

Advent Reading: *Matthew 1:18-25*

Call to Worship

All creation holds its breath.

The time is almost here.

The heavenly choir of angels waits for its cue to sing.

Excitement is all around us.

Prepare your hearts, the grace of God takes on human form.

Good news! Emmanuel, God with us, comes to us.

**We gather to make ready our hearts
for the coming of Christ, our hope.**

* God's Greeting

* **O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

#169:1,3,4 (HFG)

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

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And cause us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

* **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

#178:3,4 (HFG)

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

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!

* please join us in standing if able

* **Meekness and Majesty**

Meekness and majesty, manhood and Deity,
In perfect harmony, the Man who is God.
Lord of eternity, dwells in humanity;
Kneels in humility and washes our feet.

Refrain: O what a mystery, meekness and majesty;
Bow down and worship, for this is your God.

Wisdom unsearchable, God, the invisible;
Love indestructible in frailty appears.
Lord of infinity, stooping so tenderly;
Lifts our humanity to the heights of His throne. *Refrain*

Prayer of Confession

**We confess, Gracious God,
that we have not always turned to you for guidance.
At times, we have allowed the world's time
to dominate your time.
Forgive us for our sins of hurriedness and impatience.
Forgive us when we have slumbered
instead of remaining alert, waiting and watching for you.
Forgive us for allowing the world's fears to become our fears.
Shine upon us this Advent season
so that we may be restored unto you.
Guide us into your time.
As we call upon your name,
hear our prayers and give us life.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

Assurance

The good news of this Advent season
is forgiveness of sin and new life.
Let us commit our lives to Christ's way of hope and peace.
**Thanks be to our God, who comes among us,
setting us free to love and serve.**

Joy to the World

#171:1,3 (HFG)

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

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.

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.

Offertory Prayer

Offering: Ken & Chris

Morning Prayer

* **Thy Word**

Refrain: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.

I will not forget Your love for me, and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side;
I will love You to the end. *Refrain*

* **Scripture:** *Joshua 5:13-15 (ESV)* pg. 226

¹³ When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing before him with his drawn sword in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us, or for our adversaries?"
¹⁴ And he said, "No; but I am the commander of the army of the LORD. Now I have come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped and said to him, "What does my lord say to his servant?"
¹⁵ And the commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, "Take off your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

Joshua 6:1-5 (ESV)

¹ Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in. ² And the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. ³ You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. ⁴ Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. ⁵ And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Joshua and the General*

*** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You**

Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Angels lifting praise before You
Sing through out 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.

*** God's Blessing**

*** Good Christian Men, Rejoice**

#177:3 (HFG)

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!

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: Andrew & Stephanie R Family

Prayer: Jason V, Gene T

Music: Paul A, Mike H, Mike S, Nancy Z

Offering: Ken & Chris serve as missionaries with Wycliffe Bible
Translators and JAARS. They are in Waxhaw, North Carolina,
the base of operations for the aviation programs. For
information, visit www.wycliffe.net.

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Joshua and the General

Joshua 5:13-15; Joshua 6:1-5

*When Heaven
and Earth Meet*



*Second Sunday
of Advent*

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
December 8, 2019
10:30 a.m. Worship Service