

* **Call to Worship:** *Isaiah 60:1-3*
Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the LORD rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.
**Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

* **God's Greeting**

* **The First Noel** #179:1,4,6 (HFG)

The first noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

This star drew nigh to the northwest,
Over Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath bought.
Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

* **Love Divine, All Loves Excelling** #568:1,2,3 (PH)

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.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee:
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

* **Silent Night** #344:1,4 (PH)

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! Son of God, love's pure light
Shines anew from your heavenly face,
Greets the hour of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth!
Jesus, Lord, at your birth!

Prayer of Confession and Preparation

Assurance: *John 1:9,12*

I Will Sing of My Redeemer #479:2,3 (PH)

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

I will tell the wondrous story, how my lost estate to save;
In His boundless love and mercy, he the ransom freely gave.

Refrain: Sing, O sing of my Redeemer!
With his blood he purchased me;
On the cross he sealed my pardon,
Paid the debt, and made me free.

I will praise my dear Redeemer, His triumphant pow'r I'll tell,
How the victory He giveth, over sin and death and hell. *Refrain*

Offertory Prayer

Offering: Envision Mission

Offertory Ministry of Music: *Christmas Grace*

Morning Prayer

* **God Himself Is with Us** #244:1,3 (PH)

God himself is with us; let us now adore him,
And with awe appear before him.
God is in his temple; all within keep silence,
Prostrate lie with deepest reverence.
Him alone do we own as our God and Savior;
Praise his name forever.

Fount of every blessing, purify my spirit,
Trusting only in your merit
Like the holy angels who behold your glory,
May I ceaselessly adore you,
And in all, great and small,
Seek to do most nearly what you love so dearly.

Scripture: *II Kings 18:13-25 (ESV)* pg. 405

¹³ In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them. ¹⁴ And Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, "I have done wrong; withdraw from me. Whatever you impose on me I will bear." And the king of Assyria required of Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold. ¹⁵ And Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD and in the treasuries of the king's house. ¹⁶ At that time Hezekiah stripped the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD and from the doorposts that Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid and gave it to the king of Assyria. ¹⁷ And the king of Assyria sent the Tartan, the Rab-saris, and the Rabshakeh with a great army from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. When they arrived, they came and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is on the highway to the Washer's Field. ¹⁸ And when they called for the king, there came out to them Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah, who was over the household, and Shebna the secretary, and Joah the son of Asaph, the recorder.

¹⁹ And the Rabshakeh said to them, "Say to Hezekiah, 'Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria: On what do you rest this trust of yours? ²⁰ Do you think that mere words are strategy and power for war? In whom do you now trust, that you have rebelled against me? ²¹ Behold, you are trusting now in Egypt, that broken reed of a staff, which will pierce the hand of any man who leans on it. Such is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust in him. ²² But if you say to me, "We trust in the LORD our God," is it not he whose high places and altars Hezekiah has removed, saying to Judah and to Jerusalem, "You shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem"? ²³ Come now, make a wager with my master the king of Assyria: I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able on your part to set riders on them. ²⁴ How then can you repulse a single captain among the least of my master's servants, when you trust in Egypt for chariots and for horsemen? ²⁵ Moreover, is it without the LORD that I have come up against this place to destroy it? The LORD said to me, "Go up against this land and destroy it."'"

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

Message: 20/20 Vision for 2020

* **God, the Father of Your People**

#322:1,2 (PH)

God, the Father of your people,
You have called us to be one;
Grant us grace to walk together
In the joy of Christ, your Son.
Challenged by your Word and Spirit,
Blest with gifts from heaven above,
As one body we will serve you
And bear witness to your love.

May the grace of Christ, our Savior.
And the Father's boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit's favor,
Rest upon us from above.
May we now remain in union
With each other and the Lord,
And possess, in sweet communion,
Joys that earth cannot afford.

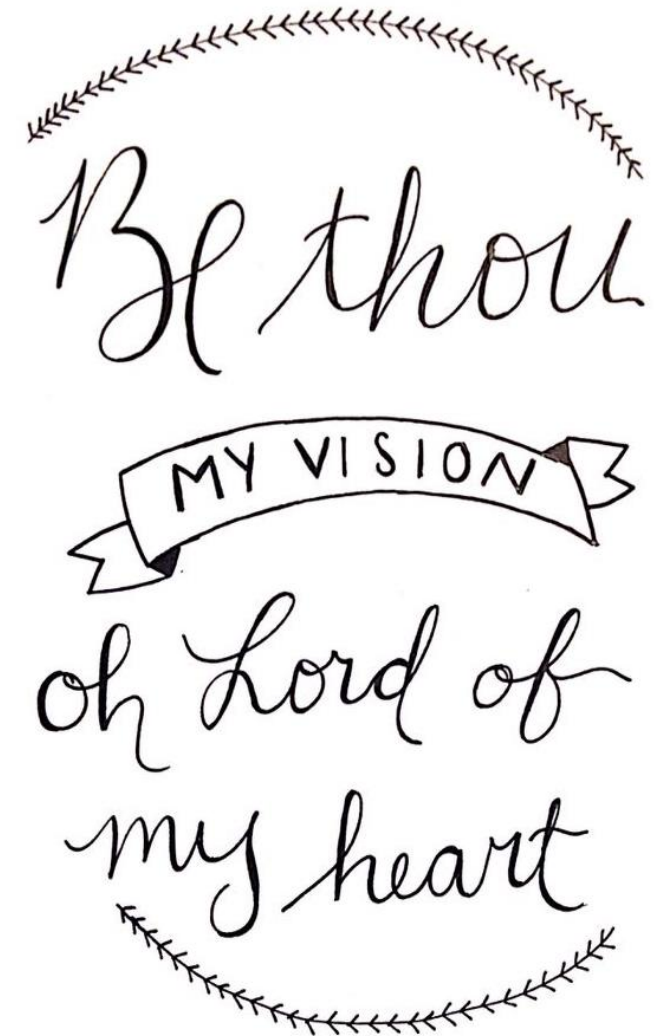
* **God's Blessing**

* **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!

20/20 Vision for 2020

II Kings 18:13-25



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.

* please join us in standing if able

Pastor: Robert W, David W

Prayer: Tabin B, Patrick J

Music: Sharon A, Kara H, Carol H, Sara K, Nancy Z

Offering: Envision Mission and Mitchell S work to build
authentic community through Jesus Christ in Bellingham. For
more information, visit www.envisionmission.org.

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First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
December 29, 2019
10:30 a.m. Worship Service