

ORDER OF SERVICE

+ indicates
congregation
please stand
if able

Meditation:

*O that birth forever blessed, When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, Bore the Savior of our race;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer, First revealed His sacred face,
Evermore and evermore! - 4th stanza of ancient carol "Of the Father's Love Begotten"*

Call to Worship – Isaiah 40: 1-5

+ Prayer (followed by the Lord's Prayer)

 **Congregation: *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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.***

First Lesson – Genesis 3:8-15

"Fear, darkness, the Curse & the Promised One to Come"

Reader: The Word of the Lord

Reader: L. Moerke

 **Congregation: Thanks be to God**

+  Carol – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel **CC #547**

Second Lesson – Isaiah 9:2, 6-7, 11:1-9

"The Promised One will one day save the World"

Reader: The Word of the Lord

Reader: F. Stout

 **Congregation: Thanks be to God**

+  Carol – It Came Upon a Midnight Clear **CC #593**

Third Lesson – Micah 5:2-5a

"The Promised One will one day save His People"

Reader: The Word of the Lord

Reader: L. Doyle

 **Congregation: Thanks be to God**

+  Carol – O Little Town of Bethlehem **CC #571**

Fourth Lesson – Luke 1:26-38

"The Promise comes to Mary"

Reader: The Word of the Lord

Reader: A. Vernon

 **Congregation: Thanks be to God**

+  Carol – What Child is This? **CC #580**

Gospel Message – "He Shall Reign"

Fifth Lesson – Matthew 1:18-23

"The Promise comes to Joseph"

Reader: The Word of the Lord

Reader: J. Kesting

 **Congregation: Thanks be to God**

+  Carol – Away in a Manger **CC #590**

Sixth Lesson – Luke 2:6-16

"The Promise is born"

Reader: The Word of the Lord

Reader: H. Doelman

 **Congregation: Thanks be to God**

+  Carol – Hark, the Herald Angels Sing **CC #572**

Seventh Lesson – John 1:1-14

"The Light of the Promised One has come, fear, darkness, and the curse are destroyed!"

Reader: The Word of the Lord

Reader: D. Parker

 **Congregation: Thanks be to God**

+  Carol – Silent Night **CC #588** +  **Candle Lighting**

Benediction – Numbers 6:24-26

"The LORD bless you and keep you;

The LORD make His face shine upon you,

And be gracious to you;

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you,

And give you peace."

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

 **Congregation: Amen!**

Noel

by J. R. R. Tolkien

(written in 1936, discovered 2013)

Grim was the world and grey last night:
The moon and stars were fled,
The hall was dark without song or light,
The fires were fallen dead.
The wind in the trees was like to the sea,
And over the mountains' teeth
It whistled bitter-cold and free,
As a sword leapt from its sheath.
The lord of snows upreared his head;
His mantle long and pale
Upon the bitter blast was spread
And hung o'er hill and dale.
The world was blind, the boughs were bent,
All ways and paths were wild:
Then the veil of cloud apart was rent,
And here was born a Child.
The ancient dome of heaven sheer
Was pricked with distant light;
A star came shining white and clear
Alone above the night.
In the dale of dark in that hour of birth
One voice on a sudden sang:
Then all the bells in Heaven and Earth
Together at midnight rang.
Mary sang in this world below:
They heard her song arise
O'er mist and over mountain snow
To the walls of Paradise,
And the tongue of many bells was stirred
in Heaven's towers to ring
When the voice of mortal maid was heard,
That was mother of Heaven's King.
Glad is the world and fair this night
With stars about its head,
And the hall is filled with laughter and light,
And fires are burning red.
The bells of Paradise now ring
With bells of Christendom,
And Gloria, Gloria we will sing
That God on earth is come.



CHRIST COVENANT CHURCH

A Reformed & Evangelical Church

Christmas Eve

Lessons & Carols

Candlelight Service

December 24th, 2021

CHRIST COVENANT
CHURCH

is a member of:

The Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches (CREC)

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