

THE PROMISE OF CHRISTMAS

CREATED BY
TERRYL PADILLA AND JOHN ROBERTS

A collage of craft supplies including scissors, pencils, paintbrushes, and a paper cutout of a nativity scene. The nativity scene features a brown cardboard stable, a grey angel, a blue Mary, a blue Joseph, a brown baby Jesus in a manger, a grey sheep, and a brown cow. The background is white with scattered gold stars and a gold string. The title 'THE PROMISE OF CHRISTMAS' is in large, bold, black letters, and the creators' names 'CREATED BY TERRYL PADILLA AND JOHN ROBERTS' are in smaller, bold, black letters below it.

THE PROMISE OF CHRISTMAS

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TERRYL PADILLA AND JOHN ROBERTS

A collage of craft supplies including scissors, pencils, paintbrushes, and a paper cutout of a nativity scene. The nativity scene features a brown cardboard stable with a yellow star on top. Inside the stable are a grey angel, a blue Mary figure, a blue Joseph figure, and a brown baby Jesus figure in a manger. Outside the stable are a grey sheep, a brown cow, and a brown donkey. The background is white with scattered gold stars and a gold string. The title 'THE PROMISE OF CHRISTMAS' is written in large, bold, black letters at the top. Below the title, the text 'CREATED BY TERRY PADILLA AND JOHN ROBERTS' is written in smaller, bold, black letters. The bottom of the image shows various craft supplies like paintbrushes, a gold string, and a gold star.

Second Sunday of Advent

Ten o'clock

December 10, 2023

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Prelude: Preludes on "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" [#98]

Friedrich Zachau; Dietrich Buxtehude; Johann Sebastian Bach; Fridolin Sicher;
Hermann Schroeder

Welcome and Announcements

Procession of Light and The Word

Lighting the candle of Peace

Hannah Triezenberg

Advent Reading and Prayer

Jack Rayburn, Wesley Visker

Anthem: "Advent Carol"

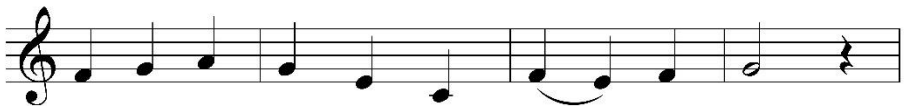
Beth Kenreich

CHOIR: Peace, peace! Hear the good news. Jesus our Savior brings peace to you.

CONGREGATION: (Please join the choir when directed.)



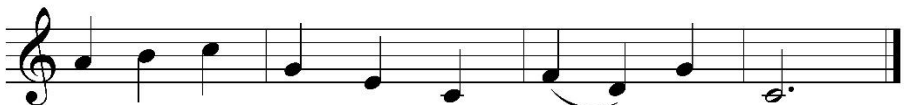
Peace, peace! Hear the good news:



Je - sus our Sav - ior brings peace to you.



Peace, peace! Hear the good news:



Je - sus our Sav - ior brings peace to you.

Text and music: Beth Kenreich

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CHOIR: Yes, Jesus our Savior brings hope, peace, joy, and love to you.

Advent Litany:

Jacob Netz, Lane Molenbeek, Hannah Triezenberg, Abram Veldkamp
(Based on Isaiah 60:1-2, Matthew 1:23, Micah 5:2-4, Isaiah 9:6, II Peter 1:19,
John 4:25)

Chorister 1: Arise, children of God, your light has come, and the glory of the Lord is upon you. Darkness may cover the earth, but on you, God's light shines.

Chorister 2: The prophet Isaiah promised that the Lord will give us a sign. A virgin will give birth to a son, and he will be called Emmanuel.

Congregation: Emmanuel, God with us.

Chorister 3: The prophet, Micah, also told of Emmanuel's coming. Out of Bethlehem will come the Promised One. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord. His greatness will bring light to the ends of the earth.

Chorister 4: He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace, the bright Morning Star.
He will be our Savior, our Messiah, our Emmanuel.
Come Messiah! Come Emmanuel!

Congregation: Come, Emmanuel, come today!

Anthem: "Come, Come Emmanuel"

Text: inspired by "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Music: Lynn Shaw Bailey, Becki Slagle Mayo

Come, come Messiah, come. Come, Emmanuel.

Come, come O Promised One. Come, Emmanuel.

Prophets of old have told of your coming;
long we have waited; long we have prayed.
Kingdoms and kings will bow down before you.
Come, Emmanuel today.

We are your children; you are our Savior.
Lovingly guide us; guide us we pray.
Help us to follow; help us to listen.
Come, Emmanuel, today.

* Opening Hymn: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

#56:1-4

* God's Greeting

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Almighty God,
you who shaped out of nothing all that is,
forgive us for returning empty handed.
You who called forth light,
forgive our preference for the dark.
You who sent John to be a voice crying,
forgive our unwillingness to say anything at all.

