

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church

MORNING WORSHIP

December 31, 2017 10:15 A.M.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

Prelude: "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Lasky

Welcome and Announcements

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Call to Worship:

God is here! The Messiah has come!

We open our eyes to see him and lift our hearts to worship him.

We have come to exalt the name of Jesus, our Savior and King, and to bring glory to God the Father.

In our worship we demonstrate the mind of Christ in declaring to God that he is the supreme authority in our lives.

We bow before him in submission to our Lord and King.

Come, worship the Lord!

* Carol: "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

PH 337

* God's Greeting:

Lift up your heads, O gates!

And be lifted up, O ancient doors that the King of glory may come in.

Grace and peace be to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Praise be to God!

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who has visited and redeemed the people.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

* Prayer of the Day:

You surprised this world, O God, by coming not in clashing thunder or flashing lights but in the quiet and simple splendor of a child's radiant face. Help us to understand this mystery of love beyond all loves, that we may be led to a new kind of love: a love that loves not by what we can get but in what we can give, a love that counts not who is worthy to receive but, beyond our human calculations is showered freely on all. In this new year, show us the way of Bethlehem's child, that in seeing, we may believe, and in believing, we may learn again how to love. Amen.

Response: "Silent Night"

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light

Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at thy birth! Jesus, Lord, at thy birth!

CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

God's Will for Our Lives

Response: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

PH 356

Congregational Prayer

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

* Carol: "Praise the LORD, Sing Hallelujah"

PH 188

Prayer for Illumination

[Children age 3 - grade Pre-K may leave for Children's Church after the prayer.]

Scripture Reading:

Psalms 148 (p. 623)

Sermon: *Praise in Every Season*

Prayer

* Carol: "Hours and Days and Years and Ages"

PH 443

OUR RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

* Offertory Prayer

Offering: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: "How Bright Appears the Morning Star"

Response to Offering: "What Can I Give Him?"

CRANHAM

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;

yet what I can I give him: give him my heart.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

* Benediction:

People of God, as you enter a new year, where is your trust placed?

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope through the power of the Holy Spirit. And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, remain with you all.

Amen.

* Doxology: "Father, We Love You"

PH 634

* Postlude: "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"

Lasky