

# **Sunday, December 17, 2017**

## **Advent 3**



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

Virgen De Guadalupe , Mexican image, Artist unknown

VOL. 30 NO. 48

WATERLOO-KITCHENER UNITED MENNONITE CHURCH

15 George Street, Waterloo, ON N2J 1K6

Telephone: 519-578-0660

E-mail: [office@wkumchurch.ca](mailto:office@wkumchurch.ca)

[www.wkumchurch.ca](http://www.wkumchurch.ca)

Staff: Pastor Ben Cassels

E-mail: [rev.cassels.ben@gmail.com](mailto:rev.cassels.ben@gmail.com)

Phone: 519-588-0939

Karen Watson - Parish Nurse – [parish.nurse@wkumchurch.ca](mailto:parish.nurse@wkumchurch.ca)

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](mailto:laura@wkumchurch.ca)

Katharine Borch – Office Administrator – [office@wkumchurch.ca](mailto:office@wkumchurch.ca)

Andrew Tubb – Church Custodian – [andrewtubb@gmail.com](mailto: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 17, 2017 9:30 a.m.*

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Worship Leader: Stephanie Martin White

Speaker: Rev. Chip Bender

Congregational Prayer: Karen Watson

Accompanist: Karen Enns, Ryan Légère

Scripture Readers : Steph Martin White, Laura Enns

Prayer Shawl Blessing: Vicki Dick

Nursery Volunteer: Hertha 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:** *Our willing surrender to God will create a revolution that has political, economic, and personal ramifications.*

## **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!

**All:** ***O God, you amaze us with your promise to build up the ancient ruins.***



***You say you will replace the ashes of the past with garlands of beauty.***

***Your bold vision dazzles our doubting souls.***

*(Pause for silence)*

Leader: Quiet our questions.

**All:** ***Lead us beyond our fears, and guide us on the path of peace.***

Leader: Let it be whole.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Hymn: "O come, O come Immanuel" vs. 1,3,5,6

HWB # 172

Prayer of Invocation

## PRAISING

Scripture Lesson I: Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11 (Old Testament) page 536

Hymn: *"My soul cries out"*

STS # 124

### 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

Hymn: *"My soul proclaims with wonder"*

HWB # 181

## 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

### Blessing of Prayer Shawls

Scripture Lesson II: Luke 1: 39-55 (New Testament) page 43

Sermon **"Revolutionary Surrender"**

## RESPONDING

Hymn of Response: *"God of the Bible"*

STJ # 27

### Confession/Words of Assurance

**All: O God of peace,  
your justice wells up like a spring bringing dreams,  
laughter, and wholeness to the world.**

**We confess we so often stifle your Spirit.**

**We are afraid to claim that you anointed us**

*to carry your upside-down vision into our broken world,  
where the lowly are trampled upon,  
the hungry go away empty,  
the rich increase in power and might.*

*We confess we lack the courage to build up  
and repair what we have broken, imprisoned, and  
oppressed.*

*Forgive us when we do not catch your vision.*

*Lead us beyond our fears,  
and guide us on the path to peace.*

(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

Postlude

### **Prayer and Anointing:**

*Following the service, those who wish may remain in the sanctuary for a time of quiet prayer and reflection. Karen Watson will be available at the front for anointing and prayer for your individual need or for others. Congregational greetings are in the lower foyer.*

***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!



**A very special welcome** to our guest speaker today! After spending 14 years working in pastoral ministry and another 5 years working with people who struggle with mental health and addiction issues, Chip Bender currently works as a self-employed carpenter, a spiritual director, a coach for MCEC's Transition into Ministry program and a retreat leader. He lives in Kitchener with his wife, Wendy Janzen, and their two school-aged children.

*Thanks for your message to us today.*

## TODAY AT W-K

- 9:30 a.m. Worship  
10:00 a.m. Sunday School for Children  
Prayer and Anointing following  
worship  
10:30 a.m. Coffee Break  
10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School – Youth Room  
7:00 p.m. Peace on Earth – W-KUM Christmas Choir Concert



### Next Sunday – December 24, 2017 – Advent 4

- 9:00 a.m. *Choir Rehearsal*  
9:30 a.m. *Worship Service* Pastor Ben Cassels  
Lectionary *2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16* Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26  
Readings: *Romans 16: 25-27* Luke 1: 26-38  
*No Sunday School this week.*  
10:30 a.m. *Coffee Break*  
7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Communion

