

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 22, 2019 | 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.

** indicates congregation stands. | **Bold print indicates unison reading.***

Prelude: "On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry"

Engel and Burkhart

Welcome and Announcements

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Silent Prayer and Preparation

* 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.

* Hymn: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Prayer of the Day: "O Come, O Come, Immanuel"

PH 328:6

**O come, O Bright and Morning Star,
and bring us comfort from afar!
Dispel the shadows of the night
and turn our darkness into light.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**

CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession

Malachi 3:1-5

Prayer of Confession

God of Justice, who comes near to us, Turn our weeping into singing only after we have properly mourned for our sins, Be our light when we renounced the deeds of darkness Offer us comfort when we have lamented the evil in our hearts But do not let us remain comfortably unaffected by the nearness of your presence. Purify us, body and soul, so we will be blameless at your coming, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

John 12:46-47

Response: "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

PH 337

God's Will for Our Lives

1 John 4:7-21

Congregational Prayer

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

* Hymn: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Prayer for Illumination

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

Scripture Reading:

Luke 2:1-20 (p. 1014)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *The Story of Christmas: Joy*

Prayer

* Hymn: "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

PH 345

OUR RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

* Offertory Prayer

Offering: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: "Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

Leavitt

* Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

(Inside front cover of the Psalter Hymnal)

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

* Benediction:

Romans 15:13

* Doxology: "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

PH 354:1,5

* Postlude: "Savior of the Nations, Come"

Callahan

Ministers: Rev. Joel Vande Werken, Rev. Dan Vos

Liturgists: The Moesker Family

Organ: Marie Haringa

Piano: Brandie Vande Werken