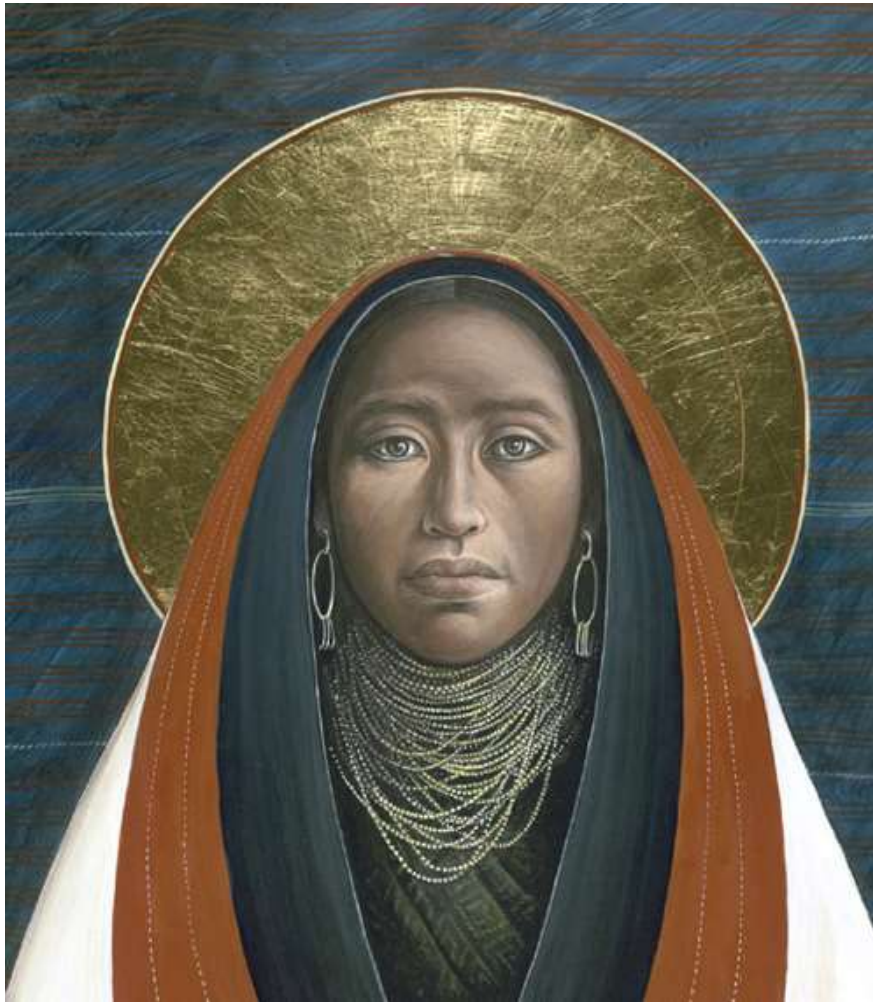


Sunday, December 10, 2017

Advent 2



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

Artist unknown

VOL. 30 NO. 47

WATERLOO-KITCHENER UNITED MENNONITE CHURCH

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Staff: Pastor Ben Cassels

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Phone: 519-578-0660, then press 2 when voice mail picks up

Laura Enns – Worship and Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator

Phone: 519-578-0660 Ext. 13 laura@wkumchurch.ca

Katharine Borch – Office Administrator – office@wkumchurch.ca

Andrew Tubb – Church Custodian – andrewtubb@gmail.com

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

Sunday, December 10, 2017 9:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Laura Enns

Speaker: Pastor Ben Cassels

Congregational Prayer: Pastor Ben Cassels

Accompanist: Karen Enns, Ryan Légère

Scripture Readers : Whitley Enns, Rudy Baergen

Choir: Laura Enns

Nursery Volunteers: Rita Reimer

Children's Story: Karl Dick

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 long to be comforted, we long for change. Moving from uncertainty and fear, we call upon God to make things ready – the mountains leveled, the paths made straight, our hearts prepared.*

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 voice who cries out for a smooth way through wild places.



