

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

This Sunday, December 20, will be the last day to donate items to children staying at the Crisis Nursery, which was just renewed to Haven Kids' House. They are in need of: toilet paper, liquid hand soap, bleach, kleenex, pasta, canned food, crackers, baking supplies, kitchen garbage bags, large garbage bags. Thank-you to those who have donated!

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>

Advent tidings! As MC Sask, we have seen many new and remarkable things this year as our congregations, camps, and schools have gone above and beyond during this unusual season. New technologies have been learned, and heroic efforts have been made to keep us connected with one another, and with the Peace of Christ. As we continue to support and uphold this good work, we invite you to consider MC Sask in your year-end giving. Visit www.mcsask.ca/donations.

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.

MCC Connects: If you haven't had a chance to check out our Quilt Sale yet, now is the time! All remaining quilts are 50% off their listed price! Follow our [Facebook event page](#) or visit our website at <https://mcccanada.ca/mcc-saskatchewan-quilt-sale> to see the amazing quilts donated by our skilled and very generous donors. These quilts are also displayed in our viewing room at the MCC office in Saskatoon (600 45th St W) so feel free to pop by and admire them. If you have any questions, or wish to purchase a quilt, call 306.665.2555.

Nutana Park Mennonite Church welcomes into fellowship and membership all persons who confess faith in Jesus Christ, without regard to their race, ethnic background, gender, age, sexual orientation, income, education, ability, and other factors that give rise to discrimination and marginalization.



PASTORAL STAFF

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Gathered to Worship on Treaty 6 Territory

December 20, 2020

Advent 4

Vol. LV

No. 51

In-Person and Live Stream Worship Service

Worship Leader: Denelda Fast

Accompanist: Sharon Klassen

Song Leader: Lynn Driedger

Advent Candle Lighters: Ken Warkentin & Anita Retzlaff

Tech Support: David Weiler-Thiessen, Don Froese, Jeff Olfert

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Hymn:

No Wind At The Window

STS No. 11

Call to Worship

Advent Reading

Advent Hymn:

Come, Light Of The World

ST No. 3

Lighting of the Peace Lamp

Children's Time

Hymn:

The Angel Gabriel

Susanne

HWB No. 180

Joys and Concerns

Prayer of the People

Musical Offering

Lynn

Scripture Reading:

Luke 1:26-38

Luke 1:46b-55

Sermon:

Hymn:

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

Anita Retzlaff

HWB No. 211

Spoken Benediction

Sending Hymn:

My Soul Cries Out

STS No. 124



Love-Fouth Advent Candlelighting Litany

By: The Salt Project (Thesaltproject.org)

Because too many people are wandering in the wilderness, because too many people are sitting in the valley of the shadow of death, we light candles....

Because people all over the world are suffering and we are too busy to notice, we light candles....

Today we stop everything and light these candles: one for hope, one for peace, one for joy, and one for love....(Light the fourth candle in the Advent wreath.)

May the light from the candles overwhelm the world.

May the light from these candles illuminate the valley of the shadow of death.

May the light and the fire from these candles burn away everything that is preventing God's love from being born among us.

Brothers and sisters, be not afraid, even now-even now-God's love is overwhelming the world!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to the congregation for your gestures of love and friendship this Advent, and throughout this challenging year. Blessings to you this Christmas season and may the arrival of Emmanuel, God-with-us, bring us hope and peace. - Patrick, Susanne, and Christie

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION - For those who are not able to attend in-person, the "movie" will be posted on the private side of our website following the final showing on December 22nd.

NPMC masks are going fast! We have printed a limited-edition mask with our church logo on it. The first 50 people to contact Christie in the church office (npmc@npmc.net) can purchase a mask for \$25 each. Payment can be made by cheque or E-transfer Carmen (made out to NPMC, with masks indicated in the memo or comments. Please note that these funds aren't eligible for tax receipts.). Wear it as a reminder of your church community, keep yourself and others safe, and support the work of Prairie Harm Reduction with our most vulnerable neighbours!

As the weather becomes colder we have some additional information for those attending worship in person.

- Plan to keep your coats and boots with you in the sanctuary.
- At this time we ask you to please leave directly after the service.

The church office will no longer be ordering the devotional booklets from Upper Room or Rejoice, but those who wish are welcome to subscribe directly to those. Upper Room:

<https://bookstore.upperroom.org/Products/CategoryCenter/URM/The-Upper-Room-Daily-Devotional-Guide.aspx>

and Rejoice: <https://store.mennomedia.org/Rejoice-C1272.aspx> There are also free alternatives that our pastors would recommend, including a Bible-based prayer app called Lectio-365

(<https://www.24-7prayer.com/dailydevotional>) and daily meditations by Richard Rohr (<https://cac.org/category/daily-meditations/>).

CONTINUED UPDATES FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT! Please take note of the updated photos of Emily and Luke's wedding under the Wedding & Babe tab on the private side of our website.

It's not too late to apply for Winter Term! CMU is still taking applications for study in January 2021. Consider enrolling, for credit or audit, in an online CMU course. In addition to many daytime course options, Winter term evening course offerings include: *God through the Centuries, Fundamentals of Marketing, Principles and Practices of Journalism, Economics of Social Change, Restorative Justice, Adolescent Developmental Psychology...* and more. Undergraduate course offerings here www.cmu.ca/timetable and available Graduate courses at www.cmu.ca/gradcourses. Apply at www.cmu.ca/apply to become a full- or part-time student.

Christmas at CMU Highlights! Enjoy the music of the season and be drawn into the spirit of Advent with a curated selection from Christmas at CMU. Go to www.cmu.ca/christmas for more.

Coming Up This Week

Monday, December 21 at 7:00 pm: NPMC Board Meeting.

Tuesday, December 22 at 6:00 pm: NPMC Christmas Worship and Celebration in the sanctuary.

Thursday, December 24 at 3:00 pm: Christmas Eve worship service will be available virtually on the church website or you can view the link that Christie will email out this coming week.

