



FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

December 22, 2019

10 AM Worship

“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” - Romans 1:7

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Ten o'clock

December 22, 2019

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Prelude: “Savior of the Nations, Come” [#74]

Johann Sebastian Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Procession of Light and Word

Lighting the candle of LOVE

Ethan Baker

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

People: **Alleluia! Jesus is coming.**

Hymn: “Make Way”

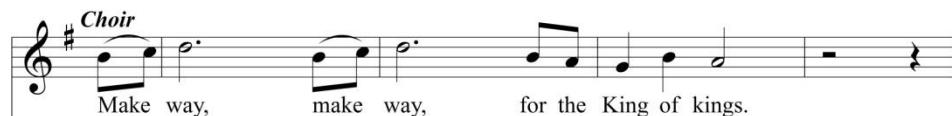
(Congregation will join the choir for the refrain and stanzas 2-4.)



Make way, make way, for Christ the king in splen - dor ar - rives.
He comes the bro - ken hearts to heal, the pris - oners to free.
And those who mourn with heav - y hearts, who weep and sigh;
We call you now to wor - ship him as Lord of all,



Fling wide the gates and wel - come him in - to your lives.
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance, the blind shall see.
with laugh - ter, joy, and roy - al crown he'll beau - ti - fy.
to have no gods be - fore him; their thrones must fall.



Make way, make way, for the King of kings.



Make way, make way, for the King of kings.



Make way, make way! And let his king - dom in.



Make way, make way! And let his king - dom in.

Anthem: "Prepare the Way of the Lord"
Prepare the way of the Lord.
Light the candle, watch and pray,
The Child of Love will come to save.

Becki Slagle Mayo

Advent Reading and Prayer

Lydia Visker, Aubrey Visker

Anthem: "Let Every Heart Prepare a Throne"
(Congregation will join the choir for the final stanza.)

Mark Patterson

Let every heart prepare a throne for soon the Child of Light will come.
Let every voice prepare a song to welcome Christ the Promised One.

Let every hand reach out with love to greet this gift from God above.
Make ready now, the Savior comes, the Prince of Peace, the Promised One.

So, let the flame of Advent glow, each candle shines that all may know
The hope we need, so long foretold will soon be here for us to hold.

Let ev-ery heart pre-pare a throne for soon the
Child of Light will come. Let ev-ery voice pre-pare a
song to wel-come Christ the Prom - ised One.

From: *Let Every Heart Prepare a Throne* (CGA1320)
Text: Quoting from the first stanza of *Hark, the Glad Sound*, Phillip Doddridge, 1702-1751.
Music: Mark Patterson
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* Opening Hymn: "With Joy I Heard My Friends Exclaim"

#66:1-3

* God's Greeting

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of love, it is hard for us to love well.

It is hard for us to love ourselves.

It is hard for us to love each other.

It is hard for us to love you.

Some days it feels like too much work.

Some days we are too angry, tired, sad, confused, or overwhelmed.
Some days we feel ignored, forgotten, pushed aside, misunderstood,
or walked over.

God of love, forgive us for not loving well.

Help us to love as you love.

In Jesus name we pray,

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn of Assurance “How Great Is the Love of the Father”

#683:1-3

* Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed

front cover of hymnal

* Song of Response: “Gloria, Gloria/Glory to God”

#83:1-2

(Children may come forward.)

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Message for Children

Anthem: “Following the Star to Bethlehem”

Dan R. Edwards

Hey, ho! Where do we go?

Following a shining star that’s leading us onward.

Hey ho! Where do we go? Following the star to Bethlehem.

The ancient prophets told of a wonderful thing:

A glorious star announcing the birth of a King.

And so we gladly follow from twilight till dawn

To find that special place where the child will be born.

The star went on to lead us through desert and plain,

Across some mighty rivers in sun and in rain.

When finally it brought us to Bethlehem town,

Where in a humble manger the Lord would be found.

Blessing for Children

Leader: People of God, what is your prayer for these children?

Congregation: The Lord be with you.

Children: And also with you.

Congregation: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

* Hymn of Preparation: “Lord, You Were Rich Beyond All Splendor”

#75:1-3

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Romans 1:1-7

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Sermon: **ADVENT GREETING**

Prayer of Application

WE RESPOND IN GRATITUDE

* Hymn of Response: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

#56:1-4

Presentation of Offerings and Passing of Friendship Pads

Offertory Prayer: Cindy Brink

Offering for Community Care goals

Offertory: “Gabriel’s Message”

Traditional Basque Carol

* Benediction

* Doxology: “We Receive Your Blessing”

#947

We receive your blessing; we receive your grace,

As we walk in the light shining from your face.

May the peace that you give change the way that we live.

We receive your blessing as we leave this place.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, you heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and praise the Holy Ghost. (repeat)

Ending: **We receive your blessing as we leave this place. Amen.**

* Postlude: “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

Paul Manz; Karl Karow

Liturgists: Pastoral Intern Lynette van de Hoef and Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys

Preacher: Rev. Brad Zwiers

Organist: Kenneth Bos

Ministry of Music: Cherub and Covenant Choirs

Children’s Choir Directors: Maria VandenBosch, Amy Netz

Accompanist: Nancy Triezenberg

Scripture Reader: Gert Bokhout

Instrumentalists: Julie Bowden, Sarah Colago, Ellen DeKoster, Corrin Meyer

Handbells: Annika Baker, Lydia Tolsma

Youth Singers: Bobby Houskamp, Isaac Hubka, Grace Poortenga,

Natalie Poortenga, Grace Spoelma, Lydia Tolsma

Offertory musicians: Kate, Grace, Maria, Natalie Poortenga, and Corrin Meyer

Calvin CRC Announcements for December 22, 2019

WORSHIP Today, Fourth Sunday of Advent

Morning worship: Rev. Brad Zwiers preaches from Romans 1:1-7, “Advent Greeting.”

