

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
November 29, 2020
First Sunday in Advent

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Advent Scripture and Reading: *Isaiah 40:1-2*

Prayer

Call to Worship: *Luke 1:46-50*

Our souls magnify the Lord!

Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

The mighty One has done great things for us!

Holy is God's name!

Let us worship God.

For God is our Maker and our Redeemer;

from generation to generation God gives mercy.

God's Greeting

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.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art:
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

("Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" words by Charles Wesley, music by Roland Hugh Prichard, descant by Paul Sjolund © Public Domain CCLI #358926, Streaming License #20317932)

Call to Confession: *Isaiah 64:6, 8-9*

*We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.*

*We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.*

*But now, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.*

*Be not so terribly angry, O LORD,
and remember not iniquity forever.
Behold, please look, we are all your people.*

Prayer of Confession

Assurance: *I Timothy 1:15-16*

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.

Morning Prayer

What Child Is This?

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. *Refrain*

("What Child Is This, Who, Laid to Rest?") words by William C. Dix, music is an English Melody, harmonized by John Stainer © Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #2031793)

Scripture: Genesis 21:1-7 (ESV)

¹ The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised.

² And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³ Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. ⁴ And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. ⁵ Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶ And Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me." ⁷ And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

Hebrews 11:17-19 (ESV)

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." ¹⁹ He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *What Child is This? Abraham and Sarah's Son, Isaac*

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

A Communion Hymn for Christmas

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 by Margaret Clarkson, tune by Tom Fettke, © 1986 Word Music, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #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 by Margaret Clarkson, tune by Tom Fettke, © 1986 Word Music, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastor: Robert W

Prayer: Mike B

Advent Readers: Galen & Mary L, Gail & Emily A

Music: Nancy Z

Offering: The Benevolence Fund is used to help local people and families in times of need. For more information, contact any deacon. Tithes and offering can be mailed to the church office (1010 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264), dropped off (place in the mailbox), through a bill pay service, or electronically with Tithe.ly (www.tithe.ly or through the app).