

Seymour Christian Reformed Church
Third Sunday Advent
December 17, 2017
9:30 AM Worship

If you are a newcomer to Seymour Church we want you to know that you are very welcome here. If you have any questions about our family of God or are interested in affiliating with our congregation, Pastor Brian White would be delighted to talk with you. Please leave your contact information on the Friendship Register or connect with him at 616-245-8726 or brian@seymourchurch.org.

BOLD PRINT: Congregation participates audibly; *congregation stands, if able.

We Gather to Magnify the Lord

Prelude: "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring/The First Noel"
"In Dulci Deo"

Caudill
Bach

Introit: "For Unto Us a Child Is Born" (from *The Messiah*)

Sanctuary Choir

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Hebrews 7:17, 26-28

*Call to Worship: from Isaiah 49

Shout for joy, you heavens; rejoice, you earth; burst into song, you mountains!

**For the Lord comforts his people and will have compassion
on his afflicted ones.**

But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me."

The Lord declares:

**"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast
and have no compassion on the child she has borne?"**

Though she may forget, I will not forget you!"

Let us worship the Lord!

*God's Greeting

*Opening Hymn: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Red 80

(Congregation, please be seated.)

Congregational Life Announcements

*Welcome / Mutual Greeting

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*Songs of Worship: "Emmanuel"

"O Come Let Us Adore Him"

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Call to Confession:

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.

We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.

We have not loved you with a pure heart,

Nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.

We have not done justice, loved kindness,

Or walked humbly with you, our God.

Quiet Reflection

Merciful God, you made us in your image, with a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a will to serve you.

Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.

In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

**Create in us a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within us.
Do not cast us from your presence.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
And grant us a willing spirit, to sustain us.**

Invitation to Children: "That Boy Child of Mary"

(Pre-k through first grade come forward for Children's Worship)

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

We Hear His Word

*Hymn of Preparation: "Before the Throne of God Above"

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:40-42

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon: "Priest— the Word for Us"

Prayer of Application

*Hymn of Application: "Joy Has Dawned"

Red 682

page 1109

page 923

We Respond to the Greatness of the Lord

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

Offering: 1.) General Fund 2.) Wycliffe Bible Translators

(Please sign and pass the Friendship Register.)

Offertory: "Morning of Promise"

(Martin)

Sanctuary Choir

*The people who in darkness walked will see a wondrous light;
for morning gilds the sky with gold and shines away the night.*

For many years the stars were dim, the candles burning low.

See now the time is drawing near, and hearts are filled with hope.

Veni, veni, come, O come, Emmanuel. Veni, veni, come, O come, Emmanuel.

Let joyful music awake the dawn let alleluias soar.

Proclaim to the world a joyful song, the coming of the Lord!

Veni, veni, come, O come, Emmanuel. Veni, veni, come, O come, Emmanuel.

*Parting Blessing

*Closing Hymn: "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Red 81:5

*Postlude: Sicilian Mariner's March"

(tradition Sicilian hymn)

Price

Worship Leaders

Preaching Pastor: Brian White

Liturgist: Jennifer VanAntwerp

Organist: Ilene Woldhuis

Pianist: Wendy Zwiars

Advent Candle Lighters: Evelyn DeVries and Peg Knoll

Ministry of Music: Sanctuary Choir

Flutist: Dawn Frambes

Song Leaders: Worship Team