

Advent Reading: *Luke 2:8-17*

Call to Worship: *Psalm 148:1,2,13*

Praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD from the heavens;

praise him in the heights above.

Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for his name alone is exalted;

his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

* **God's Greeting**

* **O Come, All Ye Faithful** #340:1,3 (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*

* **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** #345:1,2,3 (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."

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!

Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity,

Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

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."

* please join us in standing if able

* **Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne** #170:1,4 (HFG)

Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown

When Thou camest to earth for me,

But in Bethlehem's home

There was found no room for Thy holy nativity.

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus:

There is room in my heart for Thee!

Thou camest, O Lord, with the living word

That should set Thy people free,

But with mocking scorn

And with crown of thorn they bore Thee to Calvary.

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus:

There is room in my heart for Thee!

Call to Confession

Our lives are filled with sin.

We forget our neighbor's needs

and do not love you above all else.

We need a Savior.

Help us to be ready for Jesus in our own hearts.

O come, O come, Savior of the world.

Prayer of Confession

* **Angels We Have Heard on High** #347:1,3 (PH)

(Children 3 years old – 2nd grade are invited to

Children's Church in the Ed. Building during this song.)

Angels we have heard on high,

Singing sweetly through the night,

And the mountains in reply,

Echoing their brave delight.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see

him whose birth the angels sing;

come, adore on bended knee

Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*

Offertory Prayer

Offertory: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Offering: Building the Future Fund

Morning Prayer

* **Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery**

Come, behold the wondrous mystery,

In the dawning of the King;

He the theme of heaven's praises,

Robed in frail humanity.

In our longing, in our darkness,

Now the light of life has come;

Look to Christ, who condescended,

Took on flesh to ransom us.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery,

Christ the Lord upon the tree,

In the stead of ruined sinners,

Hangs the Lamb in victory.

See the price of our redemption,

See the Father's plan unfold;

Bringing many sons to glory,

Grace unmeasured, love untold.

* **Scripture:** *Judges 6:11-24 (ESV)* pg. 255

¹¹ Now the angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. ¹² And the angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, "The LORD is with you, O mighty man of valor." ¹³ And Gideon said to him, "Please, my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian." ¹⁴ And the LORD turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?" ¹⁵ And he said to him, "Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." ¹⁶ And the LORD said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man." ¹⁷ And he said to him, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, then show me a sign that it is you who speak with me. ¹⁸ Please do not depart from here until I come to you and bring out my present and set it before you." And he said, "I will stay till you return."

¹⁹ So Gideon went into his house and prepared a young goat and unleavened cakes from an ephah of flour. The meat he put in a basket, and the broth he put in a pot, and brought them to him under the terebinth and presented them. ²⁰ And the angel of God said to him, "Take the meat

and the unleavened cakes, and put them on this rock, and pour the broth over them." And he did so. ²¹ Then the angel of the LORD reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes. And fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes. And the angel of the LORD vanished from his sight.

²² Then Gideon perceived that he was the angel of the LORD. And Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord GOD! For now I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face." ²³ But the LORD said to him, "Peace be to you. Do not fear; you shall not die."

²⁴ Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it, The LORD Is Peace.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: *Gideon and the Angel of the Lord*

* ***While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*** #175:1,5 (HFG)

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground;
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around, and glory shone around.

"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."

* **God's Blessing**

* ***Christmas Doxology***

Praise to God the Father sing,
Praise to God the Son, our King,
Praise to God the Spirit be ever and eternally.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gideon and the Angel of the Lord

Judges 6:11-24

*When Heaven
and Earth Meet*



*Third Sunday
of Advent*

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: Bryan & Sara K Family

Prayer: Linsey H, Doug V

Music: Sharon A, Kara H, Lee V, Nancy Z

Offering: Building the Future is in place to fund future building projects
of our church.

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First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
December 15, 2019
10:30 a.m. Worship Service