

**NUTANA PARK MENNONITE CHURCH
PASTORAL STAFF**

Susanne Guenther Loewen 306-716-7699
Patrick Preheim 306-955-2928
Sarah Unrau -- Youth Leader 291-8604

374-2144 e-mail: npmc@npmc.net web page: www.npmc.net
Gathered to Worship on Treaty 6 Territory

**December 10, 2017
2 Advent**

Vol. LII

11:00 a.m.

No. 49

Worship Leader: Hedio Borne
Accompanist: Sue Schellenberg
Choir Director: Tristan Brenneman
Greeter: Alison Jantz
Ushers: Donna & Ernie Epp

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Welcome, Greetings and Announcements

Invocation

Call to Worship

Hymn

**Comfort, Comfort O My People**

Choir

HWB No. 176

Children's Time

Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer

Choir

Advent Reading Litany – insert

Kelsi and Helen Siemens

Hymn

**Prepare The Way Of The Lord**

StS No. 14

Psalm Reading

Psalm 85

Choir

Offering and Offertory

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 40:1-8

Mark 1:1-4

Sermon

**Restore Us O God**

Patrick Preheim

Hymn of Response

Choir

Benediction

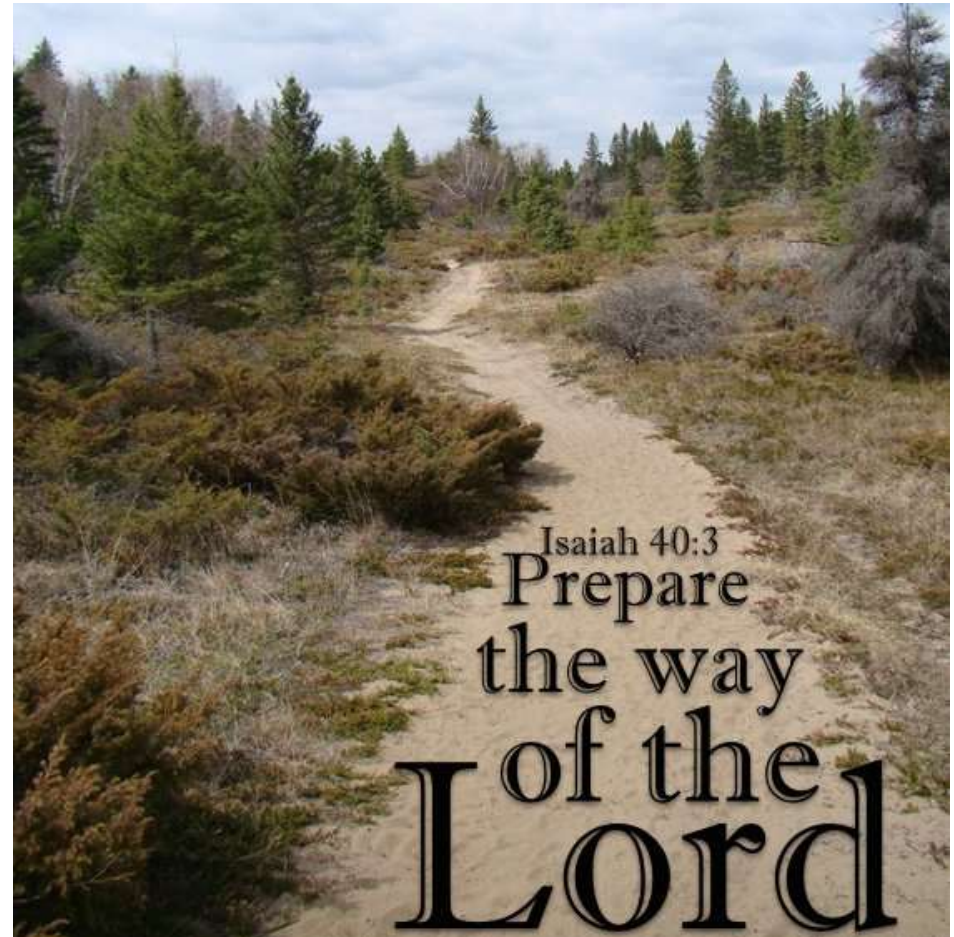
Sending Hymn

**O Beautiful Star Of Bethlehem**

StS No. 32

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Please join us for the potluck lunch following the service.



2 Advent



Spotlight on The Bridge Fellowship Centre

Celebrate with The Bridge Christmas Dinner which will be held on Thursday, Dec. 21st. To help touch the hearts of our inner city community, please consider contributing food or gift items. Some gift suggestions are **new socks, mitts, toques, etc. for men and women.** For details go to www.thebridgesaskatoon.com or call Carla 382-2855. Deadline for donations is December 20.

