

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
December 11, 2022 – 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Advent Reading 3: Sacrificial Love – Hannah and Samuel

Lighting of the Advent Wreath & Prayer

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

God's Greeting

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, O 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 Oakley (1841), Descant © 1947, Hymns Ancient and Modern, Ltd., Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #2031793)

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: News! News! Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this.
He has opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

("Good Christian Men, Rejoice" words and tune German/Latin 14th cent., tr. John Mason Neale (1853), Public Domain, #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Call to Confession: *Isaiah 7:13-14 (NASB)*

Then he said, "Listen now, house of David! Is it too trivial a thing for you to try the patience of men, that you will try the patience of my God as well? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and she will name Him Immanuel."

Prayer of Confession

Assurance: *Psalms 73:26-28*

*My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.
But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.*

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*

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.

("Redeeming Love" words by Gloria Gaither; music by William Gaither; adapted by Ronn Hutt © 1963, 1976 by William Gaither CCLI #358926, Streaming Lic #20317932) Ligerwood © 2016 Hillsong Music Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing/CCLI #358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Offertory Prayer and Offering: Mission and Outreach Fund

Morning Prayer

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 st. 1, 3-4, Joseph Mohr (1818) trans. John F. Young (1863), st. 2 Henrietta Ten Harmsel (1984), tune by Franz Gruber (1818), Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #2031793)

Scripture: *John 3:13-18, 36*

¹³ *No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.*

¹⁶ *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ 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.*

³⁶ *Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.*

This is the Word of Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *The Reason of Christmas – That Whoever Believes in Him Will Not Perish*

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

("Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" words by Charles Wesley, tune by Felix Mendelssohn, © Public Domain, descant by descant by Paul Liljestrand © 1976 Paragon Associates, Inc., CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

God's Blessing

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

("Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" words by Charles Wesley, tune by Felix Mendelssohn, © Public Domain, descant by descant by Paul Liljestrand © 1976 Paragon Associates, Inc., CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Pastors: Mike B, Robert W

Advent Readers: Josh & Jill Ba and family

Prayer: Bryan A, Fred Y

Music: Mike Ho, Paul & Sharon A, Nicki B, Shelby B, Brian K, Jack P, Bill V, Nancy Z

Offering will be received for the Mission and Outreach Fund, 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.