All: O God, your call is uncomfortable.

How can we who are weak remove the rough and rugged places?

(Pause for silence)

Leader: Quiet our questioning souls.

All: Lead us into your presence so all can see your way.

Leader: Let it be so.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Hymn: *"Praise the One who breaks the darkness"*

STS # 1

Prayer of Invocation

PRAISING

Scripture Lesson I: Isaiah 40: 1-11 (Old Testament) page 517

Hymn: *“Comfort, comfort, O my people”*

HWB # 176

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: *O God, how we have wandered* K. Nichols/ H. Hassler

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 1: 1-8 (New Testament)

page 27

Sermon **“Let it be so.”**

RESPONDING

Hymn of Response: *“Longing for light”*

STJ # 54

Confession/Words of Assurance

**All: O God of blazing heavens,
you come to us gently and tenderly,
speaking peace and comfort into our fear.
We long for you,
we yearn for your promise of a new heaven and earth.
Yet we confess
that though we know how to get busy**

***and prepare for this season,
we do not know how to slow down or wait
and make space for your presence.
May our ordinary lives intersect
with the power of your Word
and the transforming presence of your grace.
Empower us to "let it be so."***

(Pause for silence)

Leader: Our God, Emmanuel,
In Jesus, the Christ, you have come among us.
You have given us life, and we are restored.

SENDING

Benediction

Sending Song: *"Go, my friends, in grace"*

STS # 57

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
- 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



Next Sunday – December 17, 2017 – Advent 3

9:30 a.m. *Worship Service* *Rev. Chip Bender*

Prayer and Anointing following the service

Lectionary *Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11* *Psalms 126*

Readings: *1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24* *Luke 1: 46-55*

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: Classes resume January 7, 2018

7:00 p.m. *W-K Choir Christmas Concert*

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.

Waterloo-Kitchener United Mennonite Church – Thursday, 11:00 a.m. - Noon



Karen Watson, Parish Nurse is away this weekend.
Regular clinics will resume on December 12th.

Pastor Ben and his family will be away December 12 – 18th inclusive. If you require pastoral assistance during this time, please call Karen Watson at 506-442-0569. (Please note that you may have to dial 1 before the number if Karen is out of the area.)

Financial Report: Thank you for your offering of December 3rd

This Week at W-K

Monday, December 11	All Day	Kitchen in use
Tuesday, December 12	Noon	Silver Spoons Christmas Dinner
	1:00 p.m.	Quilters
Wednesday, December 13	7:00 p.m.	Visioning Team - Lounge
Thursday, December 14	10:00 a.m.	WALC group - gym
	7:00 p.m.	W-K Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, December 17	7:00 p.m.	W-K Choir Christmas Concert

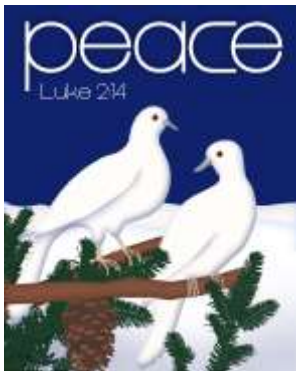


Quilters will meet on Tuesday, December 12th at 1:00 p.m. in the Basement. Come join in the fellowship and help with the projects.

The Community and Outreach Committee wishes to thank the congregation for the generous support of the grocery gift care and Sunnydale Centre projects.



If you wish, you can still take home a coin can to support St. John's Kitchen, to be returned on 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 17th 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. Our final rehearsal will take place in the sanctuary on **Thursday, December 14th at 7:00 p.m.** See Laura Enns for more information.
- **Christmas cookie reception:** The choir and congregation are invited to bring Christmas baking to contribute to our reception after the concert. If possible, please bring baked goods to church with you in the morning, and leave them in the kitchen so that we can arrange them before the evening reception.

