

* **Call to Worship: Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end.

* **Our Response:** #354 (PH)

Come and worship,
Come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King!

* **God's Greeting**

* **God Is With Us! Alleluia!**

(sung to the tune of All Creatures of Our God and King)

His name is called Emmanuel-
More wonderful than words can tell.
God is with us! Alleluia!
Born in our darkness, He is Light.
Born in our weakness, He is Might.
God is with us! Alleluia!
God is with us! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Rejoice, and lay aside your fear.
Rejoice, the Holy One is here.
God is with us! Alleluia!
Lift up Your voices, come and sing,
Come worship Christ, the newborn King.
God is with us! Alleluia!
God is with us! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
God is with us! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
God is with us! Alleluia!
God is with us! Alleluia! Alleluia!

* indicates to stand if you are able

* **Joy to the World**

#171:1,2 (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.

Advent Reading

Congregational Response:

**And the angel said to them,
"Be not afraid, for behold,
I bring you good news of a great joy
which will come to all people;
for to you is born this day in the City of David
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."
Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace among men
with whom he is pleased.**

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

It came upon a midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of God:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
From heaven's all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Look now! for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road,
And hear the angels sing.

***(Children ages 3 years old – 2nd grade may leave
for Children's Church during this song.)***

Prayer of Confession

Our Assurance:

The Lord's grace is sure.
God has looked with favor upon his people
and has redeemed them.
God has raised up a mighty Savior
from the house of David.
God spoke through the prophets of old
so that we would be saved from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us.
God has shown mercy
and has remembered his promises.

—based on Luke 1:68-72

Offering Prayer

Offering: Dara De Boer Watson

Offertory: *Silent Night/O Holy Night* ~ Ministry of Music

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

#353:1,2 (PH)

Infant holy, infant lowly,
For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging angels singing,
Bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!

Morning Prayer

* **Scripture:** Jonah 4

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This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Message: *The Patient God Who Gives Grace*

Prayer

* **The First Noel**

#179:1 (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!

* **God's Blessing**

* **The First Noel**

#179:2 (HFG)

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

CCLI #358926

Pastor: *Robert Woodyard*

Congregational Prayer: *Gene Tinklenberg*

Offertory Prayer: *Lee Van Beek*

Organist: *Cheryl Korthuis*

Pianist: *Dave Korthuis*

Soloists: *Louisa Heeringa and Dick Bosch*

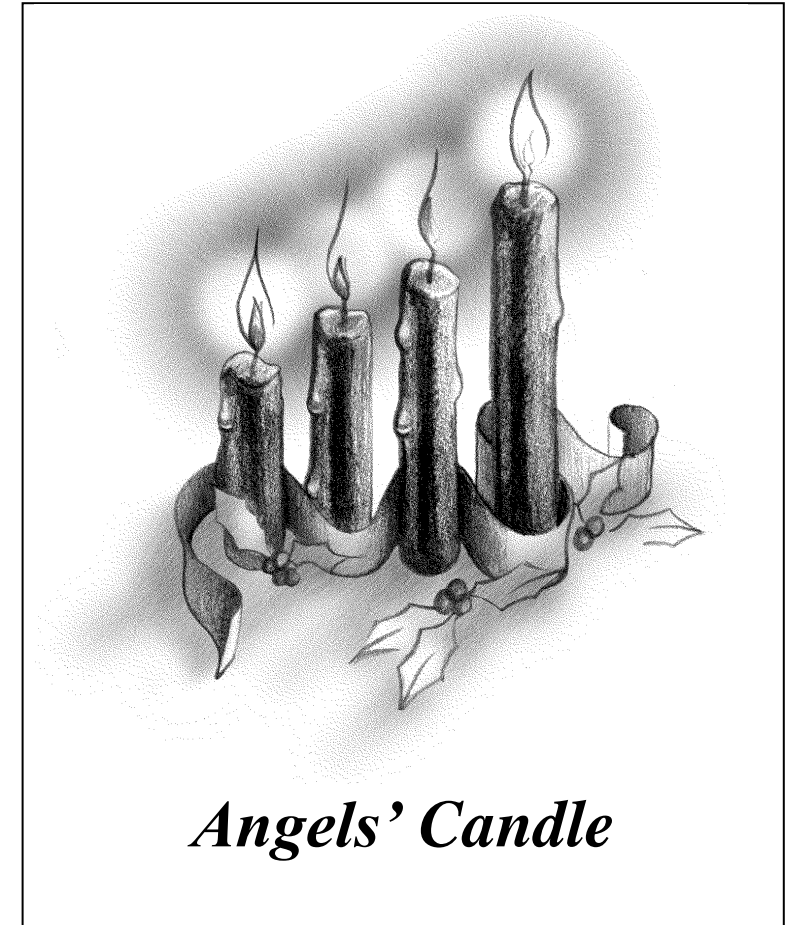
Advent Readers: *Link & Kathy Finnsen Family*

Offering: *Dara (De Boer) Watson is working with Youth for Christ in Watseka, Illinois. Youth for Christ is an organization that works with young people in conjunction with local churches. Dara is the daughter of Duane De Boer and grew up here in First CRC. For more information visit www.yfc.net.*

Contributions to the church operating fund can be made by either placing your contribution in a blue envelope (located on the Information Center) or by writing "operating fund" on the memo line of your check. Contributions to our denominational shares can be made by placing your contribution in the green envelopes (also located on the Information Center) or by writing "denominational shares" on the memo line of your check. If you have any questions regarding the operating fund or denominational shares, talk to any deacon.

Sermon Notes

First Christian Reformed Church of Lynden, Washington



Angels' Candle

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*Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2009
10:30 a.m. Morning Service*