

Christmas Morning Worship
December 25, 2016

**Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;
He is Christ the Lord.**
-Luke 2:11

“Joy to the world! The Lord is come:”

Prelude: Sylvia Van Zanten

Reading of Luke 2:1-14 Read by Peggy Burr

Sung Call to Worship: ***“Let Us Celebrate”*** Choir

Let us celebrate, celebrate his day.
Let us shout for joy and give the Lord our praise.
We all celebrate the birth of God’s own son.
Peace on earth today, good will to ev’ryone, to ev’ryone.
Now there will be no more fear and darkness,
We the people have seen a great light.
For unto us, born this day in Bethlehem
is a Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ.
Let us celebrate, celebrate this day.
Let us shout for joy and give the Lord our praise.
We all celebrate the birth of God’s own son.
Peace on earth today, good will to ev’ryone, to ev’ry one.
Christ is the hope of our future on earth.
We have salvation through His holy birth.
He is the King of kings whose reign shall never end.
Alleluia, sing His praises again and again.
Let us celebrate, celebrate this day.
Let us shout for joy and give the Lord our praise.
We all celebrate the birth of God’s own son.
Peace on earth today, good will to ev’ryone, to ev’ry one.
Let us celebrate, celebrate this day.
Let us shout for joy and give the Lord our praise.
We all celebrate the birth of God’s own son.
Peace on earth today, good will to ev’ry one.
Celebrate, celebrate, celebrate this day.
Celebrate, celebrate, give the Lord our praise.
Celebrate, celebrate, celebrate this day.
Celebrate, celebrate, give the Lord our praise. Celebrate!

Words and Music by John Wyatt Burson; ©1993 GlorySound, A Division of Shawnee Press, Inc., CCLI# 678905

* Opening Carol: GH #337:1-4 ***“Joy to the World”***

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King,
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns:
let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Psalm 98; Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), 1719, P.D; Music: Lowell Mason, 1948, P.D. CCLE #678905

* Welcome / Announcements

* Call to Worship:

Pastor: Let us go, in heart and mind, to see what has
come to pass. Let us go with the shepherds:

People: Let us go to find the Savior!

Pastor: Let us go with the wise ones:

People: Let us go to find God's promise, born for us!

Pastor: Let us go with the poor and humble:

People: Let us go to find our King, born in a lowly manger.

Pastor: Let us go with all the world, with all the peoples
of the nations. Come, let us worship;
come, let us adore him:

People: Christ the Lord!

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* Opening Hymn of Praise: GH #340:1,3,4 **"O Come, All Ye Faithful"**

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain

*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
"Glory to God, all glory in the highest!"

Refrain

4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

Words: attr. John F. Wade, 1743; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, and others, P.D.;

Music: attr. John F. Wade, 1743; desc. © 1947 Hymns Ancient and Modern, admin. Hope Publishing Company; CCLI #678905

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

“Let earth receive her King.”

Lighting of Advent Candle: **WHO IS JESUS? – IMMANUEL**

Jim, Michele, & Jordan Feddema

Song of Assurance: LUYH #157:1-2 ***“Meekness and Majesty”***

1. Meekness and majesty, manhood and Deity
in perfect harmony, the Man who is God.
Lord of eternity dwells in humanity,
kneels in humility and washes our feet.

Refrain

*Oh, what a mystery-meekness and majesty;
bow down and worship, for this is your God.*

2. Father's pure radiance, perfect in innocence,
yet learns obedience to death on a cross,
suffering to give us life, conquering through sacrifice,
and, as they crucify, prays, “Father, forgive.”

Refrain

During the 2nd verse the children are invited forward for the Children's Message.

Children's Message: Marjo Rouw

Song of Response: LUYH #157:3 ***“Meekness and Majesty”***

3. Wisdom unsearchable, God the invisible,
Love indestructible in frailty appears.
Lord of infinity, stooping so tenderly,
lifts our humanity to the heights of his throne.

Refrain

“Meekness and Majesty” Text and Music: Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)

© 1986, Kingsway's Thankyou Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing CCLI# 678905

During the singing of this verse children ages 3-1st grade are dismissed for Children and Worship.

Offering: General Fund

Second AM Offering: Love INC

Offertory: Marjean De Groot & Marjo Rouw

Song of Preparation: ***“Holy Is Your Name”*** vs. 1-5

The verses will be sung by a soloist; the congregation joins in each time on the chorus.

