

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church  
**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

December 20, 2015 10:15 A.M.

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**PREPARATION AND PRAISE**

Prelude: "Noel Étranger"

Daquin

**ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING**

Silent Prayer and Preparation

\* Call to Worship:

Psalm 98:1-3

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

**His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.**

The LORD has made known his victory;

**he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

\* Hymn: Bulletin p. 4

"Love Has Come!"

BRING A TORCH

\* 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; 7:14

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.

Reader: The Lord will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel (God is with us.)

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

Response: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

HOUSTON

I want to walk as a child of the light;  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world;  
the star of my life is Jesus.

*Refrain:* In him there is no darkness at all;  
the night and day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God;  
shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ;  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

## CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession:

Jeremiah 2:12-13

Prayer of Confession:

**Generous God, you give us the greatest gift of all, yourself, but often we find it hard to take notice; we are caught up with our own gifts, given and received. Forgive us, generous God, for the casual way we treat your gift of love. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.**

Silent Prayer and Confession

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

**All: Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Titus 3:4-8a

Mission Report: Steve Frieswick

Congregational Prayer

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

\* Hymn: PH 342

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

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

Scripture Reading:

Luke 1:67-79

Sermon: *Singing About Salvation*

Prayer

\* Hymn: PH 337

“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”

ANTIOCH

## THE OFFERING OF TRIBUTE

\* Offertory Prayer

Offerings: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

Lasky

## 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: "Blessed Be the God of Israel"

FOREST GREEN

Blessed be the God Israel, who comes to set us free  
and raises up new hope for us: a Branch from David's tree.  
So have the prophets long declared that with a mighty arm  
God would turn back our enemies and all who wish us harm.

My child, as prophet of the Lord, you will prepare the way,  
to tell God's people they are saved from sin's eternal sway.  
Then shall God's mercy from on high shine forth and never cease  
to drive away the gloom of death and lead us into peace.

\* Postlude: "Joy to the World"

Wolz

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