

First Christian Reformed Church  
Lynden, Washington  
December 25, 2025 ~ 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
*Christmas Day*

**Christmas Prelude**

**Advent Reading:** from Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 19

How do you come to know the good news of Jesus Christ?

**The holy gospel tells me.**

**God himself began to reveal the gospel already in paradise; later, he proclaimed it by the holy patriarchs, portrayed it by the sacrifices and other ceremonies of the law, and declared it by the prophets; finally, he fulfilled it through his own dear Son.**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle and Prayer**

***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" John Francis Wade (1743) tr. Frederick Oakeley (1841), Descant © 1947, Hymns Ancient and Modern, Ltd., Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming #2031793)

***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)

***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 the angelic host 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."

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 Ligebrand © 1976 Pungon Associates, Inc., CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

**Choral Ministry of Music:** *In the Fullness of Time*

**The Story of Christmas – Luke 2**

**Offertory Prayer and Offering:** Benevolence Fund

**Offertory Ministry of Music:** *Gesu Bambino*

***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:  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending, in His temple shall appear.  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

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

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the perfect second Adam; by your perfect obedience you reconcile us to the Father.

**O Lord, clothe us in your obedience, and by your Spirit teach us to walk in it.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the promised Son of Abraham; You bring the blessing of righteousness by faith to all the families and nations of the earth.

**O Lord, make our families heirs of your promise.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you were born under the law of Moses, to redeem us from the curse of the law, that we might receive adoption as sons.

**O Lord, declare us righteous in you alone, and by your Spirit teach us to live in grateful obedience.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the royal Son of David; You have brought us into the kingdom of your presence.

**O Lord, reign in our hearts and among your people, and forever be our King of kings and Lord of lords.**

Lord Jesus Christ, may the indescribable gift of your incarnation—the fulfillment of every covenant promise—fill us with peace, hope, joy, and love now and forever.

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Scripture:** *Luke 1:67–79*

<sup>67</sup> *And [John's] father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,*

<sup>68</sup> *“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,*

*for he has visited and redeemed his people*

<sup>69</sup> *and has raised up a horn of salvation for us*

*in the house of his servant David,*

<sup>70</sup> *as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,*

<sup>71</sup> *that we should be saved from our enemies*

*and from the hand of all who hate us;*

<sup>72</sup> *to show the mercy promised to our fathers*

*and to remember his holy covenant,*

<sup>73</sup> *the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us*

<sup>74</sup> *that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear,*

<sup>75</sup> *in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.*

<sup>76</sup> *And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;*

*for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,*

<sup>77</sup> *to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins,*

<sup>78</sup> *because of the tender mercy of our God,*

*whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high*

<sup>79</sup> *to give light to those who sit in darkness*

*and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”*

*II Corinthians 1:20*

*For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** *The Covenant with Christ: of Covenant Fulfillment*

### ***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" words and tune German/Latin 14<sup>th</sup> cent., tr. John Mason Neale (1853), Public Domain, #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.

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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)

Pastors: Zac H, Robert W  
Readers: Evan & Amber T Family; Lincoln, Vaughn, Clark E  
Music: Valerie A, Paul A, Dick B, Kara H, Kaden K, Micah K, Judy S, Lee V, Nancy Z  
Director: Alicia Harrison

Offering will be received for the First CRC Benevolence Fund, used to help local people and families in times of need.

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

Worship services are also broadcast live in the 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".

On the bulletin, bold font is a response by the congregation. You are invited to join if you feel comfortable.

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