



Osler Mennonite Church

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Together on the Journey: Embodying God's Spirit

Prelude

Welcome/Land Appreciation/Announcements/Focus Statement

Since God exemplifies relationship and covenant, we can trust God to provide companions for the journey. The strength found in community is its own mystery; like a rope of cords braided together, the Spirit entwines us with companions to give us energy, steadiness and joy as we journey together

Advent Candle Lighting

1: Mary was told that she would be the mother to the promised Messiah.

2: And she responded, I am the Lord's servant.

Let it be with me just as you have said.

1: With the courage of Mary, we can accept the journey ahead of us.

2: But we do not need to walk it alone.

1: We need the support of others.

(4 Advent candles lit)

All: With Christ as our center, we join hands with others, walking together on the journey.

Hymn: VT # 241 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Opening Monologue

Call to Worship

L: The Lord is with us, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Come young and old. Let us worship the name of Jesus,
for nothing is impossible with God!

C: Blessed be the name of the Lord, from this time on and forevermore.

L: From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the Lord is to be praised.

C: God is high above all nations. and God's glory above the heavens.

L: Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high, who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? Our God raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes. Praise the Lord!

Prayer of Invocation

**Hymns of Praise: VT #248 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
VT #247 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

First Scripture Reading - Weather Report Skit

Choir

Host 1: We would now like to invite the children to the front for a special report on the progress of the three king's journey to Bethlehem.
Story for All Ages

Offering Prayer/Choir

Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church

Prayers –Will Martens and Harry Martens in hospital over Christmas,
also prayers for their families
-Hasani family as we apply for sponsorship
-Gaza ceasefire

Thanksgiving -for all the Christmas program participants, organizers
Kathryn, Lynette and Naomi, writer Luke
-Jake preaching at Pleasant Point

Candle Prayers for inner and world peace

Hymn: VT #249 Angels We Have Heard on High

Nativity Scene Skit (The Christmas Party)

Song: Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer (*children and congregation*)

Scripture Reading – The Nativity Story

Hymn: VT #257 Away in a Manger

Benediction:

Closing Song: VT #240 Joy to the World

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

*Our Services are all Streamed and Archived on-line.

TODAY Dec 22 *Intergenerational Christmas Program*

Song Leader: Kathryn Accompanist: Lynette

Sound: Matthew Ushers: Benjamin/Dick

Offering Counter Team: Diana Buhler, Stephanie Siemens

No Sunday School

****Office Hours for December 23 to January 3:**

Fridays only: 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Coffee time at church suspended until January 3

Patty's Week: Christmas holidays Dec. 25-Jan. 3 - *Available for emergencies 306-260-6069*. Dec. 29 in office; at Bethany Jan. 3

Luke's Week: Christmas holidays – back in office Jan 3

Birthdays: 22 – Jacob B Friesen (101) ; 24 – Norman Tataryn; 28 – Frieda Rempel

Gathering Room Coffee Schedule: Dec 22 – Marlene Campbell

OMC Sunday school Advent/Christmas Giving Project: At the Children's Peace Library in Kigali, Rwanda, students have a space to learn about peace, building strong communities and healing from trauma. In Rwanda, MCC partner Transformational Leadership Center (TLC) supports three Children's Peace Libraries. These special spaces also give children a place to enhance their English and comprehension skills. During COVID-19 lockdown, the importance of the Children's Peace Library became apparent when the children kept coming to read and learn from the books. They were using the library as an alternative to school so they could keep learning. Books played a key role in helping to bring back hope for the future and to reduce loneliness due to pandemic restrictions. This holiday season, choose a gift that changes lives. Visit mcccanada.ca/christmas or mcc.org/christmas to learn more. \$15 CAD provides several books. Donations to OMC SS Giving Project can be placed in offering baskets or MCC Peace Books basket in lobby

CALENDAR

Sat. Dec 21 – 1:30 pm Christmas Program practise

Sun. Dec 22 – 9:00 am Advent Choir practice

Sun. Dec 22 – 10:00 am Intergenerational Christmas Program

Tues Dec 24 – 7:00 pm Candlelight Service

Sun Dec 29 – 10:00 am Patty Friesen – The Magi's Long Journey

Sun. Dec. 29 - 11:11 Deacons meeting with new members Room 3

Sun Jan 5 – 10:00 am Len Rempel – Creeds and Confession

11:11 Forum on Creeds, Confessions and Convictions
with Len Rempel

12:00 Lunch with Len Osler Restaurant Back Room

Sun. Jan 12 – 10:00 am Baptism, new members & communion

Sun. Jan 19 – 10:00 am RJC Highschool Choir

11:30 am Potluck – bring lots Group

Sun. Jan 26 – 10:00 am Patty Friesen Anabaptism 500th Birthday
Party and Hymn Sing

11:00 Birthday Cake and Dutch Blitz and Crokinole in Gym
(bring crokinole boards and DB cards)

In preparation for our Annual Meeting on Feb.8 @ 9:30 am,

Committee chairpersons- please email your year end report for the AGM
booklet to Loretta no later than **January 5th.**

Tues. Jan. 7 @ 7 p.m. OMC Book Club: Peace by Chocolate - books
coming end of Nov. Contact Jan Guenther if questions. Zoom option
available if the weather is bad.

