

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 16, 2018 10:15 A.M.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

Prelude: "The First Noel"
"O Come all Ye Faithful"

arr. Hayes

Welcome and Announcements

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Silent Prayer and Preparation

- * Call to Worship: Psalm 96:1-4
- * Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" PH 340, vv. 1, 3, 4
- * 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 his people.

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

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

- * Response: "O Come, O Come, Immanuel" PH 328, v. 3

O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Lighting of the Advent Candle: based on Psalm 126

Reader 1: The Lord has done great things for us!

Reader 2: And we are filled with joy!

Reader 1: Our God has turned our weeping into singing.

Reader 2: our tears into songs of joy!

Reader 1: We light these candles in joy, the joy that we have in Jesus our Savior.

Reader 2: May Jesus Christ come anew in our hearts this day, and remain in us forever.

Prayer of the Day:

Lord Jesus, you are the joy and happiness of all who look forward to your coming. Come, Lord Jesus, and do not delay! In joy we await your coming: save us now and redeem the work of your hands. Free us from the power of death, and bring together those who long to see you face to face. Move our hearts to sing and celebrate you now in this life, and to look forward to living forever in the love and joy of your kingdom, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Response: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

PH 356

CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession:

based on I Timothy 1:15

God's Will for Our Lives:

Colossians 3:12–15

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Strengthen us O God, in the power of your Spirit

Men: **to bring good news to the poor and lift blind eyes to sight,**

Women: **to loose the chains that bind and claim your blessing for all people.**

Leader: Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory and we shall sing your praise with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm.

All: **Through our Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.**

Response: "Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child"

(The children will sing this song twice.
The congregation is asked to join in singing the third time.)

Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child.

Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek, and mild;

new life, new hope, new joy he brings.

Listen to the angels sing,

"Glory, glory, glory," to the new-born King!

Assurance of Pardon:

based on Isaiah 52:9–10; Luke 2:14

Ministry in Music: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Brooks

Congregational Prayer

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

* Hymn: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

PH 347

Prayer for Illumination

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

Scripture Reading:

I Chronicles 16 (p. 1140)

Sermon: *Signs of the Season: Songs*

Prayer

* Hymn: "Glory to God"

PH 214

OUR RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

* Offertory Prayer

Offering: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: "All Is Well"

Kirkpatrick; Smith

* Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (inside front cover of the Psalter Hymnal)

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

* Benediction:

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

* Response: "I Will Sing of the Mercies of the LORD"

PH 169

* Postlude
