

# **Sunday, December 3, 2017**

## **Advent 1**



Mary: "Let it be . . .  
. . . yes, let it be so!"

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Mary – by Cecille (cecille creations) – used with permission

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*Welcome to our worship service. May you be blessed as you meet God and be empowered for the week ahead.*

*Sunday, December 3, 2017 9:30 a.m.*

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Worship Leader: Rev. Catherine Hunsberger  
Congregational Prayer: Pastor Ben Cassels  
Scripture Reader : Rev. Catherine Hunsberger  
Nursery Volunteers: Crystal Francis

Speaker: Pastor Ben Cassels  
Accompanist: Karen Enns, Ryan Légère  
Choir: Laura Enns  
Children's Story: Karl Dick

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*Children are welcome in the worship service or younger children may be taken to the Nursery along the Administration Hallway following the Children's Story.*

**Worship Focus:** *We awaken to God's purpose, which begins in darkness – whether seed in the ground, child in the womb, or new self in the soul. We are shaking, fearful, and resistant, yet we call upon God to tear open the heavens and be present with us in our uncertainty.*

## **WE ENTER INTO GOD'S PRESENCE**

Prelude

Pre-Service Carol Sing – 9:25 a.m.

Welcome / Work and Care of the Church

Call to Worship:

Leader: Awake!

The invitation to carry light  
comes from the God of trembling  
mountains  
and shaking foundations.

**All: O God, your expectations terrify us.  
How can our small selves hold your blazing presence?**

*(Pause for silence)*

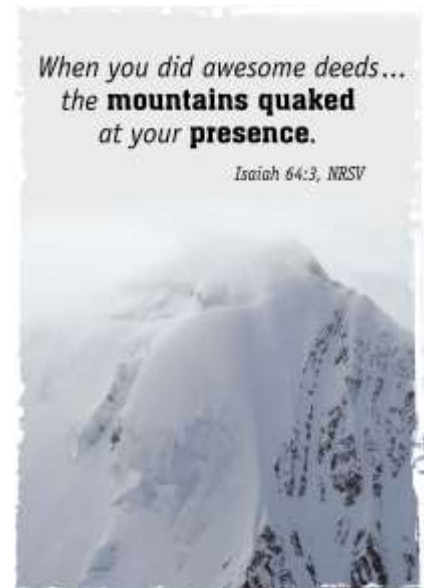
Leader: Quiet our questioning souls.

**All: Lead us beyond our resistance.  
Let it be.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Hymn: *"Hark! The glad sound"*

Prayer of Invocation



**HWB # 184**

## PRAISING

Scripture Lesson I: Isaiah 64: 1-9 (Old Testament) page 538

Hymn: "O Saviour, rend the heavens"

HWB # 175

### Congregational Prayer

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.



### Offering and Prayer

Anthem: *Who has known the mind of Jesus?* Arr. J. Ylvisaker

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Hymn: "Love came down at Christmas" vs. 1,2  
(Children come forward on verse 2)

HWB # 208

### Children's Time

Song of Blessing: "Love came down at Christmas" vs. 3

HWB # 208

Scripture Lesson II: Mark 13: 24-37 (New Testament)

page 39

Sermon "Let it be."

## RESPONDING

Hymn of Response: "Saviour of the nations, come"

HWB # 173

### Confession/Words of Assurance

**All: O God of power and might,  
we want you to tear open the heavens and come down,  
yet we tremble and quake at the thought.  
We confess that even though we know your light,  
we do not like the dark empty void  
where your Spirit hovers over the waters.  
We shake like leaves in the wind,**

***fearful of what you might ask, afraid to trust you completely.***

***Caught up in the swirling of our world,  
we struggle to "let it be."***

***Forgive us, O God.***

(Pause for silence)

Leader: Our God, Emmanuel, has come near to us in Jesus,  
the Christ.

In him we have been given life and we are restored.

## **SENDING**

Benediction

Postlude

***Welcome to our visitors!*** We hope our time of worship has been an encouragement to you. Please sign our guest book in the front foyer and join us for coffee and fellowship in the gym hallway. God bless you and we hope to see you again!

## **TODAY AT W-K**



9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Sunday School for Children (Circle of Grace)

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School – Youth Room

Adult Sunday School: *"Believe in God" – An assignment given last week: "How do we describe our own faith, when there's an opportunity to speak about it?"*

*And we also study and discuss the role of God's Holy Spirit, and the idea of God's grace, as we hear Palmer Becker interviewing Fanosie Lagasse and Nakhle Bishara, both bringing an international flavour to our local Canadian Mennonite Churches.*

3:00 p.m. Jubilation Choir Concert – Sanctuary with reception to follow

**Next Sunday – December 10, 2017 – Advent 2**

9:00 a.m. *Choir Rehearsal*  
9:30 a.m. *Worship Service* *Pastor Ben Cassels*  
Lectionary *Isaiah 40: 1-11* *Psalms 85: 1-2, 8-13*  
Readings: *2 Peter 3: 8-15a* *Mark 1: 1-8*  
10:00 a.m. *Sunday School for Children*  
10:30 a.m. *Coffee Break*  
10:45 a.m. *Youth Sunday School – Youth Room*  
*Adult Sunday School: Continuing Palmer Becker's interviews, we listen to Jessica Reesor Rempel, representing PiE, explaining that "To behave like Christ, know yourself!", and "Behaving like Christ in response to need", with Rick Cober Bauman of Mennonite Central Committee.*  
7:00 p.m. *Youth Room Rental*

