

\* **Call to Worship: *Let's Worship and Adore Him***

Let's worship and adore Him, let's worship and adore Him,  
Let's worship and adore Him, Christ the Lord.

For He alone is worthy, For He alone is worthy,  
For He alone is worthy, Christ the Lord.

**Advent Reading:** *Luke 2:8-9; 15-18*

**Advent Prayer**

**Lord, we come before You in reverent awe.  
We are amazed that You love us so much, so wholly,  
with such passion that You came and dwelt among us,  
just to draw us nearer to You.  
Today, Lord, may we praise and thank You  
as we remember and believe in Your love for even us.  
Amen.**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

\* ***O Come, All Ye Faithful*** #340:1,3,4 (PH)

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*

\* ***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*** #345:1,3 (PH)

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."

\* indicates to stand if able

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."

\* ***Away in a Manger*** #348:1,2,3 (PH)

Away in a manger no crib for a bed;  
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay;  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus: look down from on high  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay;  
Close by me forever and love me I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care;  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession and Preparation**

**Assurance of Pardon:** *based on 1 Timothy 1:15*  
*The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,*  
*that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.*  
***In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!***

***Silent Night, Holy Night*** #195:1,2 (HFG)

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!

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

**Offertory Prayer**

**Offering:** Christian Hope Association

**Morning Prayer**

\* ***Silent Night, Holy Night*** #195:3 (HFG)

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.

\* **Scripture:** *John 1:1-14 (ESV)* pg. 1109

<sup>1</sup> *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. <sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

*I John 1:5-7 (ESV)* pg. 1278

<sup>5</sup> *This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.*

This is the Word of Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** *O Holy Night*

**\* O Holy Night**

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining;  
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining;  
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices;  
For yonder breaks, a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!  
O night divine! O night when Christ was born,  
O night divine! O night, oh night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,  
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.  
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,  
Here came the wise men from Orient land.  
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,  
In all our trials born to be our Friend;  
He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger.  
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend;  
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!

**\* God's Blessing**

**\* O Holy Night**

Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,  
And in His name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;  
Let all within us praise His holy name.  
Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever!  
His power and glory evermore proclaim.  
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

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: Brian V  
Advent Readers: Brian & Nelda S  
Music: Cheryl K, Nancy Z

Offering: The Christian Hope Association is a ministry of the Christian Reformed Churches in Whatcom County overseeing Project Hope, Great Expectations, and New Way Ministries. Visit [www.christianhopeassociation.org](http://www.christianhopeassociation.org) for more information.

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**O Holy Night**  
*John 1:1-14; I John 1:5-7*

O Holy Night, an unholy history.

Stanza 1, why Christ came.

Stanza 2, how Christ came.

Stanza 3, what we should do as a result of Christ's coming.



**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**First Christian Reformed Church**

**Lynden, Washington**

**December 24, 2017**

**10:30 a.m. Worship Service**