

MCC Connects: This Christmas give a gift that gives back! The 2020 MCC Christmas catalogue has gifts of all shapes and sizes that help change lives across the globe. Share these gifts of comfort and joy with your family and friends and help make a difference. View our online catalogue at <https://mcccanada.ca/christmas#!> or call the MCC office at 306.665.2555.

OMC CALENDAR

Dec 14 Kid's weekly Bible School zoom 7:00 pm
Dec 16 Blue Christmas Zoom 7:00 pm
Dec 17 Youth weekly Group / Bible School zoom, 7:00 pm
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Facebook only service 7:00 pm

Upcoming In Sanctuary & Facebook Live Sunday Services:

Dec. 20, Fourth Advent: Singing Service and Children's Video Program
Dec. 24, 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service on OMC Facebook only
Dec. 27: Christmas Sunday: Anna in the Temple; Julian in the Anchor-hold by Patty Friesen

Worship Leader: Patty Friesen Children's Time: Jake Buhler
Pianist: Melanie Boldt Sound: Matthew Stefaniuk
Song Leaders: Loretta Sawatzky, Michelle McKinnell, Alex Tiessen
Ushers: Lloyd Sawatzky, Harold Loewen

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0
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Church Office – 306-239-2133

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website: <http://oslermennonitechurch.org>

We gather on Treaty Six Lands, Nehiyaw Territory, and the Homeland of the Métis.



Osler Mennonite Church

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

Third Advent
On the road to restoration

Prelude
Welcome, Announcements

10:00 a.m. Worship Service December 13, 2020

Call to worship: *(Adapted from Psalm 126:2-60)*

Leader: The Lord has done great things for us, and so we rejoice!

People: Our mouths are filled with laughter, and our tongues with shouts of joy.

Leader: Those who sow in tears will reap shouts of joy.

People: Those who go out weeping will come home with shouts of joy.

(Lighting 3 Advent Candles)

All: The Lord has done great things for us—we rejoice!

Hymn: Blue/HWB #189 “To us a Child of hope is born”

Children's Advent Gathering Song: **Gloria #204 HWB**

Children's Time: Jake Buhler

Offering Prayer and Offertory

Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church

Hymn: Blue/HWB #190 “‘Twas in the moon of wintertime”

Gospel Reading: John 1:6-8, 19-24 (The Inclusive Bible)

Then came one named John, sent as an envoy from God, 7 who came as a witness to testify about the Light, so that through his testimony everyone might believe. 8 He himself wasn't the Light; he

only came to testify about the Light—the 9 true Light that illumines all humankind.

Now the Temple authorities sent emissaries from Jerusalem—priests and Levites—to talk to John. “Who are you?” they asked.

This is John’s testimony: 20 he didn’t refuse to answer, but freely admitted, “I am not the Messiah.” 21 “Who are you, then?” they asked. “Elijah?” “No, I am not,” he answered. “Are you the Prophet?” “No,” he replied. 22 Finally they said to him, “Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you have to say for yourself?” 23 John said, “I am, as Isaiah prophesied, the voice of someone crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight our God’s road!’ ” 24 The emissaries were members of the Pharisee sect. 25 They questioned him further: “If you’re not the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet, then why are you baptizing people?” 26 John said, “I baptize with water because among you stands someone whom you don’t recognize— 27 the One who is to come after me—the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy even to untie.” 28 This occurred in Bethany, across the Jordan River, where John was baptizing.

Response to the Scripture:

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: Blue/HWB #178 “Come thou long expected Jesus”

Reflection on scripture: Alex Tiessen, Benjamin Penner, Micah Guenther

Hymn: Blue/HWB #208 “Love came down Christmas”

Benediction: People of God, people on the road: May the God of peace sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and will do this. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Go in peace.

Patty’s week: Tues. worship prep; Wed: office; Fri: office.

Patty is available for in-person masked visits at the church office Weds, Fridays or phone/Zoom calls anytime. Patty will not be in church office Dec. 21-Jan. 2 but in church Dec. 27, Jan.3.

Nora’s Week: working Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sun.

