown of life shall be;
We with the King of glory shall reign eternally.

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

Pastor: Robert Woodyard Music: Shirley
Offering: TRIBE – First CRC High School Youth Group is led by
Dan and assisted by several others. For more information on
the High School Youth Group contact Dan.

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Esther’s First Feast
Esther 5:1-14

Esther’s faith, 5:1-2.

Esther’s first feast, 5:3-8.

Haman’s folly, 5:9-14.

Implications and application.



First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
October 8, 2017
6:00 p.m. Worship Service