

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church
THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 13, 2015 10:15 A.M.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

Prelude: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"
"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

Zachau
Fedak

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Silent Prayer and Preparation

- * Call to Worship: Psalm 146:1-2; 8-10
Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.
The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.
The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the LORD!

- * Hymn: PH 335 "Hark, the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes" RICHMOND

- * God's Greeting:
Grace and peace be to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Our help is in the name of the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.
Blessed be God,
And blessed is his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Advent Reading: Isaiah 2:4; 11:6; 35:1

Reader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming. We are preparing ourselves for the days when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Reader: The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

Reader: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

All: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession:

James 4:7-10

Prayer of Confession:

Almighty God who inhabits eternity but dwells with those who are of a humble and contrite spirit: before you and our Lord Jesus Christ we confess our sins. We have ignored the presence of your Spirit. We have failed to look for the return of our Savior and Judge. We have been blind to your coming in the suffering of the hungry, the exiled, the destitute, the sick, and the imprisoned. In your great goodness put away our offenses and cleanse us from our sin, for Jesus' sake.

Silent Prayer and Confession

Minister: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

All: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Jeremiah 31:33-34

Installation of Elders and Deacons: PH 1004

Congregational Prayer

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

* Hymn: PH 346

"Once in Royal David's City"

IRBY

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 2: Women

Stanza 3: Men

Stanzas 4 & 5: All

[Children age 3 - grade Pre-K may leave after the hymn.]

Instrumental Duet: "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

Krentz-Organ

Scripture Reading:

Luke 1:46-55

Sermon: *Great Reversals*

Prayer

* Hymn: PH 545

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

TEMPLE

THE OFFERING OF TRIBUTE

* Offertory Prayer

Offerings: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

arr. Blumhofer

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

* Blessing:

Romans 15:5-6

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

* Doxology: PH 622

“Magnify the Lord” (Sing two times.)

MAGNIFICAT

* Postlude: “He Is Born!”

Carter