

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Hope Church, Kalispell, Pastor Lance Dannic

MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Please ask God for abundant grace and wisdom as Kevin Johnson teaches and equips students for ministry at the Biblical Seminary of Colombia, Medellin, Colombia.

DIACONAL OFFERING: This morning we share in worshipping through our diaconal offering for those needing assistance in our church and community. Please use the Special Offering envelopes located in the pew racks.

WINTER SUNDAY SCHOOL: Winter quarter Sunday School classes for adults start TODAY. Pastor Shane will be teaching on the Gospel of John in the sanctuary and the other class will be the video-based course, The Family Project, in the fellowship hall.

LADIES' CHRISTMAS LUNCH: Ladies 5 to 95 are invited to Christmas lunch TODAY, at 12:30 in the fellowship hall. We will enjoy lunch and assemble Christmas gift baskets for the Refuge so, if you're able, bring a small gift item (or several) to share.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN-FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve next Thursday, Dec. 10, at Central Christian Church. If you have questions, contact Joyce Schmautz (249-6370).

PRIME TIMERS POTLUCK: If you're 50 or older, you're invited to a Christmas potluck Sunday, Dec. 13 after the second service. Please bring one dish (main dish, salad or dessert) to share and an item for the Flathead Food Bank. We will visit and share favorite Christmas memories. Help with set up and clean up is appreciated. We look forward to seeing you there!

LOST AND FOUND: Please remember to check the lost and found in the fellowship hall for dishes from Thanks dinner and other items that might belong to you!

SERVING: December Deacon - Ike Eisentraut	WEEKLY/MONTHLY
Today (1st service/2nd service) Ushers: Nick & Hanni Hanson/Sandy & Gloria Johnson Children's Church: Sharon Salyer Infant Nursery: Motley/Putzler Toddler Nursery: Bennetts/Brown & Hernandez Fellowship Hosts: Alyssa Hobus & Carolyn Duncan Communion Prep/Cleanup: Amy Bennett/Lori Vander Ark	Worship Services Sundays 8:15 & 11 Music Practice Tuesdays 5:30 pm Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group Wednesdays 7 pm Trustees 1st Tuesdays 5:30 pm Elder/Deacon Meeting 3rd Tuesdays 7 pm Elizabeth Women 2nd & 4th Tuesdays noon Men's Fraternity Tue. & Wed. 6 am
Next Sunday - December 13 Ushers: Nick & Hanni Hanson/Sandy & Gloria Johnson Children's Church: Dar Wassink & Grace Anderson Infant Nursery: Neumanns/Tinkhams Toddler Nursery: Hearn/ C. Millers Fellowship Hosts: Sharon Salyer & Barbara Makowski Communion Prep/Cleanup: Gloria Hanson/Donelle Holderbaum	



December 6, 2015



*"And Moses said to the people,
"Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD,
which he will work for you today."
Exodus 14:13*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Luke 1:46-47, 50; Lamentations 5:19*

Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

All: You, O LORD, reign forever; your throne endures to all generations.

Leader: His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

All: You, O LORD, reign forever; your throne endures to all generations.

***COME, THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS - Hymn #196**

Come Thou long-expected Jesus born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the saints Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, dayspring from on high, appear;
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of Thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth:
"Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories knew no end;
By his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

**Indicates when to stand.*

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***GOD WITH US**

The glory of God has come to the earth,
The glory of God in our Savior's birth,
Join with the angels to sing and proclaim
Glory to His name

(Chorus)

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God is with us
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God is with us now.*

Eternity's likeness has come into time,
A light in the darkness, now hope is alive,
Down from the heavens on this holy night,
Our God in a manger, our God as a child.

(Chorus)

Oh, let us bring Him more than our silver and gold
Oh, let us bring Him all our pain and joy
Oh, let us bring Him every fear untold
Oh, let us bring Him our sin to pay full

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God is with us (3x)
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God is with us now.*

***BENEDICTION**

Leaders & Staff

Senior Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

Associate Pastor Shane Waldron & Pastor of Music Aaron Scott

Staff: Kristin Bay, Hanni Hanson, Carlynn Stahlberg, Kelly Brown

Elders: Grady Bennett, Tom Jentz, Duane Martin (emeritus), Don Olmsted, Matt Riley,
Micah Tinkham, Steve Thompson, Jan Wassink *Deacons:* Buford Bennett, Doug Brown,
Ike Eisentraut, Bill Gamble, Micah Hill, Mike Stahlberg, Bruce Tulloch

To be added to church enews, and prayer lists, please contact us at office@faithcov.com.
For more about Faith Covenant and the Presbyterian Church in America, go to faithcov.com.

