

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**December 12, 2021**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

Prelude

Welcome

- \* God's Greeting
- \* We Greet One Another
- \* Call to Worship

*Let us prepare as we await the coming of our Lord.*

**Make way for the King of kings.**

*Let us watch for the one who hears our cries.*

**Make way for the King of kings.**

*Let us wait in expectation for the day when God's glory is revealed in all its fullness.*

**Make way!**

- \* Opening Songs

"Make Way"

*Sing! A New Creation #98*

Make way, make way, for Christ the King in splendor arrives.

Fling wide the gates and welcome him into your lives.

Women (Men)

Make way (make way)

Make way (make way

For the King of kings. (For the King of kings.)

Make way (make way)

Make way! (make way!)

And let his kingdom in.

He comes the broken hearts to heal, the prisoners to free.

The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance, the blind shall see.

Women (Men)

Make way (make way)

Make way (make way

For the King of kings. (For the King of kings.)

Make way (make way)

Make way! (make way!)

And let his kingdom in.

"Imagine"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #72*

Who hears? Who hears the voice of the hungry, the thirsty?

Who sees? Who sees the tears of the suffering ones?

Imagine a King who would come through the darkness and walk,

where I walk, full of greatness,

and call me to his side, just like a father and child.

Who knows? Who knows the hopes that lie hidden, forgotten?

Who comes? Who comes to lead all the children home?

Imagine a King who would come through the darkness and walk,  
where I walk, full of greatness,  
and call me to his side, just like a father and child.

\* Opening Prayer

## **WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

Lighting of the Advent Candle (From Exodus 2&3, and Matthew 1)

Reader 1: When God's people were oppressed by Pharaoh, many years after Joseph, God heard their cries.

Reader 2: A son was born to a Levite couple. His mother hid him from Pharaoh's order to kill every male Hebrew child. And when they could not hide him anymore, his mother put him in a basket coated with pitch, and placed it among the reeds in the Nile, where Pharaoh's daughter bathed.

Reader 1: Pharaoh's daughter saw the child and took him into her home. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water"

Reader 2: Forty years later, God called Moses from a burning bush, saying, "the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.

Reader 1: But Moses said, "Who am I, that I could do this?"

Reader 2: And God said, "I will be with you.... I will bring [my people] up out of misery in Egypt and into a land flowing with milk and honey."

Reader 1: Many centuries later, an angel of the Lord appeared to another young couple, saying to the man:

Reader 2: "Joseph... do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Reader 1: Today we light the pink candle of joy, celebrating the birth of the babies who were born to set their people free.

Song of Response: "One Small Child"

*See insert*

Baptism of Makena Helpers

Song of Response: "Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" *Lift Up Your Hearts #796*

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast unmeasured, boundless free!

Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me!

Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love--

Leading onward, leading homeward, to thy glorious rest above!

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus--spread his praise from shore to shore!

How he loves us, ever loves us, changes never, never more!

How he watches o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own;

How for them he's interceding, watching o'er them from the throne!

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus, love of every love the best!

'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest!

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus--'tis a heaven of heavens to me;

And it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to thee!

Congregational Prayer

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### Children's Message

Scripture Reading: Exodus 3:1-17

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup> There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. <sup>3</sup> So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."

<sup>4</sup> When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

And Moses said, "Here I am."

<sup>5</sup> "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." <sup>6</sup> Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. <sup>8</sup> So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. <sup>9</sup> And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. <sup>10</sup> So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

<sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

<sup>12</sup> And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."

<sup>13</sup> Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?"

<sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, "I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I am has sent me to you.'"

<sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.'

"This is my name forever,  
the name you shall call me  
from generation to generation.

<sup>16</sup> "Go, assemble the elders of Israel and say to them, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—appeared to me and said: I have watched over you and have seen what has been done to you in Egypt. <sup>17</sup> And I have promised to bring you up out of your misery in Egypt into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites—a land flowing with milk and honey.'