THIS WEEK:

Mon. Dec 14: Kids Bible School zoom 7:00 pm

Wed, Dec 16: Blue Christmas Zoom Service 7:00 pm

Thurs, Dec 17: Youth Group / Bible School on Zoom, 7:00 pm

NEXT SUNDAY: Dec 20: Fourth Advent: Singing Service and Children's Video Program

Worship Leader: Nora Pederberg Children’s Time: Lynette Janzen
Pianist: Naomi Schellenberg Sound: Doug McKinnell
Song Leaders: Lynette Janzen, Kathryn Janzen, Ben Buhler
Ushers: Lloyd Sawatzky, Harold Loewen

Remember in Prayer:

Margaret Dyck’s brother in hospital in Winnipeg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*There a drop off box at the church for people wishing to donate items for the **Christmas food hampers.**

***Zoom Blue Christmas Service, Wed, December 16th 7:00 pm**

A short, contemplative service to acknowledge that Christmas can be a time of grief, sadness and loss - in our own lives and in the world. We will join in scripture, music and prayer in an honest but hope-filled way be present to the darkness that accompanies us in this season. Zoom

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86915856288?pwd=bkt6NWpVSUIGUTd4Z1hEZEExzSW0yQT09>

Meeting ID: 869 1585 6288

Passcode: OMC

***The new Hymnals are here! If you have pre-paid for a personal copy,** you can call or email the church office and Loretta will set them out in the foyer for you. Merry Christmas to us all!

***Student Bursary Fund:** The Bursary fund was started by a donation from the Estate of Rev. Corney Boldt for students who will be attending one of our church schools. Originally, it was a once in a lifetime bursary of \$500.00 per student. In 2016 the bursary was changed to be up to **twice in a lifetime**. One bursary is available for a student when attending a Mennonite high school and one bursary when attending a Mennonite college or university. The bursaries will be made available for as long as there is money in the fund. To qualify the applicant or its parents must be members of Osler Mennonite Church or must have been active in the church program for the past three years. If you qualify, please obtain a form from the office and submit it to either Doug McKinnell, Margret Boldt or Adeline Cox.

***OMC December Outdoor Activities** with safe distancing and weather permitting (306-260-6069)
Sun. Dec. 20, 1-3 p.m. Ski Warman trails - meet at Lions Park, 9 Ave North.
Sun. Dec. 27, 1-3 p.m. Skate around Osler tree 2nd Ave.
Sun. Jan. 3, 1-3 p.m. Snowshoe Shekinah trails by chalet with campfire ring. \$10/day use
Let Pastor Patty know if interested 306-260-6069,
oslermcpastor@sasktel.net

***Wednesday Wellness Zoom Check-Ins with Deacons' Care Groups.** Julie's group: Weds. Dec. 23, 7:00 p.m., Wilf's group: Weds. Dec. 30, 7:00 p.m., Frieda's group: Mon. Dec. 28, 7:00 p.m. for Frieda's 75th birthday party. Zoom links are the same so if you want to see other people you are missing, please join in.
And then, Save the Date: Deacons' Fab Feb 7 Faspa @ 5:00pm.
A frozen faspa could be delivered to your door and Zoom eating with other church folks. Don't need to have Zoom on computer; you can call in or just eat with rest of church in spirit. **To order your faspa: call/email/text Patty, oslermcpastor@sasktel.net, 306-260-6069.**

***Mosaic Sunday School class:** Every Sunday at 11:00am via Zoom. The password is: Mosaic. **This is a NEW link:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87212174301> Meeting ID: 872 1217 4301

***2020 Sunday School Christmas Giving Project: Lina Refugee Fund.** Through Advent and at Christmas Eve pre-recorded service, we will be receiving gifts for Lina Al-Nouris Refugee Fund in anticipation of their arrival in the new year. Please pray for Lina, Ayiat, Hajar, Hussein, Abdal, and Mohammed as they prepare for their new life in Saskatoon. Please also check out <http://www.oslermennonitechurch.org> for an updated list of household items also needed.
Contact Sandra Grismer (306-380-4576; sgrismer1@sasktel.net) if you can donate, pledge to provide, or have questions.

***You are invited to spend A Very Shekinah Christmas with Shekinah Retreat Centre!** Join us online for 12 Days of Christmas, starting December 13 and ending Christmas Eve. Enjoy stories, music, and singing with the Shekinah board, with Friends of Shekinah, and with the Shekinah staff. And maybe a little "dummheit" (silliness in English). See our website for more information: <https://shekinah.ca/events/2020/a-very-shekinah-christmas>

***RJC Christmas Program: There Is Still Hope** - This online event will be held on Thursday, December 17, 7:30pm (SK CST) at <https://rjc.sk.ca/christmas>. The program will feature music, art, and other items of hope and celebration by RJC students and staff.

***From the Re-opening and Executive committees:**
If you can use live stream to connect with the worship service, we would ask you to stay home and connect virtually through Facebook. If you are not on Facebook, due to the 30 person limit (for us it would be 20 people plus the worship team), **people attending in person are required to register with Loretta by Friday NOON so we know who can be accommodated that week. You can email the church office at oslermcoffice@sasktel.net or text Loretta at 306-281-2237.**