



# Osler Mennonite Church

*A Welcoming Community for Peace  
Following Jesus on the Path of Reconciliation*

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**10:00 a.m. Worship Service**

**December 3, 2023**

*First Advent Sunday and Hanging of the Greens*

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome/Land Acknowledgement/Announcements**

## **Call to Worship**

Leader: O God, tear open the heavens and come down  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence!

**Women: No one has heard,**

**Men: no ear has perceived,**

*All: no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for you.*

Leader: No one knows when the time will come.

*All: How long must we wait? (pause)*

*All: Together we wait.*

## **Prayer of Invocation**

**Gathering Hymns: VT #218 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

## **Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 2:2-5**

One: In the days to come the mountain of God's house shall be  
established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hill;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many people shall come and say:

**Many: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that God may teach us God's ways  
and that we may walk in God's paths."**

One: "For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,

and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.  
He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning-hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more

**Many: “O house of Jacob, people of OMC,  
come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!”**

**Hymn: VT #217 Hark! The Glad Sound**

One: How shall we prepare this house for the birth of Jesus?

**Many: With branches of cedar,  
the tree of excellence and strength.**

One: How shall we prepare this house for the eternal Christ?

**Many: With garlands of pine and fir,  
whose leaves are ever living, ever green.**

One: How shall we prepare this house for the prophet of Galilee?

**Many: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion,  
death and resurrection.**

One: How shall we prepare our hearts for this revelation of God?

**Many: By hearing again the words of the prophets  
and the promises of God.**

One: In acts of hanging greens  
and listening to the words of prophets and seers,  
let us make our hearts and this space,  
a place of inward and outward preparation for Jesus,  
Emmanuel, God With Us, the One who comes  
to give us second birth.

**Many: Thanks be to God.**

**Children’s Gathering Song & Lighting of Advent Candle**

VT #211 Hope Is a Candle *vs 1*

**Hanging of the Greens:** Adeline/Lynette

**Offering / Offering prayer / Choir**

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns / Prayer of the Church**

Prayers –thanksgiving for cease-fire in Gaza and hostage release  
-inner and world peace this Advent season

**Hymn VT #225****Love Came Down at Christmas****Gospel Reading:** Mark 13:24-37

“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens  
will be shaken.

“Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great  
power and glory. Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect  
from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender  
and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when  
you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very  
gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these  
things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words  
will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven  
nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert, for you do not  
know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey,  
when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work,  
and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep  
awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in  
the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, or else he may  
find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to  
all: Keep awake.”

**Scripture Response:**

Leader: For the Word of God in Scripture,  
For the Word of God among us,  
For the Word of God within us,

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Hymn: VT #225****We Come****Sermon:****Hope in Jesus****Hymn: VT #220****Prepare the Way! The Prophet Called**

**Benediction:** No one knows when the time will come. So go! Keep  
alert, strengthened by God’s faithfulness to you.

\*Offerings can be done via e-transfer to [osler.mc.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:osler.mc.treasurer@gmail.com)

**TODAY'S WORSHIP**      **December 3**    *First Advent Sunday*

Speaker: Luke Bushman    Worship Leader: Adeline

Song Leader: Loretta      Accompanist: Melanie

Story Time: Adeline    Sound: Doug    Ushers: Bill/Anna

**Office Hours:** 8:30 am – 12:30 pm Wednesday and Friday

**Patty's Week:** Tues. sermon; Weds. office; Fri. Office

**Luke's Week:** Mon. Exec mtg; Wed MCKS mtg; Thurs. KCC; Fri. Office; Sun. NPMC

**Birthdays:** 3 – Theresa Loewen; 4 – Rachel Clark; 6 – Braden Martens-Funk

**Friday:** coffee is on every Friday in the church office – 10:00 a.m.

**Gathering Room Coffee Schedule:** Dec 3 – Patty  
10 – George  
17 - Julie

**NEXT SUNDAY**      **December 10**    *Second Advent Sunday*

Speaker: Patty Friesen      Worship Leader: Henry Funk

Song Leaders: Ben, Dayna      Accompanist: Naomi

Story Time: Lynette    Sound: Matthew    Ushers: Lloyd/Harold

**CALENDAR**

**Dec 3 10:00 am Luke Bushman speaking**    *First Sunday of Advent*

**Dec 10 10:00 am** Patty Friesen speaking    *Second Sunday of Advent*

**Dec 17 10:00 am** Christmas Program

**Dec 24 No 10:00 am Service**

**7:00 pm Candlelight Service**

**Dec 31 10:00 am Patty Friesen speaking** Communion

11:00 am Borscht & New Year's Cookies followed by games

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TODAY:** Warman Community Band Concert at 2:30 at the Warman Home Centre Communiplex. Admission by donation. *There are members of our congregation playing in this band.*

**December 3: Forest Church @ Shekinah** 3pm. Join Amy Peters around the fire to begin the Advent season in outdoor worship. All are welcome!

**You are invited** to join a Sunday morning choir that will sing during Advent. "Impromptu" rehearsals start at 9:00 a.m. every Sunday, December 3rd to 24th, to sing one (maybe two) songs each Sunday morning to celebrate the season.

**Please sign a card for Jacob Friesen** who will be celebrating his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Jacob was commissioned as a missionary to Japan where he met and married Junko. They now live in Kelowna. Jacob appreciates the monthly Newsletter and maintains a connection to Osler Mennonite Church.

**Obit notice** – Rev David Friesen who served this congregation in the 80s' passed away November 21 in Winnipeg. His full obit is posted on the bulletin board

**Pickle ball** Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

**Forever in Motion** - free drop-in classes every Tuesday and Friday 10:00 am at the Community Hall

### **Calendar of Events**

**Sunday, December 31** 10:00 a.m. Communion Service: Jesus Born into Community

11:00 a.m. Borscht and New Year's cookies

Bring crokinole and other board games.

**Centering Prayer** will resume Sun. Jan. 7, 9:15 Room 3

**Sunday, January 21**, 10:00 Reimagining Anabaptism by Patty Friesen

11:00 a.m. SS Forum: The White Mosque:

Mennonites and Muslims in Central Asia by Audrey Kampen

**Need some Christmas Music in your Life?** – here's some ideas:

**December 10**, Sunday, 2:30 p.m. Saskatoon Men's Chorus at Knox United Church (Doug McKinnell)

**December 17**, Sunday, 2:00 p.m. Chamber Singers at Knox United Church (Michelle McKinnell)

**December 15**, Friday, 7:30 p.m. Handel's Messiah at Knox United Church (Kathryn, & Lynette Janzen)

**MCC Connects:** Consider giving the gifts of comfort and joy this Christmas season. You can help meet the basic needs of people around the world by choosing from unique gifts such as goats, gardens, wells, and more. Visit MCC's Christmas Giving page to learn more:

[mcc.org/Christmas](http://mcc.org/Christmas)

