

Welcome to



Jennings Creek
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



we are glad you came!

Order of Service

Prelude

Welcome/Prayer

Explanation of theme for the evening

Call to Worship

In anticipation we gather.

With expectation we wait.

We gather to watch for the coming of the good news into our world and into our lives.

We wait to see the fullness of God's vision.

O God, open the doors to our hearts, that this year we may have room for the birth of Jesus.

O God, as we marvel over all that you are doing, overwhelm us with so much wonder that words of praise spring forth from our lips!

In this time of waiting, let true worship begin in our hearts.

Let our praises rise up to the heavens!

Let our celebrations spread new hope over a tired world! Let us gather together all our dreams and lives to worship our God! Amen.

Song "O Come all Ye Faithful" Red 76:1-4

Lighting of the first candle: Hope (Jake Griffioen)

Reading

We light the first Advent candle, the candle of hope. We look forward to the coming of Jesus, who is our hope now and forever. *"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope" (1 Peter 1:3).* In this hope we look forward to celebrating Jesus' birth on Christmas, and we look forward to Jesus' coming again.

Prayer

Dear God, as we light this candle, we pray that you will shine the light of your hope into our hearts and into our world. Amen.

Testimony of HOPE

Song..... "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Red 61: 1-4.

Lighting of the second candle: Pease (Jeff and Lana VanNetten)

Reading

We light the candle of peace. Only Jesus, who came to earth to be our Prince of Peace, can give us peace. In Philippians 4 Paul wrote, *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."*

Prayer

Dear God, help us to know how close you are to us all the time, and help us to show you and your peace to other people. Amen.

Testimony of PEACE

Song "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Red 80:1-3 (Durham Band)

Lighting of the third candle: Joy (Ron and Tina Fintelman)

Reading

We light the candle of joy. In Luke 2:10 the angel told the shepherds, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ, the Lord." Jesus' birth brings us great joy.

Prayer

Dear God, give us joy in our hearts, now and forever. Help us to tell other people about this joy too. Amen.

Testimony of JOY

Song..... "Joy To The World" Red 92:1-4.

Lighting of the fourth candle: Love

Reading

We light the candle of love. In 1 John 4:7 we read, "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God."

Prayer

Dear God, we love you because we know that you loved us first. As we light this candle, help us love to each other and tell others about the love of Jesus. Amen.

Testimony of LOVE (Ernie and Kim Griffioen)

Song "Angels We Have Heard on High" Red 82:1-3 (Durham Band)

Kid Connection

Song..... "We Believe"

Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Advent wreath is a circle with no beginning and no end. It is a symbol of God's unending love and faithfulness.

Jesus Christ is the brightest revelation of God's love. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

Christ Jesus, who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, **but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.**

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

We have seen his glory,

the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

—based on John 1:14; Philippians 2:5-7; Colossians 1:15, NIV

(over)

Testimony of Christ - Lighting of Candles

Song..... "Silent Night" Red 85

(during this song the congregation ignites one another's candles)



Blessings abundant in the New Year



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