

**First Christian Reformed Church**  
Lynden, Washington  
December 4, 2022 – 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

**Advent Reading 2:** Sacrificial Love – Ruth and Moab

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Prayer**

**Call to Worship:** *Sing We the Song of Immanuel*

**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*

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,  
And brought us God's salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

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

**It Came Upon a Midnight Clear**

It came upon a midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men, from heaven's all gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,  
When, with the ever circling years, shall come the time foretold,  
When the new heaven and earth shall own the Prince of Peace their King,  
And the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

("It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" words: Edmund H. Sears, tune: Richard S. Willis, Public Domain CCLI #558926 Streaming Lic. #20317931)

**Call to Confession:** *1 John 5:1-3*

*Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.*

**Prayer of Confession**

God our Father, you sent your Son full of grace and truth: forgive our failure to receive Him. Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus our Savior, you were born in poverty and laid in a manger: forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.  
Christ have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit of Love, your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call: forgive the hardness of our hearts. Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Assurance:** *Philippians 4:19*

*My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.*

**What a Beautiful Name**

You were the Word at the beginning, one with God, the Lord Most High.

Your hidden glory in creation, now revealed in You our Christ.

What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus Christ, my King.

What a beautiful Name it is, nothing compares to this, what a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

You didn't want heaven without us, so Jesus, You brought heaven down.

My sin was great, Your love was greater, what could separate us now.

What a wonderful Name it is, what a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus Christ, my King.

What a wonderful Name it is, nothing compares to this, what a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You, You silence the boast of sin and grave.  
The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory for You are raised to life again.  
You have no rival, You have no equal now and forever God, You reign.  
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory, Yours is the Name above all names.

What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus Christ, my King.  
What a powerful Name it is, nothing can stand against, what a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.  
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

("What a Beautiful Name" words and music by Ben Fickling, Brooke Ligerwood © 2016 Hillsong Music Publishing (Admin. by Capital CMG Publishing) CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

**Offertory Prayer and Offering:** Christian School Tuition Assistance

## Morning Prayer

### *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)

### **Scripture:** *John 3:13-18*

<sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

This is the Word of Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** *The Reality of Christmas – That He Gave His Only Begotten Son*

### **God Is With Us! Alleluia!** (sung to the tune of *All Creatures of Our God and King*)

His name is called Emmanuel – more wonderful than words can tell. God is with us! Alleluia!  
Born in our darkness, He is Light. Born in our weakness, He is Might. God is with us! Alleluia!  
God is with us! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Rejoice, and lay aside your fear. Rejoice, the Holy One is here. God is with us! Alleluia!  
Lift up Your voices, come and sing, come worship Christ, the newborn King. God is with us! Alleluia!  
God is with us! Alleluia! Alleluia!

("God is With Us! Alleluia!" words by Ken Bible, Tom Fette, and Thomas Ken, Music from Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623 arr. by Ralph Vaughn Williams © 1998 LNWthums.com and Pilot Point Music CCLI #359826 Streaming License #30127932)

## God's Blessing

### **All Hail, King Jesus**

All hail, King Jesus! All hail, Emmanuel! King of kings, Lord of lords, Bright Morning Star.  
And throughout eternity I'll sing His praises, and I'll reign with Him throughout eternity. *Repeat All*

("All Hail, King Jesus" words and music by David Moody © 1981 Dayspring Music CCLI #359826 Streaming License #30127932)

Pastors: Mike B, Robert W

Advent Readers: Robert & Debbie S, Kaylee B

Prayer: Matt H, Galen L

Music: Paul & Sharon A, Nicki B, Shelby B, Brian K, Jack P, Ken & Lisa Q, Bill V

Offering will be received for Christian School Tuition Assistance. Christian School Assistance is used to help cover tuition cost of First church families who send their children to Christian schools.

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