

# Avery Street Christian Reformed Church

December 24, 2017 at 5:00 PM



## GATHERING TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude: Avery Street Brass Group

\*Song: "Hark The Herald Angels Sing" Choir & Congregation  
\*Please stand if you are able.) Insert

\*Welcome and Greeting

\*Call to Worship (based on Isaiah 40:1-11, by Moira Laidlaw)  
The God who speaks comfort to us calls us here.  
The God who addresses us with tenderness meets us here.  
The God who guides us with gentleness cares for us here.  
We come to prepare a way for the Lord.  
We come to ready ourselves for the transformation of our lives.  
For the glory of the Lord will be revealed,  
and all people will see it.

\*Song: "Angels From The Realms of Glory" Choir & Congregation Insert

\*Song: "Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming" Burgundy 255:2,3

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Reading of Luke 2:1-20

Song: "What Child Is This?" Burgundy 281:1-3

Advent Confession

**Father, we come to celebrate again the arrival of Love Incarnate here in our very midst. Your glorious arrival is enough to cause the forests to sing for joy, yet we still find reasons to complain and sigh. Your light of salvation is bright enough to illuminate every corner of our lives, yet we still find ourselves shrouded in worry and doubt. Your gift of Love is big enough for the whole world, yet we still find ourselves resentful that your love extends to those whom we deem to be unworthy. God, you invite us into the light of the stable where the overlooked and forgotten have gathered to celebrate the miracle of your love. Give us the strength and courage to join you at the manger this Christmas. Amen.**

Words of Assurance (Isaiah 40:1-2)

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.  
Your sins are pardoned.  
The penalty is paid.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Song: "Jesus, Born on this Day" Choir

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Understanding

Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
Small Print Page 714  
Large Print Page 1119

**Meditation "All I Want for Christmas (V): Home"**

\*Songs of Response: "Once in Royal David's City" Gray 346:1,2,4,5  
"Joy to the World" Gray 337

## GOING IN PEACE

\*Lighting of the candles

Please light your candle as the light is passed down the row to you.  
Please tip the candle being lit toward the lit candle to avoid dripping wax.

# Avery Street Christian Reformed Church



Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.  
See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the LORD rises upon you and His glory appears over you.  
Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.  
*(Isaiah 60:1-3)*

\*Songs:

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"  
"Away in a Manger"  
"Silent Night! Holy Night!"

Burgundy 250  
Gray 348

Silent night, holy night,  
all is calm, all is bright.  
Round yon virgin mother and child,  
holy infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,  
shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing hallelujah.  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born.

Bridge:

All is calm, all is bright,  
Son of God, love's pure light.

Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light.  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
with the dawn of redeeming grace.  
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

\*Parting Blessing  
Postlude  
CCLI #526095



*Christmas Eve*

**Obedient Disciples of Jesus Making Obedient Disciples of Jesus**

If you would like to learn more about the ministry of our church,  
please check out our church's website:

[www.ascrc.org](http://www.ascrc.org)

### "Hark The Herald Angels Sing"

(1) Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

(2) Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of righteousness!

Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild, He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

#### Chorus

King of heaven, come down, King of heaven, come now.  
Let Your glory reign, shining like the day, King of heaven come.  
King of heaven, rise up, who can stand against us?  
You are strong to save, in Your mighty name, King of heaven, come.

#### Bridge

Oh, Oh

(3) Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!

Late in time behold Him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.  
Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King, the newborn King!"

King of heaven, come down, King of heaven, come now.  
Let Your glory reign, shining like the day, King of heaven come.  
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You are strong to save, in Your mighty name, King of heaven, come.

#### Ending

King of heaven, come, King of heaven, come  
King of heaven, come, King of heaven, come  
King of heaven, come down, King of heaven, come now  
Let Your glory reign, shining like the day, King of heaven come.

### "Angels From the Realms of Glory"

#### Verse 1

Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ the newborn King!

#### Verse 2

Shepherds in the fields abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing,  
yonder shines the infant light;  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ the newborn King!

#### Chorus:

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
You are the God who saves us,  
worthy of all our praises.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
come have Your way among us,  
we welcome You here, Lord Jesus.  
Come have Your way among us,  
we welcome You here, Lord Jesus.

#### Bridge 2x

Come and worship,  
worship Christ the newborn King; God is with us,  
even now His love is here. His love is here.

#### (Chorus)

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

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