Message: "Pointing to Christ: Moses-Born to Set His People Free"

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### Prayer of Application

\* Song of Response: "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #56 (vs 1,3,4)

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

## **WE DEPART TO SERVE**

\* Blessing

\* Closing Song: "Go Tell It on the Mountain" *Lift Up Your Hearts #93*

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lowly stable the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

\* Postlude

\* Please stand if you are able

Children's Message: Laura Hufford

Message: Pastor Randy Raak

Musicians: Andrew Friend, Elijah Hufford, Laura Hufford, Tara Tilstra

## **THIS WEEK**

**REVISION to the Gingerbread Building Fun!** - There will be an Intergenerational Gingerbread activity on **Wednesday 12/15 at 6:30 PM**. We invite people to come enjoy time together to make gingerbread houses. If you are unable to attend, supplies will be available on the 19th to take home.

## **OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

**Update on Carl Vander Wal** - Carl is home from the hospital and is on oxygen. If you want to send him an encouraging card, his address is in the directory.

**Cards and Notes to Church Family** - As the holidays approach, take time to send a card or note to someone that you haven't seen in awhile or to someone you see each week, but want to let them know you appreciate their friendship.

## **TCRC COUNCIL MEETING (DEC. 8) HIGHLIGHTS**

- Tyler Helpers shared materials and plans about the ministry position with Stellenbosch International Fellowship in South Africa.
- The progress of the strategic planning process was reviewed. A summary will be presented at the congregational meeting in January. A draft of the 2022 budget was discussed. The annual TCRC congregational business meeting is planned for **Thursday, January 27**.
- We look forward this Sunday to the baptism of Makena Helpers during the worship service and to the annual Christmas Program after the service.

## **SMALL GROUPS & SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**UFOs** will meet on **Tuesday, December 14 at 7 PM** at church.

**Breakfast Club** will **NOT** meet on December 22nd.

**All Sunday School Classes** are on break until January 9th. Please stick around to enjoy this extended fellowship time.

**Sunday Evening Bible Study** - The Sunday Evening Bible Study has entered its winter break. We will meet again on **January 30** to choose a topic for the spring season. Thanks to all who participated this fall.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Please be aware that there have been **shoe scuff marks** on the floors throughout the church in the Fellowship Hall, Kitchen, and on the carpets. Please be careful, so that we can be more diligent in taking care of our building.

## **DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### Faith Formation Ministries

**At-home Faith Practice Reflection Tip** - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Hospitality: Read Leviticus 19:33-34 and ponder or discuss the following questions. Leviticus 19 is full of commands for how to be holy. One of those commands is to love strangers (in this case people who are from other lands) as you love yourself. How do you live out this command? What are some ways that you, your family, your church, your wider community, and your nation could love people from other lands as yourself?

### ReFrame Ministries

**New Video: Kids in Action** - Kids in Action host Simone meets Kyra, an accessibility leader at her school. She was part of a team that made renovations happen, and now her school is new and improved. [kidscorner.net/kids-in-action/accessibility-leader](https://kidscorner.net/kids-in-action/accessibility-leader). It's Kids in Action, putting on a hard hat and creating great spaces for all God's children. Please share this video and amplify the voices and stories in the disability community.

**Advent: A Time of Joy** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). What has God done today that brought you joy? What makes you want to glorify and praise him? Look for God's blessings and anticipate that he will do something. He always does! Listen now at [kidscorner.net](https://kidscorner.net) and check out all the new content, including The Gifts of Kindness Advent Calendar and the KC parent blog too.

**Groundwork: Christmas Hope: Ruth** - When the trials and challenges of life drag on with no end in sight, it's easy to wonder if God cares, or if continued faithfulness is worth our effort. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Matthew 1:3-6, Ruth 1-4, Luke 16:10, and Micah 6:8 to discover how God uses the simple faithfulness of Ruth and Boaz to ensure the continuation of the Messiah's family tree. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

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**Elders:** A-G = Tom Kuyper, H-K = Melody Franje, L-S = Mark Voss, T-Z = Paul Kleinwolterink

**Deacons:** A-G = Tina VanDyk, H - K = Andrew Friend, L-S = Judy Oltman, T-Z = Donna Bergman