

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

* **Call to Worship:** *Isaiah 40:3-6*

* **God's Greeting**

* **O Come, All Ye Faithful** #340:1,2,3 (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!

God of God, Light of Light eternal,
Lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created; *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; *Refrain*

* **Imagine**

Who hears? Who hears the voice
Of the hungry, the thirsty?
Who sees? Who sees the tears
Of the suffering one?

Refrain: Imagine a King who would come
Through the darkness
And walk, where I walk full of greatness
And call me to his side
Just like a father and child.

Who knows? Who knows the hopes that lie; forgotten.
Who comes? Who comes to lead
All the children home? *Refrain*

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Congregational Response:

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the City of Nazareth, to Judea, to the City of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with Child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her firstborn son. O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray.

Magnificat

Ministry of Music

GOD CALLS US TO CONFESS OUR SINS...

Prayer of Confession ending with Advent Prayer

**Lord Jesus Christ, your world awaits you.
In the longing of the persecuted for justice;
In the longing of the poor for prosperity;
In the longing of our hearts for a better life;
And in the song of your Church,
expectation is ever present.
O come, Lord, desire behind our greatest needs.
O come, Lord, liberator of humanity.
O come, Lord, O come, Immanuel. Amen.**

...AND HE FORGIVES US.

God's Assurance: *Isaiah 40:28-31*

* **In Christ Alone**

In Christ alone, my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song,
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ, I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
Fullness of God, in helpless Babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on that cross, as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid,
Here in the death of Christ I live.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the pow'r of Christ in me.
From life's first cry, to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand.
'Til He returns or calls me home,
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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

Offertory Prayer

Offering: Christian School Tuition Assistance Fund

Morning Prayer

GOD GIVES US HIS INSTRUCTION

* **Scripture:** *Jonah 2* pg. 967

¹ Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, ² saying, "I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. ³ For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. ⁴ Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.' ⁵ The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head ⁶ at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God. ⁷ When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. ⁸ Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. ⁹ But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the LORD!" ¹⁰ And the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land. (ESV)

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Message: *The Sovereign God Who Saves*

Prayer

* **Redeeming Love** #199 (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*

Sermon Notes

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*

* God's Blessing

* **O Come, All Ye Faithful** #340:4 (PH)
Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; *Refrain*

Refrain: O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

CCLI #358926

Pastor: Robert Woodyard

Congregational Prayer: Robert Smit

Offertory Prayer: Wayne Groen

Organist: Ruth Weidenaar

Pianist: Sharon Assink

Trio: Peggy Berendsen, Lori Molendyk, Lori Scholten

Advent Readers: Einfeld Family

Offering: Tuition assistance is used to help First Church families who choose to send their children to Christian school cover the cost of tuition. Money is disbursed throughout the school year for each family's account. For Christian school information visit www.lyncs.org or www.ebenezerchristianschool.org.

First Christian Reformed Church of Lynden, Washington



Bethlehem Candle

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2009

10:30 a.m. Morning Service

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