

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 19, 2010 10:15 A.M.

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: "Noél Étranger"
"Pastorale"

Daquin
Correll

Welcome and Announcements

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Silent Prayer and Preparation

* Call to Worship:

Isaiah 49

Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me; from my birth he has made mention of my name. He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor."

He who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself says, "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

* Hymn: PH 347

"Angels We Have Heard On High"

GLORIA

* 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:

Almighty God, who makes us glad with the yearly festival of the birth of Jesus Christ, grant that as we joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, so may we behold him without fear when he shall come to be our Judge, even Christ our LORD, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candle:

The Shepherds' Candle

Response: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" St. Louis

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Reading from the Psalms: Psalm 64 (p. 569)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Confession:

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have too often followed the devices and desires of our own hearts and have broken your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. But you, O LORD, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare us as we confess our sins, and restore those who are repentant, according to your promises declared unto us in Christ Jesus our LORD. Grant that we may live a godly, righteous, and holy life to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our LORD we pray.

Silent Prayer and Confession

Minister: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Isaiah 55

Ordination and Installation of Deacon Jesse Foppema: PH 1004

Mission Report

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 during the hymn.]

* Reading from the Gospel: Luke 2:22-35

Reading from the Epistles: Philipians 2:5-11

Sermon: *The Creeds of Christmas*
The Shame of Christmas—Obedient Unto Death

Prayer

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

THE OFFERING OF TRIBUTE

* Offertory Prayer

Offering: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: "In the Bleak Midwinter" Holst / arr. Whitworth

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

* Blessing:

Now 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: "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Schop
