Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2014

Rev. Dr. Charles A. Wiessner, Pastor Dr. Lonieta Cornwall, Music Director

The Approach to God

PRELUDE"For God So Loved the World"L. Cornwall, Piano

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP ("Prepare the Way of the Lord" CALL TO WORSHIP (

Chancel Choir

(from I John 4)

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God But that God loved us and sent his Son to be the sacrifice for our sin.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #7

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

*SALUTATION

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Congregation: We live in hope because in Jesus God secured our future. We live in peace because Jesus is the Prince of Peace. We have joy because God has come to earth in Jesus Christ. We have hope, peace and joy, because God loved us so much he sent his Son to be our Savior. Glory to God in the highest! Amen.

EMMANUEL – GOD WITH US

CONGREGATIONAL SONGS

#158 "Angels We Have Heard on High"#157 "Away in a Manger"

RESPONSIVE READING #5 Psalm 23

(Page 472 hymnal)

GLORIA PATRI	and to the As it was i ever shall l	Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.	
MINISTRY OF MUSIC "The People That Walked In L	Darkness hath se	Bob Dey, Bass een a great Light," Handel	
The Word of God			
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION			
SCRIPTURE	Isaiah 40:1-11	(Page 517 Old Testament)	
*MOMENT OF FELLOWSHIP			
*HYMN #399	"Love	Divine, All Loves Excelling"	
SERMON	"Advent: Love"		
Our Response to God			
*CONFESSION OF FAITH	Apostles' Creed	l (Page 12 hymnal)	
RECEPTION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS			
MINISTRY OF MUSIC	"Come, T	Thou Long Expected Jesus"	
*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION			
*CLOSING HYMN #404	"Jesus,	Thy Boundless Love to Me"	
*BENEDICTION AND RESPO	ONSE "P	repare the Way of the Lord"	
* POSTLUDE *The co	ongregation may	stand.	
TODAY'S STEWARDS			
<u>Greeter</u> : Jeff DeWitt Usbers: Jane & Jeff DeWitt			

<u>Ushers</u>: Jane & Jeff DeWitt <u>Nursery</u>: Nancy Dey & Barbara Nickel <u>Fellowship</u>: Luncheon

NEXT WEEK'S STEWARDS (December 28):

<u>Greeter</u>: Ellie Clark <u>Nursery</u>: Bill & Julie Anne Thompson <u>Fellowship</u>: Potluck Breakfast

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

Thanks to Heidi Wilson for being the worship assistant this week. If you are interested in participating in worship this way, there is a signup sheet in the narthex.

EMMANUEL – GOD WITH US

We want to thank Jeff DeWitt for sharing a little of his spiritual journey with us today. We plan on continuing this time of sharing in the worship services during 2015. Please consider sharing part of your story with us. It doesn't have to be long, nor are we expecting a polished sermon. Just a brief witness to something God has been doing in your life and/or how FRCC has been important in your life.

EMMANUEL

You may have noticed the heading in the bulletin - **Emmanuel**. This is a title that Isaiah gave to the "Coming One," and was part of the angel's proclamation to Joseph in Matthew. It is the English transliteration of a Hebrew word meaning "God with us." We include in the service a time for a person from the congregation to share where they have experienced "God with us." Please consider being the one who shares in a future service. If you are willing, please contact Pastor Chuck.

DECEMBER 28

Next Sunday we will be having a potluck breakfast and informal worship in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a time of fellowship as we eat together around the tables, a time of Carol singing, and a Christmas Story. Please join us at 10:00 for breakfast and carol singing will begin by 11:00 at the latest.

CONSISTORY

The congregation has elected Jeff DeWitt to serve as Elder and Mike Shafer to serve as a Deacon on the Consistory. The installation service will be January 4. Joe White will serve a second term as a deacon. If there are any biblical or ecclesiastical reasons why any of them may not serve, please contact Pastor Chuck or one of the present Consistory members.

Visit us on the web at Caryreformedchurch.org and like us on Facebook at facebook.com/FirstReformedChurchOfCary.