

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church

# SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 6, 2009 10:15 A.M.

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## PREPARATION AND PRAISE

*Upon entering the sanctuary please maintain silence and turn off all electronic devices for the sake of the congregation's preparation for worship.*

Prelude: "A Lovely Rose Is Blooming"

Brahms

Welcome and Announcements

## ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Silent Prayer and Preparation

\* Call to Worship:

Isaiah 40

A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.

**"And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."**

\* Hymn: PH 328

"O Come, O Come, Immanuel"

VENI IMMANUEL

\* 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.**

\* Prayer of the Day:

**Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation, give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle:

The Angels' Candle

- \* Response: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" HYFRYDOL  
 Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, appear;  
 come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!  
 O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth:  
 "Go to him your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

## CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Reading from the Psalms: Psalm 12 (p. 537)

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Prayer of Confession:

LORD God Almighty, who searches our hearts and knows our thoughts and intentions, we confess that we have not loved you with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength. And we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have loved what we ought not to have loved, and we have coveted what is not ours. Our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has for us become a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past we cannot change and open to us a future in which we can be changed, and grant us grace to grow in the likeness of Jesus Christ our LORD, through whom we pray.

Silent Prayer and Confession  
 Minister: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Jeremiah 29

Response: Insert "We Believe in God Almighty" DIVINUM MYSTERIUM  
 [Children age 3 - grade Pre-K may leave during the Response.]

Congregational Prayer

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

- \* Hymn: PH 346 "Once in Royal David's City" IRBY  
 Soloists will sing stanzas 1 and 3.  
 The congregation is asked to join in singing stanzas 2, 4, and 5.

Scripture Reading: Ruth 1

Sermon: The Book of Ruth: Returning to the Place of Bread

Prayer

- \* Hymn: PH 333 "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" GREENLAND

## THE OFFERING OF TRIBUTE

- \* Offertory Prayer

Offering: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: "Rejoice Greatly, O My Soul" Karg-Elert

- \* Doxology: PH 638 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
 Praise him, all creatures here below;  
 Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

# THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

### \* *SURSUM CORDA—THE GREAT THANKSGIVING*

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up unto the LORD.**

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

**It is proper and right to do so.**

Truly it is proper and right and our duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O LORD, holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and saying,

**Holy, Holy, Holy is the LORD God Almighty;  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Glory be to you, O LORD Most High.**

### *THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION*

#### *PRAYER OF CONSECRATION*

Heavenly Father, show forth among us the presence of your life-giving Word and Holy Spirit, to sanctify us and your whole church through this sacrament. Grant that all who share the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ may be one in him, and remain faithful in love and hope. And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf, and these grapes from many hills into one cup, grant, O LORD, that your whole church may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. Now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

### *THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE*

#### *THE DEDICATORY PRAYER*

**We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful LORD, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great and manifold mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same LORD, whose nature it is to always have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious LORD, so to eat the flesh of your Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.**

### *THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND WINE*

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

(Please hold each element until all have been served.  
The outer ring holds wine; the inner rings, grape juice.)

## THE THANKSGIVING

Congregation in Christ, since the Lord has fed us at his table, let us praise his holy name with thanksgiving.

**Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion. Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise.**

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

\* Blessing:

May he, who by his Incarnation, gathered into one all things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and good will; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

\* Response: PH 327, stanza 5    "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"    PUER NOBIS

All praise to you, eternal Son, whose advent has our freedom won,  
whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit, evermore.

Postlude: "From Heaven Above"

Held

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