

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
December 13, 2020
Third Sunday in Advent

Advent Scripture – Hope: *Luke 2:8-12*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Prayer

Call to Worship: based on Romans 13:11-12

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep.
For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;
the night is far gone, the day is near.
Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.
Come, let us worship God.

God's Greeting

Angels, From the Realms of Glory

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Wisemen, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations;
Ye have seen his natal star:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

("Angels from the Realms of Glory" words by James Montgomery music by Henry Smart © Public Domain, CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Call to Confession

Prepare the way of the Lord!
Let us make our confession to God.

Prayer of Confession

Assurance

The good news of this Advent season
is forgiveness of sin and new life.
Let us commit our lives to Christ's way of hope and peace.

**Thanks be to the Advent God,
who comes among us bringing hope,
setting us free to love and serve.**

Ministry of Music: *What Child is This?*

Morning Prayer

Away in A Manger

Away in a manger no crib for a bed;
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay;
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay;
Close by me forever and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care;
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

("Away in Manger" stanza 3 words by John Thomas McFarland music by William J. Kirkpatrick Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Scripture: *I Samuel 1:1-20 (ESV)*

¹There was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim of the hill country of Ephraim whose name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, son of Elihu, son of Tohu, son of Zuph, an Ephrathite. ²He had two wives. The name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other, Peninnah. And Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

³Now this man used to go up year by year from his city to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts at Shiloh, where the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the LORD. ⁴On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters.

⁵But to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb. ⁶And her rival used to provoke her grievously to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. ⁷So it went on year by year. As often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. ⁸And Elkanah, her husband, said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? And why do you not eat? And why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?"

⁹After they had eaten and drunk in Shiloh, Hannah rose. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. ¹⁰She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. ¹¹And she vowed a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head."

¹²As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. ¹³Hannah was speaking in her heart; only her lips moved, and her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli took her to be a drunken woman. ¹⁴And Eli said to her, "How long will you go on being drunk? Put your wine away from you." ¹⁵But Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am a woman troubled in spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD. ¹⁶Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for all along I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation." ¹⁷Then Eli answered, "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition that you have made to him." ¹⁸And she said, "Let your servant find favor in your eyes." Then the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.

¹⁹They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah. And Elkanah knew Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her. ²⁰And in due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, "I have asked for him from the LORD."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *What Child is This?*

Elkanah and Hannah's son, Samuel

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Angels lifting praise before You
Sing through out this holy night.
In a manger lies a Baby,
Child of Mary, Son of God.
Voices joined in joyful chorus
Praise You for Your gift of love.

All Your works declare Your glory,
All creation joins to sing.
Praise resounds as earth rejoices
In the birth of Christ, the King.
Shepherds kneel before the Infant.
Trumpets sound and anthems raise
As with joy our hearts are lifted,
Joined in wonder, love, and praise.

("Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You" music by Ludwig van Beethoven; adapted by Edward Hodges; words by Linda Lee Johnson; text © 1986 Lillenas Publishing Co.; arr. © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music and Words (a div. of Word Music) CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

Go, Tell It On the Mountains

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountains, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountains, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

("Go, Tell It On the Mountain" words: Traditional; music: American Folk Song; © Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastors: Robert W, Mike B

Prayer: Blaine K

Advent Readers: Shannon T, Kenzie M (TRIBE)

Music: Mike H, Cal B, Robert S, Nancy Z, Quehrn Family, Rennie Family

Offering: The Mission and Outreach Fund is used to help organizations that fall outside of the realm of our benevolence fund but still need support. This fund allows the church to help organizations when our offering schedule is full.

** Offering can be dropped off or mailed to the church office (1010 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264), sent electronically through Tithely (www.tithely.com) or a bill pay service.