This Week

Today	8:55 am	Contemplative Prayer in the sanctuary.
	9:25 am	Choir rehearsal for all ages.
	9:45 am	Adult Ed; <i>Birth in Difficult Circumstances -- refugee stories of birth and hope.</i>
	11:00 am	2 Advent Worship; Patrick Preheim speaking.
	11:15 am	Sunday School age 4-11 years; childcare age 1-3 years.
	Noon	Potluck; A-H, bring salad and dessert, help set-up; I-Z, bring casserole, help clean-up.
	2:30 pm	Saskatoon Men's Chorus Christmas concert; Grace Westminster United Church.
Monday	7:30 pm	Station Singers Christmas Concert; Station Arts Centre, Rosthern.
Tuesday	1:30 pm	Women's Coffee & Conversation time; lounge.
Wed.	7:30 am	Men's Breakfast; Cora Restaurant, Preston Crossing.

Coming Up

Next Sun.	8:55 am	Contemplative Prayer in the sanctuary.
	9:25 am	Choir rehearsal for all ages.
	9:45 am	Adult Ed; <i>Birth narratives in various religions.</i> Valerie Epp, Paul Schroeder, Renata Klassen.
	11:00 am	3 Advent Worship; Susanne speaking.
	11:15 am	Sunday School age 4-11 years; childcare age 1-3 years.
	5:30 pm	NPMC Christmas Banquet.
	7:00 pm	Sonrisa Women's Choir and A Buncha Guys concert; Shekinah Retreat Centre. Donations to support Shekinah.
Dec. 20 and 22		Rosthern Junior College Choir Concerts: Dec. 20, 7:30 pm at Knox United Church; Dec. 22, 7:00 pm at RJC. Free admission, a collection taken in support of RJC.
Dec. 24	7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service.
Dec. 25		No Christmas Day Service.

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.

2 Advent Litany

Leader: A voice cried out to the exiles in Babylon: in the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. We are exiled through busyness, through debilitating health, through lost relationships, through a Christmas defined by consumerism rather than Christ. We long to find our spiritual center.

All: In the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord.

Leader: A voice cried out to the occupied of the first century: in the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight. There is much that is crooked. Sins committed against us cloud our minds. Our own transgressions weigh on our hearts. We await liberation.

All: In the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord.

We light two advent candles this day as a prayer that the God who promised straight paths to the exiled and occupied will once again act.

All: In the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord. Amen.

Isaiah 40:1-8

1 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ 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. ⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' ⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Mark 1:1-4

1 The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" ', ⁴ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

NEW TIMES: Starting January 7, 2018

Worship: 10:00 am

Coffee: 11:00 am

Children's Sunday School: 11:10 am

Adult Education: 11:10 am

Choir: 11:10 am

Announcements

NPMC sends notices of births, adoptions, baptisms, marriages and deaths for publication in *Canadian Mennonite* magazine. If you have privacy concerns about this, please contact Helen at the church office.

Help yourself to an **Advent devotional booklet** on the table in the church foyer.

MCC Connects: Is your church interested in sponsoring a refugee family? MCC is urgently looking for sponsor groups for four families who are currently in vulnerable situations. For more information call Dana or Evangeline at 306.665.2555 or email DanaKrushel@mccsk.ca.

Mennonite Disaster Service All-Unit Meeting will be hosted in Winkler, MB from February 9-10, 2018. A time of gathering together to hear and share the stories of MDS from the past year. Registration forms on the bulletin board in the education wing.

The photography instructor at Walter Murray is looking for donations of digital SLR cameras for student use. If you have a camera, please pop it into the mailbox of Lori Weiler-Thiessen or leave it on the table under the mailboxes clearly marked. Thanks.

Mennonites Learning Indigenous Theology

NAIITS is an Indigenous Learning Community that hosts annual theological gatherings intended for young and older pastors and activists. Mennonite Church Canada's Indigenous-Settler Relations would like to help sponsor a group of women and men from across our nationwide church to attend this year's symposium on "White Supremacy and Indigeneity," June 7-9, 2018 @ Acadia Divinity College (Nova Scotia). If you are interested, please email Steve Heinrichs for details (sheinrichs@mennonitechurch.ca).

Bill C-262 will be debated in Parliament following its second reading. Bill C-262 is a private member's bill that seeks to harmonize Canadian law with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. As a result of grassroots advocacy, the Government of Canada has just announced that they will be supporting Bill C-262. This is incredibly encouraging! But we need to keep applying the pressure. Active ways to be involved: pray, email a word of thanks to local Liberal MP's, and keep sending the free Walk the Talk postcards to all MP's (www.commonword.ca/go/1283).

Saskatoon Food Bank Most Needed Items: Pasta Products, Canned Meat, Fish