1. My soul is filled with joy
as I sing to God my Savior:
you have looked upon your servant,
you have visited your people.

Refrain

*And holy is your name
through all generations!
Everlasting is your mercy
to the people you have chosen,
and holy is your name.*

2. I am lowly as a child,
but I know from this day forward
that my name will be remembered,
for all will call me blessed.

Refrain

3. I proclaim the power of God,
you do marvels for your servants;
though you scatter the proud-hearted,
and destroy the might of princes.

Refrain

4. To the hungry you give food,
send the rich away__empty.
In your mercy you are mindful
of the people you have chosen.

Refrain

5. In your love you now fulfill
what you promised to your people.
I will praise you Lord, my Savior,
everlasting is your mercy.

Refrain

Words: Luke 1:46-55; David Haas (b. 1957) © 1989 GIA Publications, Inc.;
Music Irish traditional; arr. David Haas (b. 1957) © 1989 GIA Publications;
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“Let every heart prepare him room,”

Scripture Reading: John 1:1-14 (pg. 1049) Read by Kendall Ackermann
Message Text: John 1:14

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“The Word Became Flesh and the True Meaning of Christmas”***

Time of Prayer

“And heaven and nature sing,”

* Hymn of Application: ***“Joy Has Dawned Upon the World”*** vs. 1-4

1. Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation;
God's salvation now unfurled—hope for ev'ry nation.
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory,
but a humble gift of love: Jesus born of Mary.

2. Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels,
as the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable.
Hands that set each star in place
shaped the earth in darkness,
cling now to a mother's breast-vulnerable and helpless.
3. Shepherds bow before the Lamb gazing at the glory.
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story-
gold a King is born today; incense, God is with us;
myrrh, His death will make a way,
by His blood He'll win us.
4. Son of Adam, Son of Man, given as a ransom.
Reconciling God and man-Christ our mighty Champion!
What a Savior, what a Friend, what a glorious mystery!
Once a babe in Bethlehem-now the Lord of history.

*"Joy Has Dawned" Words & Music by Stuart Townend & Keith Getty,
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* Benediction

The joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the Magi,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

* Parting Praise: GH #214 **"Ere zij God"**

Dutch

Ere zij God! Ere zij God in den hoge, in den hoge, in den hoge!
Vrede op aarde, vrede op aarde, in de mensen een welbehagen.
Ere zij God in den hoge! Ere zij God in den hoge!
Vrede op aarde, vrede op aarde, vrede op aarde, vrede op aarde,
in de mensen, in de mensen een welbehagen,
in de mensen, een welbehagen, een welbehagen.
Ere zij God! Ere zij God in den hoge, in den hoge, in den hoge!
Vrede op aarde, vrede op aarde, in de mensen een welbehagen.
Amen. Amen.

English

Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest, in the highest, in the highest!
Peace be on earth, peace be on earth,
to the people whom God delights in.
Glory to God in the highest! Glory to God in the highest!
Peace be on earth, peace be on earth,
peace be on earth, peace be on earth,
to the people, to the people whom God delights in,
to the people whom God delights in, whom God delights in.
Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest, in the highest, in the highest!
Peace be on earth, peace be on earth,
to the people whom God delights in. Amen. Amen.

*Words: Luke 2:14; para. F.A. Schultz, ca. 1870; tr. Psalter Hymnal, 1987, © 1987 Faith Alive
Christian Resources; Music: F.A.Schultz, ca. 1870, P.D.; CCLI #678905*

* Postlude

Christmas Welcome! We joyfully greet our members and their loved ones and all our visitors on this Christmas Day! We remember together, with awe and gratitude, how God shone his light into our darkness on that first Christmas. We pray that we may be bearers of his light to all who languish in the darkness of poverty, illness and fear. May we share with them the light that shines from the face of our Lord Jesus Christ.

There will not be **Sunday School & Catechism** classes on January 1. Classes will resume on January 8 at 9:30 a.m.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Thank you so much for the prayers and support that you give to **Back to God Ministries International**. Because of faithful friends like you, we can continue to share the Gospel around the world in 10 major languages, reaching nearly every nation in the world. We remain committed to discipling people and strengthening the church. We use all kinds of media to reach people with the Good News of Jesus Christ. While we still use radio, television, and printed materials like the *Today* Devotional, we are also using all kinds of new technologies too, like websites, blogs, podcasts, and Facebook. Thank you for your support!