**All: Create in us clean hearts, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn of Confession: “O Christ, the Lamb of God”

#630

* Assurance of Pardon

* Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed

front cover of hymnal

* Song of Response: “Gloria, Gloria”

#83

The Promise of Christmas

Cast:

Narrator 1: Josh Meyer

Narrator 2: Molly Netz

Adam: Jacob Netz

Eve: Kate Rayburn

Saul: Charles Molenbeek

David: Josh Buist

Angel 1: Kate Triezenberg

Angel 2: Aubrey Visker

Head Shepherd: Hannah Triezenberg

Scribe: Nate Meyer

Mary: Lydia Visker

Joseph: Abram Veldkamp

Lead Angels: Annaliese Hendrikse,
Jubilee Heys

Angels: Olivia Coulter, Lydia Meyer,
Tyler Netz, Claire Veldkamp

Shepherds: Allison Coulter,
Lane Molenbeek

Wise Ones: Hazel Nunn, Nora Nunn,
Ruby Nunn

Christmas Program Co-Directors: Amy Netz, Melanie Tolsma

Director’s Assistant: Allory Netz

Accompanist: Lisa Meyer

Costumes: Judy Bode

Scene 1

Song: “Great Things”

Jonas Myrin, Phil Wickham
arr. Terryl Padilla, John Roberts

Come, let us worship our King. Come, let us bow at his feet.
He has done great things. See what our Savior has done.
See how his love overcomes, he has done great things.
He has done great things.

refrain

O Hero of Heaven, you conquered the grave!
You free every captive and break every chain.
O God, you have done great things.

You’ve been faithful through every storm. You’ll be faithful forevermore.
You have done great things.
And I know you will do it again, for your promise is “yes and amen!”
You will do great things. God you do great things.

We dance in your freedom, awake and alive.
O Jesus, our Savior, your name lifted high.
O God, you have done great things.

Said the king to the people everywhere, “Listen to what I say:
Pray for peace people everywhere. Listen to what I say!
The child, the child sleeping in the night,
he will bring us goodness and light.”

Scene 2

Song: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” [#80]

Scene 3

Advent Proclamation: Luke 2:14

Scribe

Glory to God in the Highest Heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors.

TLC Angels: “Gloria Chorus”

“Away in a Manger”

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Song: “Luke 2:14”

Angel Choir

“Glory to God in the highest!” Glory to God!

“And on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased.”

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God, in the highest!

Scene 4

Song: “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” [#61]

Scene 5

Song: “When I Think Upon Christmas”

Aodhan King, Renee Sieff, Ben Tan
soloist: Molly Netz

When I think upon Christmas, words can’t express
how our father in heaven has sent us his best to be born in a manger,
the King in the hay, and creation will worship his name.

refrain:

For the joy of the world, he was born.
Bringing peace to us all through the gift of the son,
now the darkest of ages are done, for the savior of heaven has come.

When I think upon Jesus, the king of all days,
I can’t help but respond with an offering of praise.
Like the wisemen and shepherds, I’ll follow your light;
like the angels, I’ll lift your name on high.

Now I look back in reverence to that Holy night.
For the God of the heavens had us on his mind.
Let us sing of his glory, rejoice in his name.
O Emmanuel with us always, and forever his kingdom will reign.

Scene 6

Song: “Great Things”

* Hymn of Response: “Angels We Have Heard on High”

#82:1-3

* Invitation to Offering: Ron Rozema

* Offertory Prayer for Mission Outreach

Deacon: God, your generosity to us is abundant and gracious.
Everything we have comes from you.

**All: Receive our gifts of our time, our selves, and our possessions.
Help us to grow in gratitude and joy as we follow Jesus.
Amen.**

* Benediction

Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow"

#965

* Postlude: "O Morning Star, O Radiant Sun" [#472]

James Melby; Helmut Walcha

Liturgists: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys and Rev. Brad Zwiers

Organist: Kenneth Bos Accompanist: Nancy Triezenberg

Children's Choir Directors: Maria VandenBosch, Amy Netz

Audio/Video: Brian Netz, Steve Triezenberg

Calvin CRC Announcements for December 10, 2023

WORSHIP Today, 10 AM, Second Sunday of Advent

Morning worship: Children from Calvin Church lead us in worship as they present the story of Christmas through a musical program, "The Promise of Christmas." Our offering is for Missions.

WORSHIP Next Sunday, December 17, Third Sunday of Advent

Morning worship: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys will preach from Isaiah 61:1-11, and the children's choir and Joyringers will lead us in ministry of music. The offering will be for the Ministry Fund.

Evening worship: We will worship God through a traditional service of seven lessons and carols, ending with candlelight carol singing by the congregation. Pre-service music will begin at 4:45 PM, and the service will begin at 5:00 PM.

Advent and Christmas worship schedule:

December 24, 4th Sunday in Advent:

10:00 AM: Pastor Brad preaches from Isaiah 40:1-11.

December 25, Monday, Christmas Day:

10:00 AM: Pastor Rebecca preaches from Luke 2:1-20

December 31, Sunday, New Year's Eve:

10:00 AM: We celebrate the first Sunday after Christmas.

5:00 PM: We celebrate New Year's Eve, including the Lord's Supper.