**CONGREGATIONAL NOTES**



**Office Hours**

**Church Office Hours**

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Wednesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Parish Nurse Clinic Hours**

***Waterloo Mennonite Homes – Tuesday, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.***

***Please note that Karen Watson, Parish Nurse will be away from December 6<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> inclusive. There will be no clinic on December 7<sup>th</sup>.***

**Financial Report:** Thank you for your offering of November 26<sup>th</sup> and for the pre-authorized withdrawal offering of November 27<sup>th</sup>

## This Week at W-K

Tuesday, December 5	Noon	Silver Spoons
	1:00 p.m.	Quilters & Knotty Knotters
	6:00 p.m.	IMCC Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study – Room 7
Wednesday, December 6	9:00 a.m. - Noon	Mission Circle
	9:00 a.m. – Noon	Organ tuning - Sanctuary
Thursday, December 7	10:00 a.m.	WALC group - gym
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning Team - Lounge
	6:00 p.m.	Church Supper and Carol Sing
	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	PiE Board Mtg – Lower Lounge
	8:00 p.m.	W-K Choir Rehearsal
Friday, December 8	1:00 p.m.	House of Friendship - gym
Sunday, December 10	7:00 p.m.	Youth Room Rental

**The Jubilation Male Chorus** will present their annual Advent/Christmas concert here at W-K this afternoon, Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 3:00 p.m. This year's concert will be in support of Ray of Hope – a freewill offering will be taken. Everyone welcome – reception to follow.



**Quilters and Knotty Knotters** will meet on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the Basement. Come join in the fellowship and help with the projects.

### **W-K Lunch Bunch and Servettes Christmas Lunch**

will be held on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm at Solé Restaurant, 83 Erb St. W, in Waterloo. All women are invited to join us for this special lunch. It will be a 3 course meal including dessert and coffee or tea for \$33.50. (tax and gratuities are included) We require payment in advance with your RSVP by December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please respond to Rita Reimer.

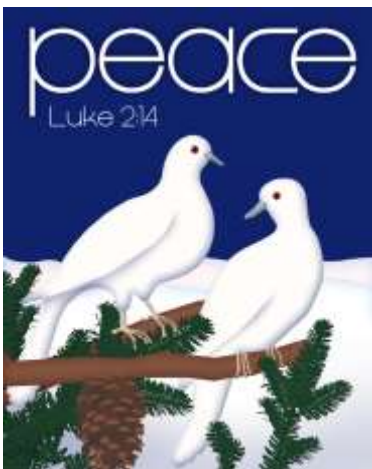




**W-K Communion Service and Coffee Time** at **Parkwood Mennonite Home** will be held on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the Craft Room of the Retirement Home. The communion service will be followed by a time of singing and fellowship. Refreshments will be provided. W-KUM Deacons, Caring Friends and Health and Wellness committee invite you to join them.

**The Community and Outreach Committee** wishes to have your support for three special Christmas season projects.

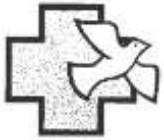
1. Collect money for a grocery gift card for the Alfulaihi family.
2. Collect items for the House of Friendship - Sunnydale Community Centre program. Items needed are bars of soap, toothpaste, child or adult toothbrushes, baby formula or donations to purchase baby formula. Please be prepared to make any donations on Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> or December 3<sup>rd</sup>.
3. Anyone wishing to support St. John's kitchen may pick up a green coin can on November 26<sup>th</sup> and return it by January 7th.



**"Peace on Earth" - The W-KUM Church**

**Choir** presents its annual Christmas concert, featuring the **Church Choir, Children and Youth** on **Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.** A free will offering will be collected for MCC's international peace-building work.

- **Calling all singers!** Youth and adults are invited to join the W-KUM Church Choir in preparation for the Christmas concert. We will be rehearsing in the church basement on **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** on November 23, 30, December 7 (after Church Supper), and 14. See Laura Enns for more information.
- **WKUM Youth and Children** are also invited to participate in this inter-generational concert, in place of a Christmas pageant, and are asked to attend our rehearsal on **Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** in the church basement. Also, if any youth or children are taking music lessons, and would like to sing or play a solo or duet of a Christmas song, please talk to Laura Enns!



### Healthy Reflections – Body, Mind and Spirit

Hope: How can we share hope with others?



“Yet this I call to mind,  
and therefore I have hope:  
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
God’s mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.  
“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,  
“therefore I will hope in the Lord.”

Lamentations 3: 21-24

**Healthy Reflections** for December is in your mailbox this morning.

### Health and Wellness Church Programs:

- **Each Thursday, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.** – Wellness and Active Living Fitness class in the gym – a gentle class focussing on cardio, strength, balance and flexibility. No fee – everyone welcome!
- **Today, December 3<sup>rd</sup> during Children’s Sunday School time** and afterwards for any adults who wish to participate....  
***Milo and the Glo Germ Wonder*** – a fun way to learn about respiratory and hand hygiene – prevention is key during the flu season. Anyone is welcome to try it out. See how well you wash your hands.

## WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

**“Amahl and the Night Visitors”, a Christmas Opera by Gian-Carlo Menotti**, featuring Adrienne Enns as Amahl and directed by Stephanie Kramer will be presented at St. Jacobs Mennonite Church, 1310 King St. North in St. Jacobs. Final performance will take place this evening, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, beginning at 7:00 p.m.



**Three Choirs at Christmas - "Come Emmanuel"** Join Menno Singers



(Brandon Leis), Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir (Carolyn Neumann-VanderBurgh) and Menno Youth Singers (Steve Surian) on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at St John's Lutheran Church (22 Willow St, Waterloo) for this very popular event. Tickets are \$15 adults, \$5 children/students and \$35 Family, available from choristers, at the door and online at [www.mennosingers.com](http://www.mennosingers.com).

**BACH VESPERS FOR ADVENT:** On Sunday, December 3 at 4:00 p.m., Spiritus Ensemble presents a Bach Vespers for Advent Sunday. This one hour service will include a performance of Bach Cantata #30, 'Freue dich, erloeste Schar' and a choral setting of George Herbert's poem 'Heaven' by Zachary Wadsworth. Soloists are Sheila Dietrich, Sarah Pearson, Christopher Fischer and Richard Hrytzak; Kenneth Hull conducting. The Church of St John the Evangelist, 23 Water St N, Kitchener. Admission free; donations gratefully received.

**You are invited to All is Calm, All is Bright...** a program of great Christmas music performed by the **Cambridge Male Chorus** along with the **Addison Women's Choir** on Sunday, December 3, 2017 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The concert will be held at Calvin Presbyterian Church, 248 Westmount Rd. E. in Kitchener. Tickets are \$15 (\$10 for children 12 and under) and are available from Paul Enns ([penns@sympatico.ca](mailto:penns@sympatico.ca) or 519-743-0554) or John Reimer ([johnreim@golden.net](mailto:johnreim@golden.net) or 519-658-6739) or at the door. See the poster on the Courtyard window for more information.

**Kokoro Singers** under the direction of Brenda Uchimaruru will present a concert on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:30pm at the newly renovated, highly acoustic Rockway Mennonite Church, 47 Onward Ave Kitchener. Tickets are \$20, Students/Seniors \$15 and children under 12 free. Tickets available at the door.



Children's Choir

**The Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir** is pleased to present "***Gloria in Excelsis***". The concert will take place on Sunday, December 10, 2017 at 3:00 pm, at St. Jacobs Mennonite Church. Tickets are \$10 each, \$5 for children (5-18) and will be available at the door or from a chorister. Come and join us for some of Christmas' finest music!

**Inshallah** presents **“A Global Carol Sing”** on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Kitchener City Hall, 200 King Street West in Kitchener. A free-will offering will be taken with proceeds going to Sanctuary Health Centre in Kitchener.

Take a moment to reflect and be inspired at a mid-week **Advent Jazz Vespers service at Conrad Grebel University College.** The service will be held in the Grebel Chapel on Wednesday, December 13, 7:00pm. All are welcome.

**Menno Singers** is sponsoring a **Sing-a-Long Messiah** with orchestra and soloists at St Jacobs Mennonite Church (1310 King St. N, St Jacobs) on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> beginning at 3:00 p.m.



Conductors will be Brandon Leis and Mark Diller Harder. Bring your score and join your voice part, or come and listen to your favourite

choruses. Attendance is by donation with tax receipts available for donations over \$20. [www.mennosingers.com](http://www.mennosingers.com).

### **Rockway Mennonite Collegiate Christmas Concert**

Celebrate the season with Rockway's Music Department as students from Grades 7-12 present *Songs for a Winter's Night*. The concert will take place on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:30 p.m. A free will offering will be taken. All are welcome!

**St. John's Lutheran Church** presents their **Advent Noon-hour Organ Recital Series.** The concerts will take place on Friday December 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. A chili luncheon will follow the recitals. See the poster on Bulletin Board # 4 for more information.



*Posters for many of these events are on Bulletin Board # 4.*

**The Institute of Anabaptist and Mennonite Studies** invites you to a Double Book Launch on December 7, at 7:00 pm in Conrad Grebel University College's Community Education room. Join Hildi Froese Tiessen and Connie T. Braun as they celebrate their newest publications: *11 Encounters with Mennonite Fiction*, and *Silentium: And Other Reflections on Memory, Sorrow, Place, and the Sacred*.



**We have received an inquiry** from a young couple seeking housing in the area beginning in January. One of them will be attending Conrad Grebel College. Copies of the email are posted on Bulletin Board # 5.

We have received two **employment opportunities** from Conrad Grebel College. Please see Bulletin Board # 5 for more information.

Loved by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we follow Jesus Christ.  
As a welcoming Mennonite community,  
we worship God, nurture each other  
and extend God's love and peace to all.