OUR CHURCH EVENTS

The **Deacons** will meet on Monday, December 26 at 7:00 p.m.

The **Men's Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, December 28 at 6:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant in Burlington. We are studying the book of Revelation. You are welcome to join us.

The January/February issue of the devotional **Today** is available on the walkway shelf and by the shelves by the mailboxes. Pick up your copy today.

FAMILY VISITING: The following is the family visiting schedule for **October & December**. If your family is included in the list, please expect a call from the listed Elder to arrange the day and time for the visit. If you have questions about the schedule please call the listed Elder or call Henry Hammingh at 360-424-3019.

Elder	Family
Dave V	Jeff & Monica Droog
Dave V	Grace Faber
Greg A	Greg & Beth Boon
Greg A	Jerry & Marion Ekkelkamp
Greg B	Helena Kuiper
Greg B	Mardick & Jill Stevens
Henry H	Randy & Julie Oostra
Henry H	Henry & Sharon Kuipers
Darrel L	Woody & Wendy Heino
Darrel L	Larry & Maxine Greidanus
Pastor John	Steve & Katie Jungquist
Pastor John	Kendall Ackermann
Dennis D	Minne & Trudy Van der Hoek
Dennis D	Marinus & Jill Rouw

ADVANCED NOTICES

The **Elders** will meet on Monday, January 2 at 7:00 p.m.

GEMS will meet on Wednesday, January 4 at 6:30 pm.

Golden Hour will meet on Thursday, January 5 at 1:30 p.m. Study James 3:13-18.

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

Donations for Neighbors in Need: Next week, January 1, you will have opportunity again to bring your donations of canned and non-perishable items for the food drive for "Neighbors in Need". Please bring your donations in the morning or evening to the church and place them in the basket located in the foyer and the Fellowship Hall.

Gospel Beginnings: John—When a story has already been told many times, you wonder if there could ever be a new way to tell it. John decided there was—he'd give the story a cosmic backdrop! Join the conversation on John 1 as we let John reveal to us the deepest layers of the story of Jesus' advent into our world. Never miss an episode; subscribe for free weekly email notifications and listen now at GroundworkOnline.com.

Mary's Miracle: The birth of Christ is the incarnation of God in human history. Kids Corner presents this dramatic presentation of the miracle of Jesus as seen through the eyes of Mary. Subscribe for free at getkidscorner.com. Check out KC's new Christmas coupon book for a great gift idea at www.kidscorner.net

Spiritual Disciplines Audio Bible Study: Make a New Year's resolution that sticks. Rediscover prayer, fasting, study, solitude, and giving...spiritual disciplines through which God transforms our lives, that we might be more like his Son, Jesus. Groundwork offers an in-depth, audio Bible teaching series examining these essential discipleship practices. It's great for personal, family, or group study. Get it free with study guides when you subscribe at GroundworkOnline.com/resolution.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Esther School in Zambia, Africa, is looking for a skilled contractor who would like to serve as our campus Facilities and Site Director. The full job description is available at: estherschool.org. Contact Jill Postma by email, jill.p@estherschool.org, or phone (616) 241-5616 ext. 3040, to inquire. *The Esther School* opened in 2012 as an outreach of GEMS Girls' Clubs.

Come see the town where Jesus was born! Pastor Michael Kooy is hosting a trip to Israel this summer, June 18 - July 2, including a visit to Bethlehem. Interested? Contact Pastor Kooy at 708 663-4364 or michaelkooy@sbcglobal.net.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN	4:00 pm	Vida Nueva
MON	7:00 pm	Deacons Meet
TUES	7:00 pm	Vida Nueva
WED	6:30 am	Men's Bible Study at Shari's

NURSERY:

