

## Prelude of Christmas Carols

### \* *Joyful, Joyful We Adore You*

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Angels lifting praise before You sing throughout this holy night.  
In a manger lies a Baby; Child of Mary, Son of God.  
Voices joined in joyful chorus praise You for Your gift of love.

All Your works declare Your glory, all creation joins to sing.  
Praise resounds as earth rejoices in the birth of Christ, the King.  
Shepherds kneel before the Infant.  
Trumpets sound and anthems raise  
As with joy our hearts are lifted,  
Joined in wonder, love, and praise.

**Advent Reading:** *Luke 2:8-14*

### Advent Prayer:

**Lord, sometimes it's not easy to share in Your heavenly joy.  
It's much easier to be overwhelmed and inundated with the  
concerns, the worries, the very real problems of this world.  
But Lord, let us not forget that today we celebrate our Savior,  
come to earth to save us from our sins  
because of Your great and eternal love for us.  
Lord, help us to rejoice in Your greatest gift. Amen.**

### Lighting of the Advent Candle

### Ministry of Music: *Here With Us*

### \* *Angels We Have Heard on High* #192:1,2,3 (HFG)

Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echo back their joyous strains.

*Refrain:* Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be,  
Which inspire your heavenly song? *Refrain*

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come adore, on bended knee,  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*

\* indicates to stand if able

## The Christmas Story: *Luke 2*

### *Redeeming Love*

#199:1,2 (HFG)

From God's heaven to a manger, from great riches to the poor,  
Came the holy Son of God, a little Child;  
From the azure halls of heaven to a lowly manger stall,  
Jesus came, and here He gave His life for all.

*Refrain:* Redeeming love, a love that knows no limit;  
Redeeming love, a love that never dies;  
My soul shall sing throughout the endless ages  
The adoration of this great love on high.

From a loving heavenly Father, to a world that knew Him not,  
Came a man of sorrows, Jesus Christ, the Lord;  
In my wandering Jesus found me,  
Touched my life with His great love,  
And this Babe has grown to be my sovereign Lord. *Refrain*

### Offertory Prayer

**Offertory Ministry of Music:** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

**Offering:** Jeff & Melissa

### \* *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

Infant holy, infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe, is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging angels singing,  
Noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Stars were gleaming, shepherds dreaming,  
Oh, the night was dark and chill.  
Angels' story, manger glory, shepherds heard it on the hill.  
Ah, that singing, hear it ringing,  
Earthward winging, praises bringing:  
Christ, the babe was born for you.  
Christ, the babe was born for you.

### \* **Scripture:** *Psalms 98 (ESV)* pg. 630

<sup>1</sup> *Oh sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things!  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have worked salvation for him.*

<sup>2</sup> *The LORD has made known his salvation;  
he has revealed his righteousness  
in the sight of the nations.*

<sup>3</sup> *He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness  
to the house of Israel.  
All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.*  
<sup>4</sup> *Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!  
Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody!*  
<sup>6</sup> *With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!*  
<sup>7</sup> *Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who dwell in it!*  
<sup>8</sup> *Let the rivers clap their hands;  
let the hills sing for joy together  
before the LORD, for he comes  
to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.*

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

**Message:** *Joy to the World*

### \* *Joy to the World* #171:1,2,3,4 (HFG)

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.

No more let sin and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground.  
He comes to make His blessings flow,  
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

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.

\* **God's Blessing**

\* **Glory to God/Ere zij God**

#214 (PH)

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.

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.

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 Advent Readers: Todd & Emma W

Prayer: Lance H Scripture Reader: Kingston P

Music: Valerie A, Paul A, Sharon A, Jenna B,

Nicole B, Jessica H, Kara H, Rachel N,

Lee V, Marc W

Offering: Jeff & Melissa are with Resonate Global Mission and are currently in Grand Rapids working with Calvin Seminary. After this year of transition, they plan to minister in Oman to the Bangladeshi people living there.

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**Joy to the World**

Psalm 98



**Christmas Day**

**First Christian Reformed Church**

**Lynden, Washington**

**December 25, 2017**

**10:00 a.m. Worship Service**