

Sunday, December 24, 2017

Advent 4



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

Tikhvin icon of the Mother of God, Russian Orthodox

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WATERLOO-KITCHENER UNITED MENNONITE CHURCH

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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 24, 2017 9:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Vicki Dick

Speaker: Pastor Ben Cassels

Congregational Prayer: Pastor Ben Cassels

Accompanist: Karen Enns

Scripture Readers : Nancy Pauls

Choir: Laura Enns

Nursery Volunteer:

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: *Infused with God's vision, we proclaim with confidence, "Let it be with us according to your word!"*

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: Yes!

The invitation to carry Light comes to each of us, no matter who we are.

All: ***O God, you choose to dwell within us.***

You promise to move about with us until we find our rest in you.

Leader: Your call seems risky;
saying yes takes away our breath.

All: ***Yet we know your faithfulness and steadfast love endure forever.***

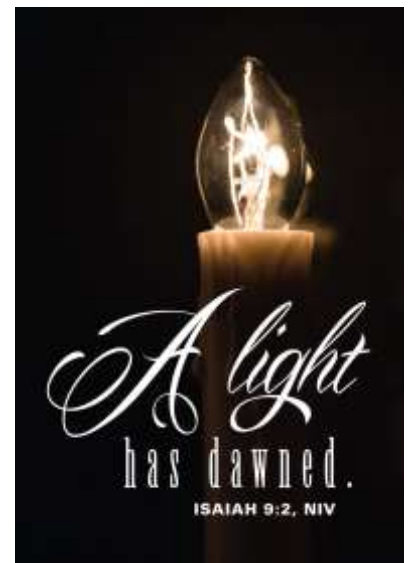
Leader: You are our strength.

All: ***Yes! Let it be now.***

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Hymn: *"Oh, how shall I receive thee"*

Prayer of Invocation



HWB # 182

PRAISING

Scripture Lesson I: 2 Samuel 7: 1-11 (Old Testament) page 219

Hymn: *"Hail to the Lord's anointed"*

HWB # 185

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: *No wind at the window* J. Bell, arr. M. Haugen

STS # 11

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: Luke 1: 26-38 (New Testament)

page 43

Sermon **"Yes! Let it be now"**

RESPONDING

Hymn of Response: *"Oh, how joyfully"*

HWB # 209

Confession/Words of Assurance

**All: O God of blessing and joy,
your favour rests upon us, and our souls magnify you.**

**We sing of your steadfast love
and proclaim your faithfulness.**

**We confess we often lack complete trust,
walking in our own strength,**

***building our own houses, instead of joining you
in turning ruins into abundance.***

***We are terrified and overcome by fear,
wondering, "How will we know?"
and pondering, "How can this be?"***

***We are afraid to claim and proclaim
that nothing is impossible
when your power overshadows us,
when your Spirit comes upon us.***

***We find it hard to let go and say,
"Here I am, the servant of the Lord;
let it be with me according to your
word."***

Forgive us.

(Pause for silence)

Leader: O God, Emmanuel,
in Jesus, the Christ, you have come among us.
You have given us 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



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 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.

Next Sunday – December 31, 2017

9:30 a.m.	<i>Worship Service</i>	<i>Jake Martin White</i>
Lectionary	<i>Isaiah 61: 10 – 62:3</i>	<i>Psalm 148</i>
Readings:	<i>Galatians 4: 4-7</i>	<i>Luke 2: 22-40</i>
<u><i>No Sunday School this week.</i></u>		

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.

Please note: The Church Office will be closed December 25 – 28th, and on January 2nd. Regular hours resume on January 3, 2018.

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

Please note: There will be no clinics during the week of December 25 – 29. Regular clinic hours resume on January 2, 2018.

Financial Report: Thank you for your offering of December 17th

The first Lunch Bunch for 2018 will be held on Wednesday, January 3rd at 12:30 p.m. at Homestyle Diner, 504 Albert Street in Waterloo. This is open to all women of the church. If you've never come, maybe now is the time! Come and enjoy a relaxed and fun time over lunch.



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

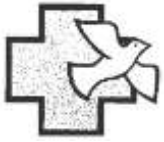
Gospel of Luke through the eyes of Jesus.

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.



Healthy Reflections – Body, Mind and Spirit

LOVE!

Jesus on Love....from The Message

“Teacher, which command in God’s Law is the most important?” Jesus said, “Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence.’ This is the most important, the first on any list. But there is a second to set alongside it: ‘Love other as well as you love yourself.’ These two commands are pegs; everything in God’s Law and the Prophets hangs from them.”



This season is joyous – it is celebratory. It is also a challenge for many due to the circumstances of their lives. Let us be present with those who find this season difficult.

Share love – share it generously and abundantly. Someone that you meet today needs to know that they are loved. Remember God’s grace and generosity towards us.

A baby is born – Christ the Messiah – Immanuel – God with us

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! Classes resume on Thursday, January 11th.



Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas

Katharine Borch
Laura Enns

Andrew Tubb
Be Cault
Karen Watson

From the staff at W-KUM Church