



# Osler Mennonite Church

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

## OMC CALENDAR

- Nov 30 Education committee zoom meeting 7:00 pm  
Kid's weekly Bible School zoom 7:00 pm
- Dec 2 Executive zoom meeting 6:00 pm;  
Council zoom meeting 7:00 pm
- Dec 3 Community Connections Committee zoom mtg 7:00 pm  
Youth weekly Group / Bible School zoom, 7:00 pm
- Dec 16 Blue Christmas Zoom 7:00 pm
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Facebook only service 7:00 pm

## Upcoming In Sanctuary & Facebook Live Sunday Services:

- Nov. 29, First Advent Communion: On the Road to Readiness by Patty Friesen
- Dec. 6, Second Advent: On the Road to Repentance by George Janzen
- Dec. 13, Third Advent: On the Road to Restoration by Alex Tiessen, Benjamin Penner and Micah Guenther
- 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: In the Anchor-hold: Julian of Norwich and Self-Isolation by Patty Friesen

Worship Leader: Julie Bergen      Pianist: Lynette Janzen  
 Children's Time: Marlene Campbell      Sound: Doug McKinnell  
 Song Leaders: Kathryn Janzen, Ben Buhler, Lynette Janzen  
 Ushers: Bill Peters, Anna Peters

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.

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

November 29, 2020

Advent Communion Sunday  
*On the road to readiness*

Prelude  
Welcome, Announcements

Call to Worship: Adapted from Isaiah 64:1, 6, 9; Psalm 80:3  
Leader: O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence.

**People: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Leader: We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

**People: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Leader: Do not remember our iniquity forever.

*Lighting of the Advent candle*

**All: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Invocation: God of Advent, in the darkest days and nights of the year, our hearts turn toward your promised light. With the first faint glimmer of a single candle dancing into the light of many bright flames, our hope is ignited once more. In these Advent days, lead us in your light to a manger where the face of God shines bright and clear. Amen.

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #588      "Jesus the very thought of thee"**

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

Children's Time: Marlene Campbell

Offering Prayer/Offertory

Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #551 “In the stillness of the evening”**

Gospel Reading: Mark 13:24-37 (The Inclusive Bible)

“ But in those days, after that time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, 25 the stars will fall from the sky and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. 26 Then they will see the Promised One coming in the clouds with great power and glory; 27 then the angels will be sent to gather the chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. 28 “Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. 29 In the same way, when you see these things happening, know that the Promised One is near, right at the door. 30 The truth is, before this generation has passed away, all these things will have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 32 “But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it—neither the angels of heaven, nor the Only Begotten—no one but Abba God. 33 Be constantly on the watch! Stay awake! You do not know when the appointed time will come. 34 “It is like people traveling abroad. They leave their home and put the workers in charge, each with a certain task, and those who watch at the front gate are ordered to stay on the alert. 35 So stay alert! You do not know when the owner of the house is coming, whether at dusk, at midnight, when the cock crows or at early dawn. 36 Do not let the owner come suddenly and catch you asleep. 37 What I say to you, I say to all: stay alert!”

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (The Inclusive Bible)

3 Grace and peace from our Loving God and our Savior Jesus Christ. 4 I continually thank my God for you because of the gift bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, 5 in whom you have been richly endowed with every gift of speech and knowledge. 6 In the same way, the testimony about Christ has been so confirmed among you 7 that you lack no spiritual gift, as you wait for the revelation of our Savior Jesus Christ. 8 God will strengthen you to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Savior Jesus Christ. 9 God, through whom you have been called into intimacy with Jesus our Savior, is faithful.

**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 #204 “Gloria”**

Communion Reflection

Communion Response:

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**People: who made the heavens and the earth.**

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*All: Amen.*

Special Music: Come Healing

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #178 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”**

Communion Reflection

**Communion Response:**

Leader: These prayers we offer in the words Christ himself has taught us:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen!**

For those on-line, please hold your communion bread and for those in sanctuary, as carefully as you can, please peel off the communion wafer and you can put the juice part in the holders in the back of the pews.

Let us pray:

*Almighty God, you have poured into us the new light of your incarnate Word. Send your Holy Spirit to us so that this light,*

**\*From the Re-opening and Executive committees:** As we are all aware, the number of COVID cases in Saskatchewan is on the rise. For that reason, we are reminding people of some of the procedures we are using to maintain as safe a church as possible.

1. Properly fitted and worn masks are mandatory. The science on wearing these is very clear. It helps.
2. Please sit ON the green tape. The tape was placed on the benches to insure we maintain at least 2 metres from each other. Even sitting as close to the aisle as possible for tape on the sides and as close to the middle as possible for the tape in the middle of the benches will help keep the proper physical distancing.
3. Please bring your coat with you into the sanctuary and not use the coat racks. This will help relieve the congestion in the lobby.

**We have added some additional guidelines:**

We have new restrictions in place that adhere to the new regulations that the Saskatchewan Government has set up for churches. As a result, we are asking you to do the following:

1. **If you can use live stream to connect with the worship service, we would ask you to stay home and connect virtually through Facebook.** The church service is still open for in person worship for those who want or need to attend in person for technological or spiritual reasons.
2. 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](mailto:oslermcoffice@sasktel.net) or text Loretta at 306-281-2237.**
3. Visiting is an important part of church and it is getting colder outside, but we cannot clog up the lobby or the front entrance pad. So we are saying **“Thanks for caring by not lingering in the lobby or outside the door”**. The multi-purpose room is available after church. **Please move into the multi-purpose room to have your physically distanced visits.** If we continue to clog up the lobby, we will be required to directly exit the building after church in order to maintain proper social distancing. We would much rather you have the opportunity to visit in the warmth of the church in the multi-purpose room.

*enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives.* Let us eat together in silence. In the same way, let us hold our cups at home and carefully hold them while we pray.

*Give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; and also on the last day where the Lamb will be our light forever. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.* Let us drink.

**Hymn of Response: Green/SJ #95 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”**

Benediction: 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, will do this. **All: Alleluia! Amen.**

**Patty’s week:** Tues: Advent prep; Wed: office, exec, council; 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, Sun.

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**THIS WEEK:**

- Mon. Nov 30: **Kids Bible School zoom 7:00 pm**
- Mon. Nov 30: **Education committee zoom meeting 7:00 pm**
- Thurs, Dec 3: **Youth Group / Bible School on Zoom, 7:00 pm**
- Thurs, Dec 3: **Community Connections zoom meeting 7:00 pm**

**NEXT SUNDAY: Dec 3:** George Janzen preaching  
Worship Leader: Terry Stefaniuk Children’s Time: Adeline Cox  
Pianist: Naomi Schellenberg Sound: Stephanie Siemens  
Song Leaders: Ben Buhler, Michelle McKinnell, Loretta Sawatzky  
Ushers: Lloyd Sawatzky, Harold Loewen

### Remember in Prayer:

-thanksgiving for vaccine            -communion blessing

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

\***Congratulations to Sandra MacArthur.** Her dedication as a Canadian Red Cross volunteer, helping others in the midst of disaster, was recognized in a virtual ceremony on November 25, during which she received the Order of the Red Cross.

\***A big thanks** to the stunning Advent decorating by Melanie, Lynette, Kevin and Adam!

\***Nominations committee** is looking for representatives for Warman MCC Thrift Store, CFGB and MDS. Also if anyone is interested in joining the **Community Connections Committee or Deacons Committee** please contact Doug, Michelle, Kathy Braun, or Loretta.

\***Christmas Food Hampers:** If you know of local families in need of a Christmas hamper this year, please contact Diane McKinnell, our Community Connections Committee chairperson, at 306-221-9016 by December 1.

\***Wednesday Wellness @1:00 Zoom Check-Ins with Deacons' Care Groups.** In the coming weeks, congregants will be receiving emailed Zoom invitations to check-in with your deacon and a few others from the congregation whom you may miss. Those without email/Zoom will be phoned. Thank you for your patience as we continue to try to find ways to connect with each other during this time.

\***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

\***Thank you Wildwood MC and Osler MC congregants! You have gifted Lina and her family with the 12 needed bed sheet sets!** Your prompt and caring response was amazing! If you missed this opportunity to support Lina's arrival to Saskatoon, phone/text/email Sandra at 306-380-4576/[sgrismer1@sasktel.net](mailto:sgrismer1@sasktel.net) for other ways you can help.

\***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.oslermannonitechurch.org> for an updated list of household items also needed.

Contact Sandra Grismer (306-380-4576; [sgrismer1@sasktel.net](mailto:sgrismer1@sasktel.net)) if you can donate, pledge to provide, or have questions.

\***Welcome to Kathy Braun as new church Administrative Assistant.** Kathy and Loretta will be transitioning in the next few weeks and Kathy will be taking over in the new year.

### \***Upcoming Event:**

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

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=bkt6NWpVSUJGUTd4Z1hEZExzSW0yQT09>

Meeting ID: 869 1585 6288            Passcode: OMC

\*Advent Resources for individuals and families at [www.commonword.ca/go/2190](http://www.commonword.ca/go/2190).

\*Prayer/Meditation Room 003 available for quiet contemplation with Christmas tree and electric fireplace if you need to get out of your house.

\*In-person worshippers, please check your mailboxes for treats.

**MCC Connects:** We have launched the 2020 MCC Quilt Sale! These quilts are donated by our skilled and very generous donors and are normally auctioned off at the June Relief Sale, which was unfortunately cancelled this year. Follow our [Facebook event page](#) to see all available quilts, as well as our daily quilt feature and promotion! The quilts can also be viewed on our website at <https://mcccana.ca/mcc-saskatchewan-quilt-sale> or feel free to pop by the MCC office in Saskatoon (600 45<sup>th</sup> St W) to see them in our viewing room. If you have any questions, or wish to purchase a quilt, call 306.665.2555.

**\*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>

How is Shekinah doing financially? Check out our website on December 1 to see how we are holding up: <https://shekinah.ca/news/2020/shekinah-update>.

**Save the Date!**  
**2021 MDS ANNUAL CELEBRATION**  
*(formerly All-Unit Meeting)*

Join us online February 6, 2021 as we celebrate the work of MDS volunteers, donors and staff.

Be inspired by stories of hope related to our theme,  
***Unexpected Opportunities, Unexpected Blessings.***

[mds.mennonite.net/annual-celebration](https://mds.mennonite.net/annual-celebration)

**\*RJC Drive-In Christmas Carol Festival** - December 9, 2020 at 7:30pm in the RJC front parking lot. Come enjoy RJC students singing popular Christmas carols on the lawn from the comfort and safety of your own vehicle.

**\*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.