

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 2025 | 9:00 PM



CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH



"We live in Christ and share God's love with all people."

PO BOX 845 5904 VISTA DR. FERNDALE, WA

360-384-1422 clcferndale.org

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to worship at Christ Lutheran Church where we live in Christ and share God's love with all people.

CLC celebrates and affirms the sacred worth of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions, including the LGBTQIA+ community; people of all cultures, ethnicities, and backgrounds; specifically Black, Indigenous, and People of Color; people of all ages and abilities; and people of all social and economic circumstances – as well as any who have experienced marginalization by the Christian Church.

We commit to the work of anti-racism and inclusion in a world that profits from our division. We remember Jesus' unambiguous call to love our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:39). We pray that all may encounter the living, loving God, whose grace meets us in our authentic humanity and who sees each of us as beloved.

We gratefully acknowledge that we gather on the ancestral homelands of the Lummi Nation of the Coast Salish language group who have stewarded this land since time immemorial, and we commit to the ongoing care of our shared land and relationships with its indigenous peoples.

Younger friends are welcome in the Pray Ground (accessed outside the sanctuary entrance) for any portion of the service.

Hearing assist units and large print bulletins are available as you enter the sanctuary. Please see an usher for assistance with these or any part of the worship service.

For all attending, we invite you to sign in on the friendship pad in your pew. We encourage you to participate in worship at your comfort level. The congregation reads the bold print and *stands as they are able*.

PARTICIPATING IN OUR CHURCH

Presiding: Pr. Leigh DeVries

Greeters: Carol Gahm

Ushers: Gary & Carolyn Jonson

Communion Assistant: Beth Andres, Becky McGrady

Altar Guild: Liz Brown

Soundboard Technician: Sam McGrady & Calvin Petersen

Piano: Don Clausen, Nancy Sheng

Organ: Don Clausen

Orchestra: Grant Donnellan, Joanne Donnellan, Nancy Tupper, Yelena Nelson, Tae Isensee, Kara Thomas, JoAnne Dudley, Joan Youngquist, Ozzie Osgood

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 24, 2025 | 9:00PM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

ORCHESTRA CAROLS

CLC ORCHESTRA

BREAK FORTH, O BEAUTEOUS HEAVENLY LIGHT

CLC CHOIR

-J.S. BACH

WELCOME

PR. LEIGH DEVRIES

OPENING DIALOGUE

NANCY TUPPER

Come! Look upon the baby Jesus, cradled in the arms of his mother

Seeing this wondrous sight, may our hearts be comforted and our spirits filled with peace.

Come! Listen to choirs of angels announcing good news to all people

Hearing this marvelous song, may we too sing: Glory to God in the highest!

Come! Receive this ancient story in your heart as a gift,

Opening our hearts to this great mystery, may Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace be born in us today.

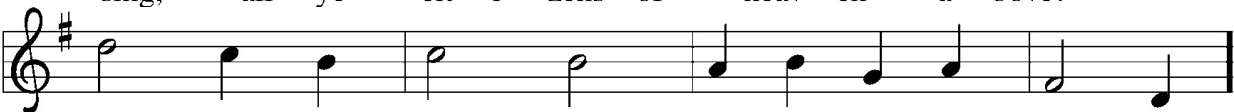
O, COME ALL YE FAITHFUL



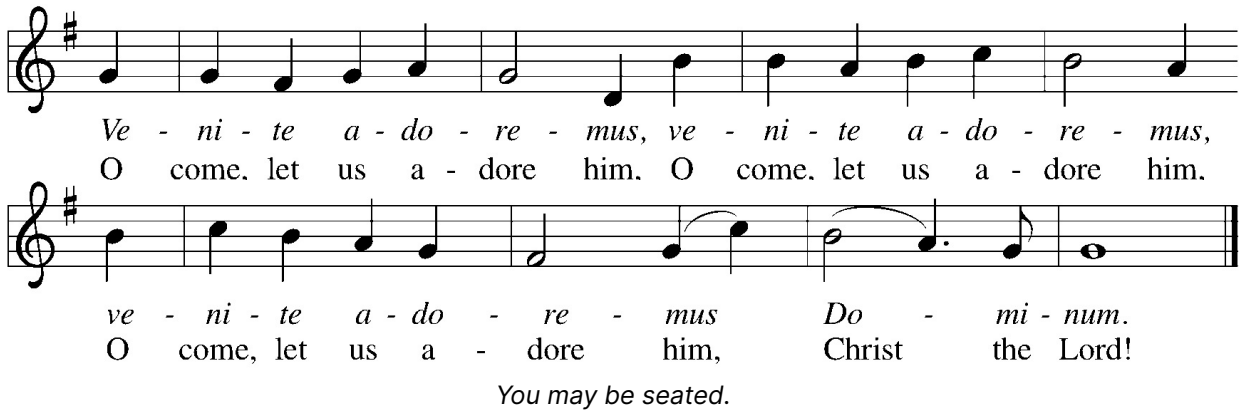
1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come. let us a - dore him. O come. let us a - dore him.

