

**NUTANA PARK MENNONITE CHURCH
PASTORAL STAFF**

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Gathered to Worship on Treaty 6 Territory

**December 24, 2017
4 Advent**

Vol. LII

11:00 a.m.

No. 51

Worship Leader: Denelda Fast
Accompanist: Joanne Ewert
Greeters: Renata & Allan Klassen
Ushers: Donna & Ernie Epp

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Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship **Comfort, Comfort, O My People** HWB No. 176

Invocation

Advent Reading Litany – insert Kalaiya and Michael Barnes

Hymn **Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming** HWB No. 211

Lighting of the Peace Lamp

Children's Time

Offering **Away In A Manger** HWB No. 194

Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer

Scripture Reading 1 Samuel 16:6-13

Matthew 1:1-6

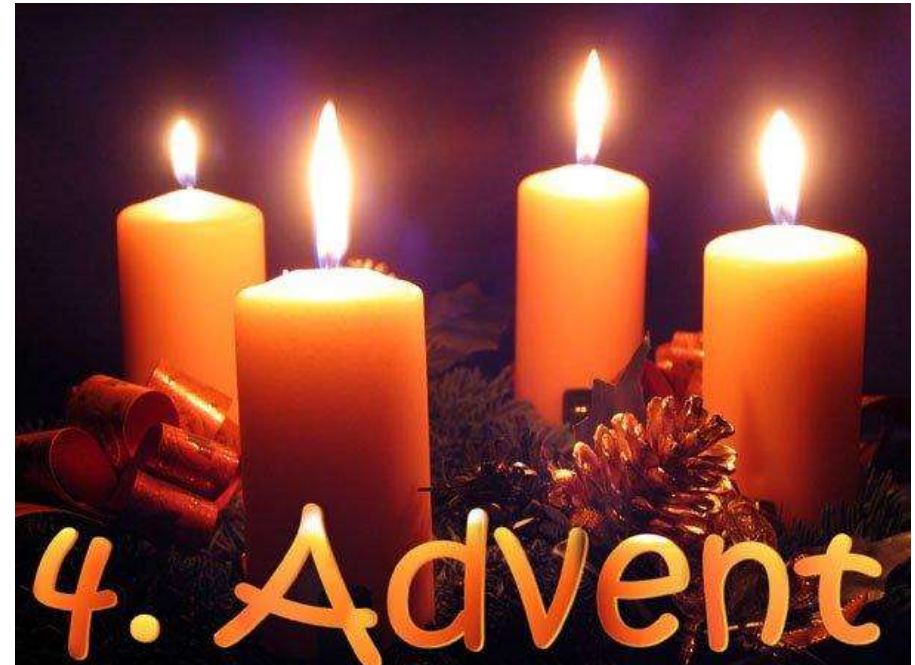
Sermon **God in the Unexpected** Patrick Preheim

Hymn **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** HWB No. 206

Benediction

Hymn **O Little Town Of Bethlehem** HWB No. 191

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4 Advent Litany

Leader: God has chosen to save the world through the lowly and the least. David, the youngest and keeper of the sheep, was chosen by God to lead Israel.

All: We are servants of the Lord. Let it be with us according to God's word.

Leader: God chose the most unsuspecting woman, young and unmarried, to be the Christ bearer.

All: We are servants of the Lord. Let it be with us according to God's word.

Leader: God chose to be revealed to the nations not among men of power, but as a baby on a woman's lap. God comes to us deliberately, vulnerable, and unclothed.

All: We are servants of the Lord. Let it be with us according to God's word.

Leader: We light four advent candles as a prayer that we might be humble enough to recognize the coming of Christ into our lives and world. We light the candles as a prayer that we might have the courage to offer ourselves as the means through which God will continue the mighty work of salvation for which Christ came.

All: Here we are, servants of the Lord. Let it be with us according to your word. Amen

Announcements

MCC Connects: Christmas Blessings to you from the Board and Staff of MCC Saskatchewan! May our celebrations of the birth of the Christ child nurture and strengthen our living and serving in the name of Christ throughout the coming year.

E-Transfer Donations to NPMC

You can send an online e-transfer through your personal bank account to **finance@nPMC.net**. In the E-transfer put "Donation" in the message. Please send a separate email to the same email address with the included password and contact information (Name, address, phone number) so we can complete the transfer to NPMC.

Spotlight on Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre

45% of SK food bank users are children. The holiday goal of the Saskatoon Food Bank and Learning Centre is to raise 400,000 lbs of food and \$400,000. Until December 31, Potash Corp is matching donations (up to \$500,000) for food banks across Saskatchewan.

This Week

Today 8:55 am **Contemplative Prayer** in the sanctuary.
9:45 am **Adult Ed; Peppernuts and Tea.** Meditation by Edna Froese: *Audacious Hope: Letting Go and Hanging On.*
11:00 am **4 Advent Worship;** Patrick Preheim speaking.
11:15 am **Sunday School** age 4-11 years; **childcare** age 1-3 years.
7:00 pm **Christmas Eve Service.**

Coming Up

Next Sun. 11:00 am **Worship;** Allan Klassen and Kenna Forrester speaking.
Evening **We would like to know if there is enough interest in our congregation for a New Year's Eve celebration. Please phone Marlene Froese at 306-668-4793.**

January 20, 21 **Rosthern Junior College** Theatre Arts Class presents "The Mad Tea Party" in the Pit Theatre on January 20 at 7:00pm and January 21 at 3:00pm. Tickets are \$10 and will go on sale January 4, 2018.

March 9 & 10, 2018 **MC Sask annual Delegate Sessions;** Zion Mennonite Church, Swift Current. Registration forms on bulletin board.

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

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.

Announcements (continued)

Shekinah Retreat Centre is welcoming applications for an Executive Director. Applicants will be reviewed starting January 2018 and the position will be filled by March 1, 2018. We invite interested parties to visit www.shekinahretreatcentre.org.

January 28, 2018 at 4:00 pm at Mount Royal Mennonite Church -- join us for a visit to China without leaving Saskatchewan! You are invited to an afternoon of fun, learning and inspiration with international ministry workers George and Tobia Veith. Try your hand at Chinese brush calligraphy. Learn to skip rope the Chinese way. Hear updates from and interact with the Chinese pastors hosted in Saskatchewan in 2014. There will be a pot luck supper; bring cold or hot dishes, Chinese/Asian food if possible.

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, the Indigenous Human Rights Bill, was endorsed by the ruling Liberal party at second reading on December 5, 2017. One more hour of debate will take place in mid-February, then a vote likely in March. The Bill will then be sent to committee for study, come back for a 3rd Reading, and finally, be brought to the Senate for Royal Assent. You can watch the debate here—<https://aoo.al/ikzahi>. MP Romeo Saqanash expresses his sincere gratitude to our Mennonite community for all the work we've done to get things this far. We're encouraged to keep sending the free **Walk the Talk postcards** to all MPs, encouraging them to stand up for justice and reconciliation. **Please see Susanne for postcards.**

1 Samuel 16:6-13

6 When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.' ⁷But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before

Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.

Matthew 1:1-6

1 An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. 2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, ³and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram,

⁴and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, ⁵and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, ⁶and Jesse the father of King David. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah.

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