It is time to update the W-KUM Phone Directory. A copy of the directory is on the table in the Lounge. Please take a moment to check your name, address and phone number to make sure it is correct. Any changes can be noted on the pages sitting beside the directory. We hope to have the new directory printed early in January.



Reading the Bible with Jesus: Friday, January 12th to Sunday, January 14th, W-KUM Church, along with Erb Street Mennonite and Waterloo North Mennonite, are hosting Bryan Suderman Moyer for a three-day workshop called Reading the Bible with Jesus. Together, through study, story, and song we'll be exploring in-depth the Gospel of Luke through the eyes of Jesus.

It begins Friday evening at Erb St. MC with supper, an all-ages concert, and the first workshop. It will continue Saturday morning at Waterloo North with more sessions and lunch, and will conclude Sunday morning when Bryan leads the service and Adult Sunday School at W-KUM.

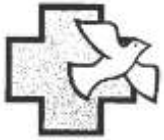
There is no cost but advanced registrations are appreciated to help with food with either the WK or Erb St offices (although not strictly required). More information coming soon! You can read more about the workshop here: <https://www.ambs.edu/lifelong-learning/reading-the-bible-with-jesus>



Annual Reports from all ministry teams are due by December 31st for inclusion in the 2017 Annual Report booklet. These can be submitted to Katharine in the office by email at office@wkumchurch.ca OR in printed form. Your help in being prompt is greatly appreciated. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 4, 2018.

Urgent or Immediate Prayer Requests: We want to be a church that supports each other in prayer, especially when immediate needs arise. We have a Prayer Ministry team of about a dozen members who pray regularly on such occasions. If you ever have a situation where you would like additional prayer, please be in touch with Rita Reimer, Karen Watson, or Pastor Ben Cassels who will send your request to this group. And if you would like to be part of this prayer team, please be in touch with either Rita or Ben and we'll happily add you.





Healthy Reflections – Body, Mind and Spirit

We wait for Peace.....

In John 14:27, Jesus said, *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”*



Prince of Peace, reveal yourself to us today. We need peace in our lives, our homes, our families, our church, and our whole world. Help us to slow down and seek out the peace you provide, so we may become peacemakers for ourselves and others.

In your name, Prince of Peace, we pray. Amen.

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!
- **December 17th** - Prayer and Anointing following worship.

WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY



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 12th 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 17th 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.

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 12th beginning at 7:30 p.m. A free will offering will be taken. All are welcome!

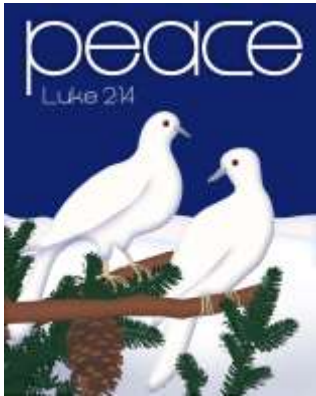
St. John's Lutheran Church presents their **Advent Noon-hour Organ Recital Series**. The concerts will take place on Friday December 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd. A chili luncheon will follow the recitals. See the poster on Bulletin Board # 4 for more information.



St. John's Lutheran Church presents a **Service of Lessons and Carols** on Sunday, December 17th beginning at 3:00 p.m. Participating will be the choirs of St. John's, Mark Himmelman, Director, and flautist, Pauline Finch. A freewill offering will be taken. All are welcome to attend.

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

W-KUM Christmas Services and Celebrations



"Peace on Earth" - The W-KUM Church

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

Sunday, December 24 – Advent 4

Regular worship service at 9:30 a.m.
Pastor Ben Cassels will be speaking.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Communion

Sunday, December 24th at 7:00 p.m. This is a family friendly service of lessons, inspirational readings and carols. All are welcome to attend.

Christmas Day service will be held at Parkwood Mennonite Home in the Auditorium beginning at 10:00 a.m. Come join with the residents in celebrating the birth of our Lord. Worship will be led by Rev. Catherine Hunsberger.



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.