Today: Infants & Toddlers

Johnna Van der Hoek, Cody Hilsinger, Emma Droog

Next Week: Infants & Toddlers

Heather Van Hofwegen, Kaeli Houck, Jeremiah Heino

GREETERS:**Today**

Rovers: Rich & Elly Cuperus

AM: Minne & Trudy Van der Hoek, Daniel & Briana Vander Kooy

Next Week

Rovers: Dennis & Melba De Kok

AM: Henry & Anjean Vander Veen, Bryan & Deanna Van Beek

USHERS

Today: Tim Van Hofwegen, Larry Greidanus, Wiebe Van der Hoek

Next Week: Darin Kuipers, Kermit Houck, Kendall Van Zanten

SOUND SYSTEM

Today: Mardick Stevens

Next Week: Kendall Van Zanten

PROJECTION

Today: None

Next Week: Nathan Van Beek

VIDEO TAPING

Today: Mike Hibma

Next Week: Tim Hibma

CHILDREN & WORSHIP**Today:**

Teacher: Sue Blom

Assistants: Elly Cuperus, Josh Hammingh

Next Week:

Teacher: Julie Houck

Assistants: Johnna Van der Hoek, Devin Van Zanten

LIBRARY

Next Week: Joy Faber

COFFEE HOSTS

Today: Bryan & Deanna Van Beek, Jack & Trudy Van Klaveren, Greg & Tish Ackermann

Next Week: Agnes Bollema, Randy & Peggy Burr, Rich & Elly Cuperus

VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

Today: None

Next Week: None

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

Next Week: None

OFFERING: January 1, 2017

AM: General Fund



People to be remembered with prayers, cards, letters & words of encouragement. Call the church office at (336-2405) or e-mail: secretary@firstcrmv.com by Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

NEW CONCERNS:

Wilma De Boer was admitted to Skagit Valley Hospital this past week and is being treated for pneumonia. Pray for healing for Wilma and strength for each day.

Margaret Vander Pol returned home this past week from spending a few days in the hospital due to a small stroke. Pray for full recovery.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Pray for those who have lost loved ones recently and will feel the emptiness at this time of year when friends and family gather together.

SHUT INS:

Nell Annema at Creekside in Burlington, **Grace Faber** at home in Mount Vernon; **Helena Kuiper** at Mira Vista in Mount Vernon; **Mary Koopmans** at home in Mount Vernon; **Adrianna Swanson** at Creekside in Burlington; **Bev Van Slageren** at home in Clear Lake, **Duane Van Dyke** at Where the Heart Is in Burlington, **Chris Van Sweden** at Mira Vista, and **Rena Wester** at the Lynden Manor.

OTHER CONCERNS:

Pray for those traveling at this time of year to be with family and friends.

World Renew: Uganda - Violence in South Sudan has forced families to flee to Uganda. With many such refugees suffering from diarrhea and other diseases, sanitation issues have emerged in refugee camps. In response, World Renew is building latrines in the refugee camp of Bidibidi. Pray for the refugees' safety and for a decrease in the spread of disease.

Christian Reformed World Missions: Christmas - Being away from home in the Christmas season is often one of the hardest parts of being a missionary. Pray that missionaries will experience God's presence this Christmas and find ways to enjoy the season in a different culture.

Chaplaincy and Care: Long-term care - A growing number of our chaplains today work in retirement villages, nursing homes, and long-term care facilities. Pray that they may be a light of hope and encouragement for people in the sunset years of their lives.

Christian Reformed Home Missions: Go Local learning communities - The two-year Go Local process forms regional learning communities of congregational teams and pastors to discover how to join God at work in local neighborhoods. Pray for the churches and leaders involved as they share what they learn. The first West Michigan Go Local learning community began in September 2016; others will soon launch in Ontario and in western Canada.

Back to God Ministries International: South Korea - Our ministry partner in South Korea, Far East Broadcasting Company, has invited us to broadcast our Russian programming on their AM radio station to Russian-speaking areas. Preliminary tests show that the coverage throughout Russia and Siberia is very good. Pray that this endeavor may be effective in reaching communities that don't have reliable Internet access or a local radio station.

Christian Reformed World Missions: Asia - Many people in Asia are eager to learn the English language for business reasons. Pray that churches and missionaries in Asia will find opportunities to help meet this need through the church and its outreach ministries.

World Renew: Nigeria - Thousands of people in Nigeria live with disabilities as a result of accidents, polio, diabetes, and other diseases. Many are discriminated against and live isolated lives. World Renew partners with The Beautiful Gate Handicapped People Center to provide aids such as wheelchairs and prosthetics to persons in need. Please pray for these individuals as they seek assistance and make positive changes in their lives.