



# Osler Mennonite Church

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

December 28, 2025

*Sunday after Christmas  
Be Amazed: God among us*

## **Prelude**

### **Welcome/Land Appreciation/Announcements/Focus Statement**

Imagine the silence of a great wilderness. Do you hear a sound? It is a powerful voice calling us to prepare the way of the Lord even after Christmas has been packed away. Listen closely—he tells an amazing story of a dove as the Spirit of God searching for a home, scissoring through the air, coming finally to land on the shoulder of Jesus.

**Call to Worship:** Based on John 1:19–34

One: In the wilderness, a voice cries out:  
“Prepare the way of the Lord!”

**Many: We have heard the call;  
we have watched for the light.**

One: The One we waited for has come—  
a gentle dove, a vulnerable child.

**Many: We have seen the Christ child among the poor;  
we have heard the soft flutter of wings.**

One: This is how God arrives among us—  
not in power and might, but in vulnerable love.

**Many: Your ways are not our ways, O God.**

One: Come, let us worship the One who has come among us,  
the Lamb of God, the light of the world.

**All: We stand in amazement—  
Christ has been revealed!**

## **Prayer of Invocation**

**Hymns of Praise: VT #254 O du fröhliche**  
**VT #241 O Come, All Ye Faithful**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 40: 3-5

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.”

**Children’s Gathering Song: Today Earth is Singing**

Story Time for All Ages: Jake

**Offering Prayer/Music for Meditation**

**Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church**

**Prayers** - Pray for the safety of Afghanistan Refugees to Pakistan who are being deported, and for the Hasani family and others impacted by unsafe and insecure conditions.

**Thanks** – Cornie & Sarah wish to thank the congregation for their care and support during Corine’s illness. He continues to improve daily.

**Candle Prayers for peace and our hearts’ desires...**

**Hymn: VT #216 Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming**

**Second Reading:** John 1:19-34

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but he confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why, then, are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the

prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

### **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 #259 To Us a Child of Hope Is Born**

**Sermon: Be Amazed: God Among Us**

**Hymn: VT #240 Joy to the World**

**Benediction:** Go now, not seeking your own way, but pointing always to Jesus. Go, watching for the Spirit, ready to recognize the gentle dove. And as you go, may the God who reaches down to touch the earth fill you with peace and wonder, now and always.

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

\*Our services are all streamed and archived on-line.

**TODAY Dec 28** *Sunday after Christmas*

Speaker: Brad Schroder      Worship Leader: George

Song Leader: Kevin      Accompanist: Melanie

Story: Jake      Sound: Benjamin      Ushers: Anne/Bill

Offering Counter Team: Jim/Loretta

**Office Hours:** during the Christmas Season will be limited to Wed only

**Luke's Week:** vacation from Dec 25 to Jan 2 but will be available via phone for emergencies - 306-260-6552

**Brad's Week:** Office hours on Mon & Tues; Christmas Eve service. Back in the office Jan 2 but still available via phone 306-361-0601

**Friday Coffee Time will return in the New Year**

**Birthdays this Week:** 28 – Frieda Rempel (80); 30 – Noah Schroeder; 31 – Linda Stucky; 31 – Adam Boldt

**Sunday Coffee:**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Annual meeting reports** from Committee Chairpersons and Pastors are due by January 5, 2026. Please email your report to Loretta at loretta.s@hotmail.ca

**Annual Meeting** will be on Saturday February 14, 2026 at 9:00 am.

**"Contemplative checkin"** Wednesday evenings at 7pm, meeting bi-weekly at OMC. Please contact John, Dave or Harold for more information.

**Check the bulletin board for:**

- Bethany Manor Newsletter
- Christmas Card from Shekinah
- Christmas greeting from MC Sask
- Letter from Micah Mission
- Card from MCC Sask

**MC SASK Updates:**

*“Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.” Luke 2:10-11*

May these words of the angel, continue to bring joy and hope for ALL people, not just during the Christmas season but all year long. Loving God, remain with us after the decorations are packed up and the Christmas lights dimmed. Continue to lead us as a people of hope, sharing your good news with all. Amen. (new)

**January 4:** Forest church @ Shekinah 3pm. New year, new theme: The Word in the World. Dress warm, take your place around the fire for outdoor worship, and enjoy the beauty of winter. All are welcome!

**January 30-February 1 // MegaMenno Youth Retreat // Shekinah Retreat Centre // Save the Date!** Details and registration available at <https://mcsask.ca/event/12170> (updated )

**Save the date!** The 2026 MC Sask Annual Delegate Sessions will be on March 13 & 14 at Shekinah Retreat Centre. Lodging will be available. Details will come out in the new year.