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

You may be seated.

THE PROPHECY: ISAIAH 9

SUSAN HOLMES

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests on his shoulders; and he is named: wonderful counselor, mighty God, everlasting Father, prince of peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.

THE FIRST NOEL



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -

night that was so deep.
tin-ued both day and night. No - el, No - el, No -

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

THE ANGEL APPEARS TO JOSEPH: MATTHEW 1:18-25**DAVID SODERLUND**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

CHOIR ANTHEM

TO A VIRGIN MEEK AND MILD

CLC CHOIR

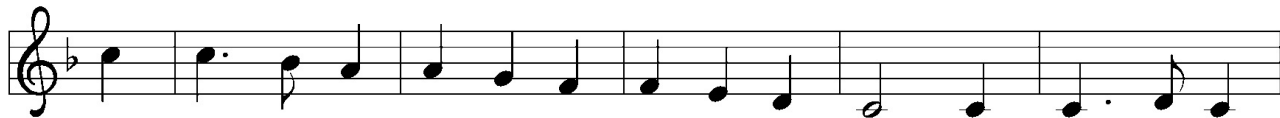
- TRADITIONAL SPANISH CAROL ARR. D. JOHNSON

JESUS IS BORN IN BETHLEHEM: LUKE 2: 1-7**MELANIE HALSELL**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

AWAY IN A MANGER

Stand in body or spirit



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
 Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.
 your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

You may be seated.

THE ANGEL APPEARS TO THE SHEPHERDS: LUKE 2: 8-15

JENISE CLAUSEN

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and, on earth, peace to all the people!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told to them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad-some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain

Glo

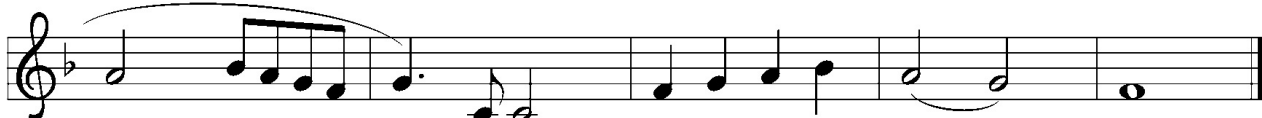
ri - a



in ex - cel - sis

De - o;

glo



ri - a

in ex-cel-sis

De

o.

*You may be seated.***THE STAR & THE MAGI: MATTHEW 2:1-8****JENNIFER PETERSEN**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
 are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,
 for from you shall come a ruler

who is to shepherd my people Israel.' ”

9

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

GEORGE HOLMES

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, and bring peace where there is conflict. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to persons experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The heavenly host praises you. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by their example into a people zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Stewardship is a response of gratitude and thanksgiving for what God has done for us. You are invited to respond to God's gifts with your own financial gifts through the offering. You may use offering envelopes (extras found at the end of the hymnal rack) or give using any of these ways:

- Mail checks to the CLC P.O. Box 845 or send a check through your bank's Bill Pay service. Please be sure to add "Attn: Financial Secretary" to the envelope;
- Give through the Church Center App (use QR code to access);
- Or through Church Center online: christ-lutheran-church-ferndale.churchcenter.com



MUSIC DURING OFFERING

AWAY IN A MANGER

JOANNE DONNELLAN

GRANT DONNELLAN

THE OFFERING IS PRESENTED & THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERING PRAYER

God of glory,

great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow.

Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world,

that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace,

through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION

PR. LEIGH

COMMUNION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, Holy God, mighty and immortal, through your Son, Jesus Christ. In the mystery of your Word made flesh, you have given us a new vision of your beauty, full of grace and truth; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

11

In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
 ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
 Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
 Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

The angel told the shepherds: "You will find the baby all wrapped up and lying in a manger." In a manger, a trough for animals, full of grain and hay, a place for livestock to eat and be filled!

