

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
December 25, 2020
Christmas Day

Prelude: *What Child is This?*

Advent Scripture – Love: *John 3:16-17*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Prayer

Call to Worship: *Isaiah 9:2, 6*

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.
For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Joy to the World

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.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; let men their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

("Joy to the World" words by Isaac Watts (1719), tune by Lowell Mason (1848), Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #2031793)

Luke 2 – The Christmas Story

Ministry of Music: *The Blessing: Rejoice!*

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; *Refrain*

("O Come, All Ye Faithful" words and tune by John Francis Wade (1743) tr. Frederick Oakeley (1841),
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Scripture: *Luke 1:26-38 (ESV)*

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God."

³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *What Child is This? Joseph and Mary's Son, Jesus*

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore, on bended knee, Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

("Angels We Have Heard on High" words and music French Carol Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

Glory to God (Ere Zij God)

Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest, in the highest, in the highest!
Peace be on earth, peace be on earth, to the people whom God delights in.
Glory to God in the highest! Glory to God in the highest!
Peace be on earth, peace be on earth,
Peace be on earth, peace be on earth
To the people, to the people whom God delights in.
To the people whom God delights in, whom God delights in.
Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest, in the highest, in the highest!
Peace be on earth, peace be on earth,
To the people whom God delights in. Amen. Amen.

Ere zij God! Ere zij God, in den hoge, in den hoge, in den hoge!
Vrede op aarde, vrede op aarde, in de mensen een welbehagen.
Ere zij God in den hoge! Ere zij God in den hoge!
Vrede op aarde, vrede op aarde vrede op aarde, vrede op aarde
In de mensen, in de mensen een welbehagen,
In de mensen een welbehagen, een welbehagen
Ere zij God! Ere zij God, in den hoge, in den hoge, in den hoge!
Vrede op aarde, vrede op aarde,
In de mensen een welbehagen. Amen. Amen.

("Glory to God" words and tune by F.A. Schultz, tr. © 1987, CRC Publications, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastor: Robert W

Readers: Mike B, Brinley R

Advent Readers: Mark & Michelle T and family

Music: Valerie A, Shelby B, Kara H, Ken Q, Lee V, Nancy Z

Offering: Christian Hope Association is a ministry of the Christian Reformed Churches in Whatcom County overseeing Project Hope, Great Expectations, and New Way Ministries. For more information, visit christianhopeassociation.org for information. Tithes and offering can be mailed to the church office (1010 Front Street), dropped off (place in the mailbox), or electronically with Tithe.ly (www.tithe.ly or through the app).