**As we look forward to 2026**, we recognize that it will be a year of transitions. Please pray for the staff and volunteers of Mennonite Church Saskatchewan as we manage this time of change. Your financial support will help us as we hire a Faith Development Minister to work with our youth and young adults. Please consider a donation to MC Sask. Visit <https://mcsask.ca/giving> (new)

**Mark your calendars** for the 2026 de Margerie Lectures on Christian Reconciliation and Unity. The speaker is Dr Jeremy Bergen, Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Theological Studies at Conrad Grebel University College. These lectures are part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and will take place on Jan. 21 (Regina) and Jan. 22 (S'toon). For more details please see <http://ecumenism.ca/1485-2/>

**Youth Farm Staff & Interns** Travel Through Reformation & Paul's Journey As part of their discipleship and leadership formation, eight Youth Farm Bible Camp staff and interns traveled to Europe in November, spending time in Germany, France, and Switzerland exploring key sites of the Radical Reformation. They then continued on to Greece, tracing the Footsteps of Paul through Philippi, Thessaloniki, Berea, Athens, and Corinth.

This Advent, as we reflect on the coming of Christ and the call to follow Him courageously, we are grateful for how these journeys deepen faith and shape the next generation of leaders. A few reflections and photos from the trip can be found at [www.3einternship.com/blog](http://www.3einternship.com/blog).

**Mennonite Church Saskatchewan** is pleased to announce the position of Faith Development Minister. This position will focus on cultivating relationships and supporting the faith and leadership development of

youth and young adults across MC Sask. This role reimagines our approach to youth ministry — moving away from an event-based model toward a relationship-driven, collaborative ministry that meets young people where they are. For full details about this position, please see the MC Sask website at <http://mcsask.ca/FaithDevelopmentMinister>. Applications and enquiries can be sent to [minister@mcsask.ca](mailto:minister@mcsask.ca)

**Mennonite Church Saskatchewan is seeking a full-time Office, Communications, and Financial Administrator** to join our ministry team. This position provides key support in three areas: Office Administration, Communications and Financial Administration. For a full job description see

<https://mcsask.ca/officeandfinancialadministratorjobdescription>

Applications will begin being reviewed December 1, 2025. If you or someone you know may be interested, please send a resume and cover letter to: [minister@mcsask.ca](mailto:minister@mcsask.ca)

**“I want to do something about climate change but I don’t know where to start.”** Sound familiar? Good news: faith communities around the world are already responding to climate change with actions big and small. It’s time to explore some of these responses, and learn what actions we can take to make a difference in our own communities. Join Mennonite Church Canada and MCC Canada for a nationwide, online study of *Climate Pollinator* by Sierra Ross Richer. February 19-April 16 (5 sessions) To find out more and to register, go to <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/nationwide-book-study-2025.ca>

### **Mennonite Church Canada Prayer Requests**

**Christians in Palestine are entering the Advent season with great trepidation.** In Gaza, military incursions and blockage of aid continue. In the West Bank and East Jerusalem, settler attacks are increasing with impunity. Let us pray for resilience, hope, and bold witness in the face of genocidal violence and ethnic cleansing. *MC Canada Palestine-Israel Network*

**Please pray for peace and wisdom for government and military leaders in Thailand and Cambodia** as tensions escalate with land mines and aerial bombardments in the region. Tom and Christine Poovong are asking for your prayers as they again host evacuees. In the

city of Ubon Ratchathani, where Tom and Christine live, they have been told to be on stand-by for possible evacuation.

## CALENDAR

**Sun. Dec. 28 – 10:00 am Brad Schroeder preaching**

**Sun. Jan 4 - 10:00 am Luke Bushman preaching**

Mon. Jan 5 – 6:00 pm Executive mtg

7:30 pm Council mtg

**Sun. Jan 11 - 10:00 am Brad Schroeder preaching**

**Sun. Jan 18 - 10:00 am Brad Schroeder preaching**

3:00 pm Luke's ordination

**NEXT SUNDAY Jan 4** *Fifth Sunday of Advent*

Speaker: Luke Bushman      Worship Leader: Henry Funk

Song Leaders: Ben, Kathryn      Accompanist: Lynette

Story: Luke      Sound: James      Ushers: Lanae/Carl

Offering Counter Team: Jim/Stephanie

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

Vol. LXVI

December 28, 2025

No. 52

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