

First Christian Reformed Church  
Lynden, Washington  
December 12, 2021 ~ Third Sunday of Advent  
10:30 AM Worship Service

**Advent Reading – Shepherds and the Angels:** *Luke 2:8-15*

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**Prayer**

**Call to Worship**

*All who come from near and far,*

***Come and worship.***

*All who thirst for God,*

***Come and worship.***

*All whose hearts overflow with gratitude and hope,*

***Come and worship.***

*All whose hearts may be filled with despair or grief,*

***Come and worship.***

*All who come with doubts or questions about life in Jesus,*

***Come and worship.***

*Through the grace of God's Holy Spirit,*

***Come, worship Christ, the newborn King.***

**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:

*Refrain:* 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: *Refrain*

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One. *Refrain*

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

***While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks***

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground;  
The angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around,  
And glory shone around.

"Fear not!" said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind.  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind,  
To you and all mankind.

"To you in David's town this day, is born of David's line,  
The Savior, who is Christ, the Lord, and this shall be the sign,  
And this shall be the sign.

"The heavenly Babe you there shall find to human views displayed,  
All meanly wrapt in swathing bands and in a manger laid,  
And in a manger laid."

("It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" words Edmund H. Sears, tune Richard S. Willis, Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming Lic #2031793)

### ***Silent Night, Holy Night***

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

("Silent Night" words Nahum Tate, arr. from George Frierich Handel, Public Domain, CCLI #358926 Streaming License #2031793)

### **Call to Confession: *Based on Psalm 25:1-10***

In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord,  
**we trust in the Lord's goodness.**

**We rely on his mercy.**

**We find shelter in his steadfast love.**

In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord,  
**we walk in the Lord's way.**

**We follow his example of love.**

**We keep our covenant promises.**

In this Advent season of waiting,  
**Lord, forget our sins. Remember your love.**

**Remember each one of us.**

**Remember your people everywhere.**

In this Advent season of waiting,  
**Lord, we wait for your salvation.**

**We wait for your leading.**

**We wait for your coming.**

### **Prayer of Confession**

#### **Assurance of Pardon: *In Christ Alone***

In Christ alone, my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song,  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My Comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ, I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God, in helpless Babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.  
'Til on the cross, as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live.

("In Christ Alone" words and music Keith Getty, Stuart Townend© 2002 Kingsway's Thankyou Music, CCLI #358926, Streaming #20317932)

### **Offertory Prayer**

#### **Ministry of Music: *O Holy Night***

**Offering:** Benevolence

### **Morning Prayer**

#### ***Jesus, Name Above All Names***

Jesus, name above all names, Beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord,  
Emmanuel, God is with us, Blessed Redeemer, Living Word. *Repeat All*

("Jesus, Name Above All Names" Naida Hearn © 1994 Scripture in Song, CCLI #358926, Streaming #20317932)

**Scripture:** *Isaiah 9:1-7 (ESV)*

<sup>1</sup> *But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.*

<sup>2</sup> *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.*

<sup>3</sup> *You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.*

<sup>4</sup> *For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.*

<sup>5</sup> *For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.*

<sup>6</sup> *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.*

<sup>7</sup> *Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** *The Zeal of the Lord Will Accomplish This*

**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.

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

**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 #20317932)

Pastor: Mike B, Robert W

Advent Readers: Elliot B, Patty R, Makayla S

Prayer: Linsey H, Neil M

Music: Ken Q, Dick B

Offering is for the Benevolence Fund, used to help local people and families in times of need. For more information on the benevolence fund 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 – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Children are dismissed to the Ed. Building during the service.

Worship services are also broadcast live in the church basement and 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".

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