

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
November 28, 2021 ~ 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Advent Scripture and Reading: *Luke 1:11-13, 16-18*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Prayer

Call to Worship: *Let's Worship and Adore Him*

Let's worship and adore Him,
Let's worship and adore Him,
Let's worship and adore Him, Christ the Lord.

For He alone is worthy,
For He alone is worthy,
For He alone is worthy, Christ the Lord

("Let's Worship and Adore Him" words traditional, music Wade's Cantus Diversi, 1751; arr Tom Fettke, Arr. © 1983 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music and Word Music, CCLI # 358926, Streaming License #20317932)

God's Greeting

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 Isaac Watts (1719), tune by Lowell Mason (1848), Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming #2031793)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a Child and yet a King;
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

("Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" words by Charles Wesley music by Psalmodia Sacra adapt. Henry J. Gaunlett, des. John Wilson, Public Domain descant © 1983 Hope Publishing Co. CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Call to Confession: *I Peter 1:14-16*

*As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance,
but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,
since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."*

Prayer of Confession

Assurance: *Redeeming Love*

From God's heaven to a manger, from great riches to the poor,
Came the holy Son of God, a little Child;
From the azure halls of heaven to a lowly manger stall,
Jesus came, and here He gave His life for all.

Refrain: Redeeming love, a love that knows no limit;
Redeeming love, a love that never dies;
My soul shall sing throughout the endless ages
The adoration of this great love on high.

From a loving heavenly Father, to a world that knew Him not,
Came a man of sorrows, Jesus Christ, the Lord;
In my wandering Jesus found me,
Touched my life with His great love,
And this Babe has grown to be my sovereign Lord. *Refrain*

("Redeeming Love" words by Gloria Gaither; music by William Gaither; adapted by Ronn Hutt © 1963, 1976 by William Gaither CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Ministry of Music: *He Shall Reign Forevermore*

Offering: Benevolence Fund – Flood Relief

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And cause us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

("O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" words Latin, 12th cent.; tr. composite, tune 15th century, adapted by Thomas Helmore (1854), Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #2031793)

Scripture: *Isaiah 6:1-13 (ESV)*

¹ *In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called to another and said:*

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"

⁴ *And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵ And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"*

⁶ *Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷ And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."*

⁸ *And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."*

⁹ *And he said, "Go, and say to this people:*

"Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive."

¹⁰ *Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed."*

¹¹ Then I said, "How long, O Lord?"

And he said:

"Until cities lie waste without inhabitant,
and houses without people, and the land is a desolate waste,

¹² and the LORD removes people far away,
and the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land.

¹³ And though a tenth remain in it, it will be burned again,
like a terebinth or an oak, whose stump remains when it is felled."
The holy seed is its stump.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *The Vision of Immanuel*

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

A Communion Hymn for Christmas

(A Love Offering will be received for the First CRC Adoption Fund.)

Gathered 'round Your table on this holy day,
Viewing Bethl'hem's stable we rejoice and pray.
Joy to see You lying in Your manger bed;
Weep to see You dying in our sinful stead.

Bethl'hem's Incarnation, Calv'ry's bitter cross,
Wrought for us salvation by Your pain and loss.
Now we fall before You in this holy place;
Prostrate we adore You for Your gift of grace.

With profoundest wonder we Your body take,
Laid in manger yonder, broken for our sake.
Hushed in adoration we approach the cup;
Bethl'hem's pure oblation freely offered up.

("A Communion Hymn for Christmas" words Margaret Clarkson, tune Tom Fetteke, © 1986 Word Music, CCLI# 358926 Streaming #20317932)

God's Blessing

A Communion Hymn for Christmas

Christmas Babe so tender, Lamb who bore our blame,
How shall sinners render praises due Your name?
Do Your own good pleasure in the lives we bring;
In Your ransomed treasure reign forever King!

("A Communion Hymn for Christmas" words Margaret Clarkson, tune Tom Fetteke, © 1986 Word Music, CCLI# 358926 Streaming #20317932)

Pastor: Mike B, Robert W

Advent Readers: Ted & Elaine S

Prayer: Matt H, David W

Music: Sharon A, Cheryl K, Paul A, Brian K, Jack P

Offering is for the Benevolence Fund. All funds from this offering will go to help those in our church family affected by the recent flooding. For more information, talk to any deacon.

Love Offering is for the First CRC Adoption Fund, to help those in the congregation with the high cost of adoption. For more information, talk to any deacon.

Nursery is available with a paging system for children under 3 years during worship service in the Education Building.

Children's Church is available for children 3 years – 3rd grade. Children are dismissed to the Education Building during the service.

Worship services are also broadcast live in the church basement and streamed online for anyone unable to worship in the sanctuary.

An assistive listening system is available in the sanctuary; to use this system, switch hearing aids to "T".