CHURCH FAMILY

The Benevolence Committee thanks you for your faithful and generous financial contributions and prayers in 2023. The work the committee does is behind-the-scenes and anonymous so it would be easy to forget about or ignore it. But you don't. On behalf of everyone you have served this past year, thank you. Bob Houskamp, Dave Huisman, Mark Sytsma, and Cindy Burch

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

During the Advent season, members of the Covenant and Cherub choirs will be leading worship. The liturgy will include a processional of the Light and the Word. A chorister will light the candle of hope, peace, joy, and love each week and another chorister will present an open Bible to represent the Word made Flesh. This year we are honored to use the family Bible from the Veldkamp family.

MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES, AND EVENTS

NURSERY DURING LESSONS AND CAROLS: We are looking for someone who would be willing to lead nursery for the evening of December 17 which is the Candlelight service. If you are willing to do so or have someone in mind please contact Erin Hubka at erin.hubka2600@gmail.com or contact the office at office@calvincrc.org.

FAMILY SUPPER: A light supper will be provided at church on December 13 for adults and their children, especially those involved in Wednesday evening programming. Vandenbergs, Triezenbergs, and Feenstras will serve food from 5:00-6:30 PM.

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 by December 31. Thank you!

HOMEBOUND CARD BAGS: Season's greetings for our homebound members will once again be collected in the Narthex. We are grateful that the children decorated the 23 bags. A list of homebound members is available at the card table. Cards may be placed in the bags until December 17.

HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING: Sunday (today!) December 10, and Monday and Tuesday, December 11 & 12, are the final days for Baxter Community Center's **pie filling donations** to be added to their Christmas Dinner Gift Baskets. Wednesday the cans will be brought to Baxter where many volunteers will be filling boxes and baskets. Thank you to those who donated money as well; cans of pie filling have been purchased. Meijer and other groceries have some pie filling on sale ... let's go for one final push!

FESTIVAL CHOIR: We will meet on three Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM, beginning on November 29, to prepare for singing in the Candlelight Service on December 17. Please consider being a part of this happy group of singers and invite your friends to join us as well.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: As 2023 draws to a close please consider making a gift to the Christian Education Endowment Fund (CEEF). This fund, set up many years ago, helps our Calvin Church families offset some of the tuition expense of K-12 Christian Education. Checks should be made payable to Calvin CRC with CEEF noted in the memo line. For more information please contact Rob Stafford at rjstaff1@gmail.com or 616-788-7757.

TRIP is a great way to give Christmas gifts and support Calvin CRC at the same time. For guaranteed availability before Christmas, Donna needs your order by December 12. You can catch her after services at the table in the narthex, call her at 534-4365, or email her at dhouskamp@grcs.org. Updated lists of vendors are available at the narthex table.

CALENDAR

	<i>Today, Sunday, December 10</i>
9:40a	Nursery Lead: Cindy Lanning Burch
	Nursery Volunteers: Lisa TerBeek
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Lori Feenstra
	Coffee Servers: Mark and Julie DeKoster
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Graham Rayburn
6:30p	CYG Christmas Party
	<i>Tuesday, December 12</i>
9:00a	Family Assistance
	<i>Wednesday, December 13</i>
5:00p	Family Supper in the Fellowship Hall
5:45p	Allegro Ringers rehearsal in the Narthex
6:15p	Joyringers rehearsal in the Bell Room
	Cherub Choir and Covenant Choir rehearsal in Room 9
7:00p	Festival Choir rehearsal in the Balcony
	78ers, Cadets, GEMS
	<i>Thursday, December 14</i>
9:00a	Family Assistance
10:00a	Quilting in Room 1
2:00p	Community Care/Social Justice meeting
	<i>Friday, December 15</i>
	Wedding rehearsal
	<i>Saturday, December 16</i>
9:00a	Festival Choir rehearsal
3:30p	Wedding rental
	<i>Next Sunday, December 17</i>
9:40a	Nursery Volunteer: Cindy Lanning Burch
11:15a	Library Volunteer: Anjean Stegink
	Coffee Servers: Mark and Julie DeKoster
12:00p	St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church meets in the Sanctuary
	Calvin host for St. Luke: Phil DeJonge
4:40p	Nursery: TBD
4:45p	Extended Prelude of Carols
5:00p	Lessons and Carols Candlelight Service



Growing in DiscipleshipTransformed for Ministry

Welcome to Calvin Church

In Worship:

- Our worship proceeds unannounced and follows the printed liturgy.
- Reprint and streaming licenses are One License A-730126, CCLI#2532147, and CSPL#175060.
- The prayer of confession is from The Worship Sourcebook.
- 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.
- 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 in the nursery prior to the morning worship.
- K-2nd: After the Children's Message the Children's Worship ministry meets downstairs in Rooms 11 & 13 until the conclusion of worship. Parents meet their children there following the service.
- Busy Bags for young children are on the picket fence in the Atrium.
- Bulletins for older children are in the rack 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
- Subscribe to our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/@CalvinCRC/streams

Church office hours: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday—Thursday

Bulletin deadline: Wednesday Noon

616-451-8467 Office@CalvinCRC.org www.CalvinCRC.org