Sunday, January 12, 2025, Baptism and new members. There will be 4
joining OMC - others welcome too. Please talk to Luke or Patty.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MCC Connects: From all of us at MCC Saskatchewan, we wish you a
Merry Christmas! As we celebrate the birth of Christ, may you be filled
with His hope, joy, peace, and love.

MC Sask News:

As you prepare to celebrate the peace, hope, joy and love of God this
Christmas, please consider the ways your gift to MC Sask extends
beyond the ministries within our province to Mennonite Church Canada
and its nationwide and international ministries. Together we support the
work of International Witness, CommonWord Bookstore and Resource
Centre, Indigenous Relations, and Climate Action. Thank you for being

a part of all these significant ministries. Contributions can be made directly to MC Canada at <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/giving> or to MC Sask. at <https://mcsask.ca/giving> (new)

RJC announces the addition of Grade 9! In response to parental and student requests, and in an effort to expand and enhance our school program and mission, RJC High School is pleased to announce the addition of grade 9 for the 2025/2026 school year. Grade 9 is the natural intake for most high schools in the province, and an increasing number of students and families have requested this program. We are excited to now provide this opportunity for our students. For details go to <https://www.rjc.sk.ca/2024/12/04/rjc-announces-addition-of-grade-9/>

Save the Date! The Mega Menno gang are hard at work planning the 2025 Winter Youth Retreat! Join us between January 31 to February 2 at the Shekinah Retreat Centre for a weekend of worship, community, and fun! More details to come in the next few weeks.

Do you feel powerless against the tide of Climate Change? Read how one young person and her church youth group addressed that feeling by taking action at <https://mcsask.ca/article/11903>

Coffee prices increasing Jan 1 Due to an increase in cost from our supplier (up to 20% more), we are forced to increase the prices of our coffee. The new price will be \$85 for 5lb decaf and \$75 for 5lb of all other blends. The price for the 300g bags will remain the same for now, with the exception of decaf which will be \$18. All profits go the youth program of MC Sask. For details or to order to www.mcsask.ca/coffee Orders places before Dec 27 will still get the current prices.

Congratulations to Oly (Kathy Boldt's son-in-law) on his appointment to the Order of Canada. Orland Backstrom has been a disability champion for decades. As president and CEO of SCE LifeWorks, he brought Project SEARCH to Canada, which allows high school students with disabilities to access real work placements. He has played a pivotal role in fostering a more inclusive society.

Season's Greetings from Doug Klassen, MC Canada Executive Director. To the congregations of Mennonite Church Canada, I greet you in the name of Jesus Christ. May the joy of the shepherds, the awe of the Magi, and the peace that Mary knew in her heart be ours this season. I pray that we do not get discouraged by the pain and suffering

that we see around us. Let us take heart. The Holy Spirit is not asleep. As a church, we have been called to be the Good News bearers to the world. This season we celebrate the coming of the Messiah, the Saviour of the world, and look forward to the promised redemption of all things. May the peace that passes understanding be yours as you celebrate this Christmas. (new)

Mennonite Church Saskatchewan is celebrating

Anabaptism at 500 with a series of events:

Upcoming Events:

Celebration Kickoff: The Radicals will be shown on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at Wildwood Mennonite Church.

Pentecost Service: A service featuring choirs, communion, and supper is *tentatively* planned for Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. at the Youth Farm.

Donations: Donations to support the Anabaptism at 500 initiatives can be made at www.mcsask.ca/giving designated "Anabaptism at 500"

Support Guardería (Day Care) Samuelito in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

Charleswood Mennonite Church in Winnipeg invites you to join them in supporting the Iglesia Evangelica Menonita de Bolivia (IEMB), and the Guardería (Day Care) Samuelito in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. The Guardería Samuelito [<https://www.facebook.com/guarderiasamuelito>] is a church run day care that serves the lowest income people in their community.

For more information and to donate go to

<https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/Bolivia>. You can also donate through your local or Regional Church. Mark donations: "Bolivia – IEMB – Samuelito". Join Charleswood and IEMB as they work together to care for the most vulnerable.

NEXT SUNDAY Dec 29

Speaker: Patty Friesen

Worship Leader: Dave Feick

Song Leader: Kevin

Accompanist: Melanie

Story: Kathy

Sound: Stephanie

Ushers: Lanae/Carl

Offering Counter Team: Diana Buhler, Kevin Boldt

No Sunday School

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0

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