



# Osler Mennonite Church

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

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**7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service**

**December 24, 2023**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

**Prelude: Trio**

**Der Friedensfürst**

**Congregation: VT #240**

**Welcome/Land Acknowledgement/Announcements**

**Prayer**

**Patty** - *From the prophet Isaiah 60:1* “Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.”

**Luke** - *Isaiah 35:5,6* Blind eyes will be opened, deaf ears unstopped, Lame men and women will leap like deer, the voiceless break into song. Springs of water will burst out in the wilderness, streams flow in the desert. Hot sands will become a cool oasis, thirsty ground a splashing fountain, and barren grasslands flourish richly.”

**Patty** - *Isaiah 11:6* ...the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them...”

**Solo: Who Would Think**

**Luke** *From the Gospel of Matthew 1: 18-25* This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. “Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he

will save his people from their sins.” When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. When her son was born, Joseph named him Jesus.

**Congregation: VT #218      Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

**Patty - Luke 2 - The Birth of Jesus Christ**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to their own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son

**Lighting of Advent Candle**

**Away in a Manger** (*Adam Tice text*)

**Luke- Isaiah 9:6-7**“ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder”

**Patty- Matthew 1:20** And they called his name Jesus.

**Luke-Isaiah 9:6-7 cont'd**“ And his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.”

**Congregation: VT #259      To Us a Child of Hope is Born** (v.1,2)

**Patty- Luke 2 - The Shepherds and the Angels**

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom the Holy One is pleased!”

**Congregation: VT #247      Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

**Luke** - When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”<sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

**Congregation: VT #268      Helpless and Hungry**  
**#267      What Child is This**

**Patty** - And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary (and Joseph) treasured up all these things, pondering them in their hearts. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**Congregation: VT#244      Silent Night**

Lighting of Candles on vs. 1 German vs.2-4

**Benediction:** Go in celebration for we are people who say yes to the manger, yes to the One incarnate for others, yes to the wholeness of God.  
(*Blow out candle – lights up*)

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

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

Weds. Dec. 27 – closed and no Pickle Ball

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

**Pickle ball** starts again January 3.

**Birthdays:** 19 – Shelley Penner; 21 – Charlie Clark; 22 – Jacob B Friesen (100); 24 – Norman Tataryn; 28 – Frieda Rempel; 31 – Linda Stucky; 31 – Adam Boldt

**Gathering Room Coffee:** Dec 31 - Borscht & New Year’s cookie

**Note:** The Borscht will be provided but we need some people to bring the New Year’s cookies. Please contact Wilf if you can bring some.

**NEXT SUNDAY      December 31      *New Year’s Eve***

Speaker: Patty Friesen      Worship Leader: Dave

Song Leader: Kevin      Accompanist: Melanie

Story for all Ages: Kathy      Sound: Keri/James      Ushers: Lloyd/Harold

## CALENDAR

**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 9:15 am Centering Prayer Room 3

**Jan 7 10:00 am Luke Bushman speaking**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**January 5, Friday at 2:00 p.m.** Epiphany Coffee @ Bethany Manor, Multipurpose Room. Non-Bethanyites welcome for treats, a brief devotional and Epiphany jokes.

**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](mailto: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 10<sup>th</sup>, Committee chairs are asked to email their reports for the AGM Booklet to Loretta by January 8th.

**MCC Connects:** From all of us at MCC Saskatchewan, we wish you a Merry Christmas! May the birth of Christ fill you all with joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**The Youth Farm Bible Camp** is inviting you to a *Drive Through* event this Christmas season. Lights, hand painted billboards, Bethlehem town, and much more. Check online for hours or to purchase tickets. You may also purchase tickets at the gate. Tickets are \$22 online or \$25 at the gate. *Get tickets* online at [www.youthfarmcornmaze.com](http://www.youthfarmcornmaze.com)

**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.

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0  
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Church Office – 306-239-2133                                      [oslermcoffice@sasktel.net](mailto:oslermcoffice@sasktel.net)  
[oslermcpastor@sasktel.net](mailto:oslermcpastor@sasktel.net)                                      [oslermcpastor2@gmail.com](mailto:oslermcpastor2@gmail.com)

website: <http://oslermennonitechurch.org>

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