



Osler Mennonite Church

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

December 10, 2023

*Second Sunday of Advent
Peace Amid Chaos*

Prelude

Welcome/Land Acknowledgement/Announcements

Call to Worship

L: Blessed are we, the fearful, though we long to be people of peace.
We can't lie: we are afraid.

C: Come Lord, that we might see you, move with you, keep pace with you. We ask that this Advent we might dwell together quietly in our homes.

L: Come, Lord, that we might be for others the peace they cannot find.

C: Come, govern our hearts and calm our fears.

All: Oh Prince of Peace, still our restless selves, calm our anxious hearts, quiet our busy minds.

Prayer of Invocation

Gathering Hymns: VT #267

Together with #268

What Child Is This

Helpless and Hungry

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her

that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”
A voice says, “Cry out!”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”
All flesh is grass; their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers; the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers; the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.
Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!”
See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms
and carry them in his bosom and gently lead the mother sheep.

Children’s Gathering Song & Lighting of Advent Candle

VT #211 Hope Is a Candle *vs 1 & 2*

Stories for all Ages: Patty

Offering / Offering prayer / Choir

Sharing of Joys and Concerns / Prayer of the Church

Prayers – those who grieve infertility or pregnancy losses

-Dave preaching at Aberdeen today

Hymn VT #222

My Soul Proclaims with Wonder

Gospel Reading: *Luke 1:57,58*

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

Luke 2:4-7

Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

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 #220 Prepare the Way! The Prophet Called

Sermon: The Mess of Incarnation

Hymn: VT #215 Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee

Benediction: God of peace, go with us that we might see you, move with you, keep pace with you. Go with us that we might be for others the peace they cannot find. Amen.

*Offerings can be done via e-transfer to osler.mc.treasurer@gmail.com

TODAY'S WORSHIP **December 10** *Second Advent Sunday*

Speaker: Patty Friesen Worship Leader: Henry Funk

Song Leaders: Ben, Dayna Accompanist: Naomi

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

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

Fri. Dec. 22 - closed

Weds. Dec. 27 – closed and no Pickle Ball

Fri. Dec. 29 10:00 - open for coffee with Pastor Luke.

Pickle ball Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

Patty's Week: Tues. Christmas/Epiphany prep; Weds. office; Fri. Office

Luke's Week: Wednesday: NPMC Youth; Thursday: Planning & KCC; Friday: OMC Office Hours; Saturday: OMC Youth; Sunday: OMC Christmas Program, NPMC Christmas Banquet

Birthdays:

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

NEXT SUNDAY December 17 *Christmas Program*
Kids Christmas Worship Leaders: Patty & Luke
Song Leader: Kathryn Accompanist: Lynette
Sound: Keri/James Ushers: Lloyd/Harold

CALENDAR

Dec 10 10:00 am Patty Friesen speaking *Second Sunday of Advent*
Noon – Lunch Bunch at the Osler Cafe

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

Jan 5 2:00 pm Epiphany Party @ Bethany Manor

Jan 7 10:00 am Luke Bushman speaking

Thanks: to Matthew Stefaniuk for working on the installation of the back screen.

-to Melanie and Kathryn for the Advent decorating.

Advent Art Piece MC Canada Advent design made by Gordon Allaby and Cheryl Haas sometime before 2014.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

You are invited to join a Sunday morning choir that will sing during Advent. "Impromptu" rehearsals start at 9:00 a.m. every Sunday.

Last Sunday to sign a card for Jacob Friesen who will be celebrating his 100th birthday on December 22nd. Jacob, a member of our

congregation 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 OMC.

Community Connections invites us to a *Christmas Giving Project* to Friendship Inn. *Cash* or below is their Wish List:

- Mustard
- Powdered soup bases (beef and chicken)
- Vanilla
- Dried seasonings: Bay leaf, Garlic Plus, pepper, parsley, lemon pepper, dill, thyme, rosemary, sage, cumin and garam masala
- Non-stick cooking spray, or canola oil
- Diapers, Pull-ups and wipes
- Baby formula
- *Compassion Project items*: tooth brushes & paste, deodorant, feminine pads, men's & women's razors, shampoo & conditioner

CC will also be gifting \$500 in Osler store vouchers locally.
Please consider the work of the church in your year-end giving.

Year End Giving: Thank you for your continued support of the church's finances. Please note that the *last day* to submit donations to the church in order to be receipted in 2023 is December 31. This year, December 31 falls on a Sunday, so you can provide cash or cheque in the offering that morning, or send e-transfers anytime that day to osler.mc.treasurer@gmail.com. Please contact Christy with any questions at 306-381-9487.

Financial update: As of October 31, we are \$25,000 short on budgeted giving. November financial reports are still being finalized, but donations do not appear to have increased significantly from other months. Church programs, staff, and volunteers continue to do great work for the church and community. *From our Treasurer*

In Preparation for our AGM scheduled for February 10th, Committee chairs are asked to email their reports for the AGM Booklet to Loretta by January 8th.

Calendar of Events

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

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

December 14, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Nutana Park Mennonite Children's choir @ Bethany Manor (Oliva Martens, Anna Neufeld)

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

December 16, Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Singalong Messiah, Knox United Church

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

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

Epiphany Party @Bethany Manor - Friday, Jan. 5, 2:00 p.m. Meet in old dining hall to walk or scooter to OMC suites to collect a Bible verse or a candy and back to dining hall for coffee and carols. If you live at Bethany and are willing to give out a Bible verse or a candy to the wise guys looking for the Christ child, or need a scooter, please let Pastor Patty know. All non-Bethanyites welcome!

MCC Connects: Warm up for the winter and help support MCC's relief, development and peace work by participating in our quilt sale- now at 50% off! Each of these beautiful quilts have been sewn by generous donors and you can explore the collection of quilts at this link:

<http://www.mccskquiltsale.com>

MC Sask Update:

A Very Shekinah Christmas December 10 @ 3 pm The North Sky Chorale directed by Richard Janzen is bringing the program. A joint choir from Rosthern and Eigenheim will also be participating. There will be a formal farewell for Ron and Sue. Admission by donation. Goodies to follow. (Updated)

December 19 Tuesday, 7:00pm **RJC** Christmas Concert | Join us in celebrating the Christmas season with the RJC Christmas Concert. In the RJC Auditorium. Admission by donation. Live-stream option will be available.