Benediction

Just as worship begins with God's call, it ends with God sending us into the world with his word of grace. We go forth to live and serve by the power of his grace, not our own strength.

Advent
Our word "Advent" comes from the Latin word *adventus* which means "coming" or "arrival." Advent, then, is a time of preparation for the coming of Jesus. This is preparation not for his first coming (that has already happened), but a preparation for his second coming. Christmas is a time for us to meditate on the faithfulness of God to his promises – past, present, and future. Christ is the symbol and the substance of Christmas and we have the privilege to bring glory to him in our celebration.

**The Lord's
Supper**
The gospel is not
only heard, but
visibly seen as
God invites us to
commune with him
at his table. In the
Lord's Supper we
remember and
experience Jesus'
saving work.

***INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY - Hymn #216**
Infant holy, infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing;
Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow;
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

*Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing;
Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.*

*Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow;
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.*

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

***ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH - Hymn #214**
Angels we have heard on high,
Singing sweetly o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

(Chorus)
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be?
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
(Chorus)

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
(Chorus)

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

***LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE - Hymn #193**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, For with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of Lords, in human vesture, In the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful, His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven; Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth, From the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish, As the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six winged seraph, Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to His presence, As with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

Sermon Notes

I. A God-made Dilemma

II. A God-wrought Deliverance

Sermon

God addresses and speaks to us by the reading and preaching of his Word. Both Christians and non-Christians need to hear the good news of salvation and grow in it.

SERMON SERIES
Advent - Help Is On The Way
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

Let My People Go
Exodus 14:5-13 (ESV)

When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the mind of Pharaoh and his servants was changed toward the people, and they said, What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?"⁶ So he made ready his chariot and took his army with him....⁸ And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the people of Israel ... and overtook them encamped at the sea, ...¹⁰ When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD.¹¹ They said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt?"¹² Is not this what we said to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."¹³ And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again.

Sermon Questions for Further Reflection

1. How is the Exodus the foundational event in the history of Israel?
2. The Lord took Israel into Egypt and then brought them out. How does this account fit into the larger story of God's saving covenant?
3. Israel struggled to believe throughout this mighty deliverance. What is significant about understanding that it was not the quality of their faith that saved them, but the quality of their Redeemer that saved them.
4. Consider: "Perhaps we can say that it is not so much that we apply the Exodus to our lives, but that the Exodus is applied to us." –Peter Enns How has this been true in your life when you think of your own liberation from bondage?
5. According to Heb 3:1-6, Jesus is the greater Moses? What does this mean?
6. Consider: "The elect people is now a redeemed people. Only then is the law given at Sinai. The law is a gift to an already redeemed community. The law is not the means by which the relationship with God is established; God redeems quite apart from human obedience." —Terrance Fretheim. Why is it important that we get this order right?

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *1 John 1:5-8*

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
All: Do not remember against us our former iniquities; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and atone for our sins, for your name's sake! (Psalm 79:8-9)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Psalm 28:8-9*

The LORD is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed. Oh, save your people and bless your heritage! Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

Call to Confession

We all sin daily, in thought and word and deed. As we come into God's presence, we acknowledge how we have rebelled against our King and seek his forgiveness.

***O HOLY NIGHT**

O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! O hear, the angel voices!
O night divine, O night, when Christ was born;
O night, divine, O night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
Over the world a star is sweetly gleaming,
Now come the wisemen from out of the Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friends.
He knows our need, our weakness is no stranger,
Behold your King! Before him lowly bend!
Behold your King! Before him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another,
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains he shall break, for the slave is our brother.
And in his name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
With all our hearts we praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! Then ever, we praise thee,
His power and glory ever more proclaim!
His power and glory ever more proclaim!

CHRISTIAN BAPTISM OF:

Avia Coreen Eck

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

Diaconal Offering today: Please use the Special Offering envelopes located in the pew racks.

Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.

11 a.m. Service: Children ages 4-6 excused for Children's Church (downstairs in the Fellowship Hall)

GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN - Hymn #224

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

*While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a Holy Light.*

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

*The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.*

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

*Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born
And brought us God's salvation that bless-ed Christmas morn!*

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Offering

We give back to God a portion of what he has given us to use to declare that he is Lord of all. (This is part of our service as a church family, and visitors should not feel obligated to participate.)