Evening worship: The Festival Choir, Allegro Ringers, Joyringers, and Cherub and Covenant Choirs lead us in a Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols. The offering is for Family Assistance. The extended prelude begins at 4:45PM.

WORSHIP Christmas Day, December 25

10 AM Morning Worship: We will celebrate the birth of our Savior as Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys will preach from Luke 2:1-20. The Festival Choir will lead us in music, and the offering will be for Benevolence and RIP Medical Debt.

RIP Medical Debt empowers donors to forgive the medical debt for individuals, families, and veterans. For every dollar we contribute, \$100.00 or more of medical debt in Michigan will be abolished. If we reach our goal of \$17,000.00, we will be able to help with the medical debt of families in not only Kent County, but also in surrounding counties. If you are looking for more information, read the article in *The Courier*, talk to a deacon, look at the articles on the bulletin board or visit the non-profit’s website: ripmedicaldebt.org.

WORSHIP Next Sunday, December 29

Morning Worship: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys will preach from Isaiah 63:7-9, “He Became Their Savior.” Trudi Huizenga will lead us in music, and the offering will be for community care goals.

No Evening Worship

WORSHIP Old Years’ Service, Tuesday, December 31

7 PM Evening Worship: We will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, and Rev. Brad Zwiers will preach from Psalm 90.

CHURCH FAMILY

We give thanks to God with **Lynette van de Hoef** and Daniel Meyers that they are engaged to be married. Congratulations to Pastor Lynette and Dan!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

TLC: 2 - 4 year-olds Christmas Story Time and Craft Melanie, Nathan, Isaac

CHURCH SCHOOL, CATECHISM, AND CHILDREN’S WORSHIP are on break. They will resume January 12.

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS

HOMEBOUND CARD BAGS: Seasons' greetings for our homebound members are once again being collected in the Narthex. We are grateful that the GEMS decorated the bags. A list of the homebound is available at the card table.

Helpers needed: After the morning service we need volunteers to deliver the bags with Christmas cards for our homebound members. They need to be delivered before Christmas day.

FAMILY ASSISTANCE is on break until January 6. Please consider volunteering as we continue our ministry to our neighbors in 2020. Contact Linda Fridsma, Sharon Hecker, or Rachel Rayburn for more information. Good people, good times, good stewardship!

OFFICE HOURS: The church office will be open Monday and Tuesday. Bulletin announcements are due Monday, December 23, by noon.

MISSION OUTREACH UPDATE: At last count gifts in support of our \$85,000 Mission Outreach Goal amounted to \$82,328! With about two weeks remaining and less than \$2,700 needed to achieve our total support goal for the year, it's within reach!

THE GIVING TREE: KidsHope has a Christmas Tree with yellow stars hanging from its branches in the Atrium. Each star has a school supply item written on it. We would like you to take a star, purchase the item, bring it to church, and put it under the Giving Tree. Thank you!

Welcome to Calvin Church

In Worship:

- Our worship proceeds unannounced and follows the printed liturgy.
- Reprint and streaming licenses are One License A-730126 and CCLI#2532147.
- Our Advent banner visually proclaims the beginning of the liturgical year. Its design reflects a world awaiting the Messiah, with the circular form representing the familiar Scriptural metaphor—Light. Its implication is both past and present. As Israel did long ago, so are we to prepare ourselves and this world with steadfast minds and joyful hearts that He may return in the fullness of time.
- Large print resources are available at the Information Desk.
- Adult coloring pages are on the TRIP table in the Narthex.
- Our facility is equipped with the Loop hearing system.



For Children:

- Ages 0-2: Infant and toddler nurseries are available.
- Preschool: The Little Children (TLC) gathers downstairs in Room 19 prior to the morning worship.

- Busy Bags for young children are on the picket fence in the Atrium.
- Bulletins for older children are in the rack in the Narthex.
- Coloring pages and colored pencils are available at the table in the Narthex.

Fellowship and Information:

- Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments following the morning service.
- “Like” us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/CalvinChristianReformedChurch
- All of our ministries are described in the colorful folders at the Information Desk near the nurseries.

CALENDAR

<i>Today, Sunday, December 22</i>	
9:30a	Prayer Time (Prayer Room)
9:40a	Atrium Greeters: Bruce & Deb Tiejema
	East Greeters: Ed & Melanie Tolsma
	Nursery Supervisor: Kim Wierenga
	Nursery Helpers: Kyle Heys, Merri Ezinga, Jacqueline Lanning
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Barb Hoekwater
	Coffee Servers: Rosema, Hubka
4:40p	Nursery: Kim Stapert, Kyle & Corey Visser, Henry TerBeek
<i>Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day</i>	
9:40a	Atrium Greeters: Don & Karen Trap
	East Greeters: Steve & Yvonne Triezenberg
	Nursery Supervisor: Rachel Rayburn
	Nursery Helpers: Mark & Sue Hoekstra, Liam Jansen
<i>Thursday, December 26</i>	
	Church Office closed
<i>Next Sunday, December 29</i>	
9:30a	Prayer Time (Prayer Room)
9:40a	Atrium Greeters: Glenn & Nancy Triezenberg
	East Greeters: Gord & Jane VandenBerg
	Nursery Supervisor: Yvonne Triezenberg
	Nursery Helpers: Mike & Lisa TerBeek, Lucy Molenbeek
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Kristy Ippel
	Coffee Servers: Bulthuis, Netz

Holiday office hours: Monday and Tuesday, 8AM-4PM

Bulletin deadline: Monday Noon

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