

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
December 6, 2020
Second Sunday in Advent

Advent Scripture and Reading: *Matthew 3:1-6*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Prayer

Call to Worship: *Revelation 12:10a; Isaiah 9:6*

And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying,

“Now the salvation and the power

and the kingdom of our God

and the authority of his Christ have come.”

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.

God’s Greeting

Once in Royal David’s City

Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,

Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:

Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all;

And His shelter was a stable and His cradle was a stall:

With the poor and meek and lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

For he is our childhood’s pattern; day by day like us he grew;

He was little, weak, and helpless; tears and smiles like us he knew:

And feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.

(“Once in Royal David’s City” words by Cecil F. Alexander (1848), tune by Henry J. Gauntlett (1849), Public Domain, descant by David Willcocks (1970) © by permission of Oxford University Press, CCLI #3558926, Streaming License #20317932)

Call to Confession

When Jesus was born of the virgin Mary, he became like us in all things but sin.

May we who have been reborn in him be free from our sinful ways.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession

Assurance: *Lamentations 3:19-23*

Remember my affliction and my wanderings,

the wormwood and the gall!

My soul continually remembers it

and is bowed down within me.

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;

his mercies never come to an end;

they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Morning Prayer

Tell Me the Story of Jesus

Tell me the story of Jesus, write on my heart every word.
Tell me the story most precious, sweetest that ever was heard.
Tell how the angels in chorus sang as they welcomed His birth,
“Glory to God in the highest! Peace and good tidings to earth.”

Refrain: Tell me the story of Jesus, write on my heart every word;
Tell me the story most precious, sweetest that ever was heard.

(“Tell Me the Story of Jesus” words by Fanny J. Crosby, tune by John R. Sweney, © Public Domain CCLI #358926 Streaming License #2031793)

Scripture: Exodus 2:1-10 (ESV)

¹ Now a man from the house of Levi went and took as his wife a Levite woman. ² The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him three months. ³ When she could hide him no longer, she took for him a basket made of bulrushes and daubed it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank. ⁴ And his sister stood at a distance to know what would be done to him. ⁵ Now the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her young women walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her servant woman, and she took it. ⁶ When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby was crying. She took pity on him and said, “This is one of the Hebrews’ children.” ⁷ Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and call you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” ⁸ And Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Go.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. ⁹ And Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed him. ¹⁰ When the child grew older, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, “Because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

Hebrews 11:23-28 (ESV)

²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict. ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *What Child is This? Amram and Jochebed’s Son, Moses*

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light:
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

(“O Little Town of Bethlehem: words by Margaret Clarkson, tune by Lewis H. Redner, Public Domain, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

God’s Blessing

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

(“O Little Town of Bethlehem: words by Margaret Clarkson, tune by Lewis H. Redner, Public Domain, CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

Pastor: Robert W

Prayer: Fred Y

Advent Readers: Patty R, Elliott B, Mikayla S

Music: Lee V

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

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).