Christmas is full of surprises: The Lord of this vast universe became small for us, and lay as a frail infant in a manger at Bethlehem. Bethlehem, which means "House of Bread." And how marvelously we have been fed and nourished by that infant Jesus, fed and filled with the love of God. All of Jesus' days and nights were moments of sharing with us the deep mystery of the love God has for every creature, great and small.

And then on one of the last nights of his life, our Lord Jesus took bread and wine, common everyday food, and blessed them.

He broke the bread and said that through it, he will come to us and feed our hearts: "Take and eat: this is my Body which is given for you."

And he took the cup and gave it to them and to us, promising that this cup binds us to him and to one another forever: "Take and drink: this cup is the new covenant or promise in my blood, shed for you and for all."

The Son of God on the first Christmas was content to lie in a manger, and He still comes, even here tonight, in bread and wine, to fill our lives.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us in the language of our hearts.

1983 Version

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

1892 Version

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

You may be seated.

COMMUNION BY INTINCTION

All who desire a renewed relationship with Jesus are welcome to participate in Holy Communion. Children of any age, with the consent of a parent or guardian, are welcome to commune, or may come forward to receive a blessing instead. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. If you have any allergies or sensitivities to gluten, wheat, yeast, dairy, soy, nut, or corn, please ask for the wafer alternative, as they are made in a facility that is free of these allergens. If you prefer to take communion at your seat, please notify an usher to have it brought to you. As a part of your communion experience, you are additionally invited to **light a candle, use the prayer wheel, or seek additional prayer with a Stephen Minister** seated in the front pew near the candle station as you need.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

I WONDER AS I WANDER

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

STEVE ANDRES

CLC ORCHESTRA

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Incarnate God,

you are among us at this table.

May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts

the mystery of your presence.

Move us to discover the wonders of your love

in the everyday moments of our lives,

through Christ born in us.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE LIGHT

In a few moments we will share the light of Christ with one another, using the candles you received upon arrival. An usher will light the candle from the aisle and each person will then pass the flame down the row. When the light comes to you, **please tip your candle toward the lit candle** to prevent wax from dripping.

THE LIGHT SHINES: JOHN 1

PR. LEIGH

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

MUSIC DURING THE LIGHT

STILL, STILL, STILL

- ARR. LUBOFF

CLC CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

AVE MARIA

- BACH/GOUNOD

GRANT DONNELLAN

JOANNE DONNELLAN

YELENA NELSON

DON CLAUSEN

SILENT NIGHT



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Please extinguish your candles at the conclusion of Silent Night.

BENEDICTION

PR. LEIGH

JOY TO THE WORLD



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

May the God of love,
 Creator, Redeemer & Sustainer
 lavish you with grace,
 illumine your path,
 and increase your joy,
 today and always.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

Please hold these people in prayer:

- Gary, Bob, Lynne, Elizabeth, Becky, Marisa & Karl, Linda, Kelly, Jim, Victoria, Dolly, Darlene, Marilyn, Paul, Christine, Rachel, Mary K., Scott, Paula, Marina, Ruthanne, Nancy, Sean, Mike, Teri, Jeremiah, Ken, Pat, Carol, Mary Ann, Janet, Sarah, Sara, Caitlin, Jacob, Christine, Ashley, Amore, Amber, Darryl, Victoria, John, Rosemary, Angel, Eric, Kim, Lucia, Michele, Ken, Tony, Amanda, Rick, Jim, Kevin, Lindsey, Kent;
- all who are homebound, or in assisted living facilities;
- those who travel;
- Brandon, Ron, Melissa, Robert, Scott, Thomas, Rick, and all serving in the military;
- those struggling with addictions and illnesses affecting the mind and spirit;
- those struggling with deteriorating health.

STAFF PARTICIPATING IN OUR CHURCH

Rev. Leigh DeVries, lead Pastor: pastor@clcferndale.org

Rev. Liza Okan, preschool director: preschooldirector@clcferndale.org

Don Clausen, Music Director: musicdirector@clcferndale.org

Shay Andersen, Parish Administrator: parishadmin@clcferndale.org



"We live in Christ and share God's love with all people."

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360-384-1422 clcferndale.org

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