## 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

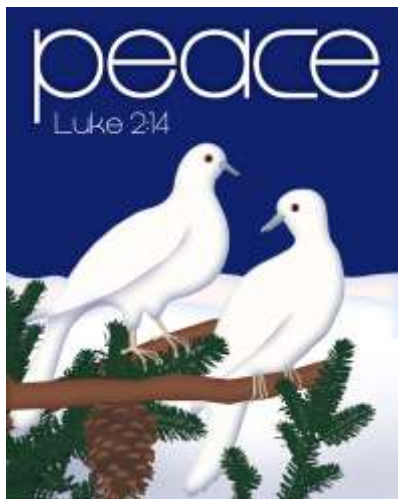
***Waterloo Mennonite Homes – Tuesday, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.***

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

**Financial Report:** Thank you for your offering of December 10<sup>th</sup>

## This Week at W-K

Monday, December 18	2:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Christmas Party at WMH
Tuesday, December 19	Noon – 2:00 p.m.	Office Closed for Staff Lunch
Wednesday, December 21	10:00 a.m.	WALC group - gym
Sunday, December 24	9:30 a.m.	Regular Worship
	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve service with Communion
Monday, December 25	10:00 p.m.	Christmas Service at Parkwood



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

- **Please join us for a Christmas cookie reception in the gym following the concert.**

**Attention George St Fellowship, Servettes and anyone else interested!**  
 On Monday, December 18 at 2:00 p.m., the GSF and Servettes will again combine to hold their annual **Carol Sing at Waterloo Mennonite Homes** as part of Servettes monthly Tea Party. You are invited to join this time of carolling, fellowship and light refreshments. Please bring a plate of cookies if you are able.



## CHRISTMAS CAROLS



**Reading the Bible with Jesus:** Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 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>  
See the flyer in your mailboxes this morning.

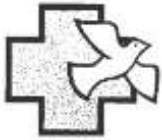
### **It is time to update the W-KUM Phone Directory**

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. A check mark beside your name in the directory will indicate that everything is correct. We hope to have the new directory printed early in January.



**Annual Reports from all ministry teams** are due by December 31<sup>st</sup> for inclusion in the 2017 Annual Report booklet. These can be submitted to Katharine in the office by email at [office@wkumchurch.ca](mailto: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.





### Healthy Reflections – Body, Mind and Spirit

## JOY!



*Make a joyful noise all the earth... break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Make music to the Lord with the harp... with the harp and with the sound of singing. (Psalm 98:4-5)*

Too often, we think joy has to be something really big, a brass band or a parade perhaps..... the trumpets of heaven sounding joy and praise.....

Just as easily and perhaps far more often, we can feel joy in the simple things.... a hug or the squeeze of hand; don't we see joy in a smile or hear it in the laughter of children?

Help us Lord, to not overlook the simple joys that peek into our lives and into our hearts every day.

### Health and Wellness Church Programs:

- **TODAY** – Prayer and Anointing in the Sanctuary following worship.
- **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! Last class before Christmas is December 21<sup>st</sup>. Classes resume on Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>.

## WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

**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).

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**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.



**St. John's Lutheran Church** presents a **Service of Lessons and Carols** this afternoon, December 17<sup>th</sup> 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.*

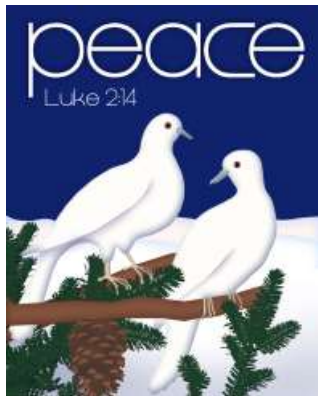


**Dennis Wikerd Retirement Celebration** will take place on Sunday, January 14, 2018 from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. Please join us to celebrate Dennis' contribution over almost 40 years of teaching at Rockway.

### **Silver Lake Mennonite Camp**

**Fathers and Kids Retreat** – *January 12-14, 2018 at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp.* Don't miss out on this great winter experience! Skating on the lake, building snowmen and igloos, snowshoeing through the woods, roasting smore's over the campfire, playing board games and mini-sticks in the dining hall and watching Hockey Night in Canada on the big screen! Dad's enjoy some free-time on Saturday morning on the couches by the fire (newspapers and coffee will be in abundance) while our staff provide some outdoor programming with the kids. Sounds too good to be true we know, but that's the Fathers & Kids Retreat. NOTE: Father can be defined as any male adult role model or mentor. For more information and to register visit [www.slmc.ca/retreats](http://www.slmc.ca/retreats) or call 519-422-3200

## 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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