

* **Call to Worship:** *based on Psalm 130:5-7*
I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his Word I hope.
My soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning.
There is no darkness with you, O Lord.
O Israel, hope in the Lord!
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is plenteous redemption.
There is no darkness with you, O Lord.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
There is no darkness with you, O Lord.

* **God's Greeting**

* ***Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*** #168:1,2 (HFG)
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.

Advent Reading: *Luke 2:36-38*

Advent Prayer

Lord, strengthen our hope in you. Help us to hold fast the promises you have given. Renew in us our hope in you, and sustain us by your promises. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

* ***Good Christian Men, Rejoice*** #177:2,3 (HFG)
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!

* indicates to stand if able

* ***A Communion Hymn for Christmas***
Prince of Glory, gracing heav'n ere time began,
Now for us embracing death as Son of Man.
By Your birth so lowly, by Your love so true,
By Your cross most holy, Lord, we worship You!

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.

Prayer of Confession

A Communion Hymn for Christmas

Gathered 'round Your table on this holy day,
Viewing Bethl'hem's stable we rejoice and pray.
Joy to see You lying in Your manger bed;
Weep to see You dying in our sinful stead.

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.

(Children 3 years old – 2nd grade are invited to
Children's Church in the Ed. Building during this song.)

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #21:1,2 (HFG)
(A Love offering for Youth Unlimited
will be received during this song.)

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling;
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion;
Pure, unbounded love Thou art.
Visit us with Thy salvation;
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Morning Prayer

* **Scripture:** *Isaiah 7:14 (ESV)* pg. 721
¹⁴ *Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*

Isaiah 11:1-3a, 6, 9-10 (ESV) pg. 725

¹ *There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.*

² *And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.*

³ *And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.*

⁶ *The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.*

⁹ *They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.*

¹⁰ *In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.*

Isaiah 22:22 (ESV) pg. 735

²² *And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.*

This is the Word of Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Prayer

Offering: Christian School Tuition Assistance

* ***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny.
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Key of David, come
And open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of peace. *Refrain*

* **God's Blessing**

- * **While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks** #175:5 (HFG)
"All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace.
Good will, hence forth from heaven to men,
Begin and never cease, begin and never cease."

Worship services are broadcast live in the church basement for anyone who is unable to worship in the sanctuary. The sanctuary is equipped with an assistive listening system. Please switch hearing aids to "T" to use this system.

Pastor: Robert W

Prayer: Jim A

Advent Readers: Leona O, Ada Vo

Music: Lee V, Nancy Z

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

Love Offering: Youth Unlimited assists youth ministry efforts in the local churches to effectively reach middle school and high school youth with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Isaiah 7:14; 11:1-3a, 6, 9-10; 22:22



First Sunday of Advent

First Christian Reformed Church

Lynden, Washington

December 3, 2017

10:30 a.m. Worship Service