

\* **Call to Worship:** *Psalm 43:3,4*  
Send out your light and your truth;  
let them lead me;  
let them bring me to your holy hill  
and to your dwelling!  
**Then I will go to the altar of God,  
to God my exceeding joy,  
and I will praise you with the lyre,  
O God, my God.**

\* **Opening Prayer**

\* **Joy to the World** #337:1 (PH)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King,  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

\* **To God Be the Glory** #363:1,3 (HFG)

To God be the glory,  
Great things He hath done!  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin  
And opened the lifegate that all may go in.

*Refrain:* Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice.  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory,  
Great things He hath done.

Great things He hath taught us,  
Great things He hath done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *Refrain*

\* indicates to stand if able

\* **Glorious Things of You are Spoken**

Glorious things of you are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God.  
He whose word cannot be broken  
Formed you for his own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded,  
What can shake your sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
You may smile at all your foes.

See, the streams of living waters,  
Springing from eternal love,  
Well supply your sons and daughters  
And all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river  
Ever will their thirst assuage?  
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,  
Never fails from age to age.

Savior, since of Zion's city  
I through grace a member am,  
Let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in your name.  
Fading are the world's best pleasures,  
All its boasted pomp and show;  
Solid joys and lasting treasures  
None but Zion's children know.

**Profession of Faith:** Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 113-114

What is God's will for you in the tenth commandment?

**That not even the slightest thought or desire  
contrary to any one of God's commandments  
should ever arise in my heart.  
Rather, with all my heart  
I should always hate sin  
and take pleasure in whatever is right.**

But can those converted to God obey these  
commandments perfectly?

**No.**

**In this life even the holiest  
have only a small beginning of this obedience.  
Nevertheless, with all seriousness of purpose,  
they do begin to live according to all, not only some,  
of God's commandments.**

**If You But Trust in God to Guide You** #446:1,3 (PH)

If you but trust in God to guide you  
And place your confidence in him,  
You'll find him always there beside you  
To give you hope and strength within;  
For those who trust God's changeless love  
Build on the rock that will not move.

Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving,  
Offer your service faithfully,  
And trust his word; though undeserving,  
You'll find his promise true to be.  
God never will forsake in need  
The soul that trusts in him indeed.

**Offering:** First CRC Tuition Assistance Fund

**Evening Prayer**

\* **With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring** #183:1,2 (PH)

With grateful heart my thanks I bring,  
Before the great your praise I sing.  
I worship in your holy place  
And praise you for your truth and grace;  
For truth and grace together shine  
In your most holy Word divine,  
In your most holy Word divine.

I cried to you, and you did save;  
Your word of grace new courage gave.  
The kings of earth shall thank you, Lord,  
For they have heard your wondrous word;  
Yes, they shall come with songs of praise,  
For great and glorious are your ways,  
For great and glorious are your ways.

**Scripture:** *Esther 9:1-19*

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

**Message:** *The Great Reversal*

**Prayer**

\* **With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring** #183:3,4 (PH)

O Lord, enthroned in glory bright,  
You reign alone in heavenly height;  
The proud in vain your favor seek,  
But you have mercy for the meek.  
Through trouble though my pathway be,  
You will revive and strengthen me,  
You will revive and strengthen me.

You will stretch forth your mighty arm  
To save me when my foes alarm.  
The work you have for me begun  
Shall by your grace be fully done.  
Your love forever will endure:  
Your mercy, Lord, is ever sure;  
Your mercy, Lord, is ever sure.

\* **God's Blessing**

\* **Lead On, O King Eternal** #555:3 (PH)

Lead on, O King Eternal,  
We follow, not with fears;  
For gladness breaks like morning  
Where'er your face appears.  
Your cross is lifted o'er us;  
We journey in its light.  
The crown awaits the conquest;  
Lead on, O God of might.

**The Great Reversal**  
*Esther 9:1-19*

The Day of Deliverance, 9:1-10.

Deliverance in Susa, 9:11-15.

Deliverance in the Provinces, 9:16-19.

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: Lee V

Offering: Tuition assistance is used to help cover tuition costs of First Church families who send their children to Christian schools.

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First Christian Reformed Church  
1010 Front St. Lynden, WA 98264  
360.354.4560 info@firstcrcllynden.org  
www.firstcrcllynden.org  
CCLI#358926



First Christian Reformed Church  
Lynden, Washington  
January 7, 2018  
6:00 p.m. Worship Service