

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

This year during Advent, we will be collecting donations for the children staying at the Crisis Nursery. They are in need of: toilet paper, liquid hand soap, bleach, kleenex, pasta, canned food, crackers, baking supplies, kitchen garbage bags, large garbage bags. These items can be dropped off at the church building on weekday mornings or Sunday mornings and we will be making a delivery to Crisis Nursery. Thank-you!

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>

RJC Christmas Program: There Is Still Hope - This online event will be held on Thursday, December 17, 7:30pm (SK CST) at <https://rjc.sk.ca/christmas>. The program will feature music, art, and other items of hope and celebration by RJC students and staff.

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.

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 13, 2020
Advent 3

Vol. LV

No. 50

In-Person and Live Stream Worship Service

Worship Leader: Darryl Epp

Accompanist: Fern Stockdale Winder

Song Leader: Ron Peters

Advent Candle Lighters: Barb and Natasha Orlaw

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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Gathering Hymn:

All Beautiful The March Of Days

HWB No. 159

Advent Reading

Barb & Natasha

Advent Hymn:

Come, Light Of The World

STS No. 3

Joys and Concerns

Darryl

Congregational Prayer

Advent Hymn:

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

HWB No. 178

Children's Time:

Walking In The Dark

Patrick

Musical Offering:

The People That Walked

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 61:1-4

Psalms 126

Hymn:

Hark! The Glad Sound

HWB No. 184

Sermon:

How We Wait

Patrick

Sending Hymn:

Arise, Your Light Is Come

STS No. 30

Spoken Benediction



Joy – Third Advent Candlelighting Litany

By: The Salt Project (thesaltproject.org)

When I look around, I see shadows of sadness, families in homeless shelters, people in prison, people who have become invisible and forgotten...

When I look around, I see shadows of grief and loss, people dreading the holidays because they've lost a loved one, because they're recently divorced, because they don't want to spend another Christmas alone...

In the face of sadness, we light a candle of joy...

In the face of grief, in the face of loss, we light a candle of joy...

May the light from this candle overwhelm the world.

May the light from this candle say to all that God's joy is coming on earth as it already is in heaven.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, be not afraid, God's joy is at hand!

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CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION - We are looking forward to seeing many of you on one of the scheduled dates! Please continue to register to join together for this 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 here! 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 online payment (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!

Advent Devotionals: a list of links to various Advent devotions and resources can be found on the "Sermons" page of our church website: <http://www.npmc.net/2020-sermons.html> Additional intergenerational Advent resources can be found on the "NPMC Kids" page as well.

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/>).

Thanks to the children of NPMC for painting the stars on our Advent banner and to Lori Weiler-Thiessen for putting it together; to Nicole Tiessen and Brent Guenther for our Christmas decor in the sanctuary; and to Vic Krahn, Hamilton Fast, and Denelda Fast for stringing lights on the tree outside this year. And those who will be setting up our outdoor Nativity scene. Thanks for making our church look beautiful and festive. Much appreciated!

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.

Coming Up This Week

Friday, December 18 at 7:00 pm: Peace Club Zoom Call. Ben and Marlie leading on the theme of Jesus as the Prince of Peace.

Friday, December 18 at 6:00 pm: NPMC Christmas Worship and Celebration in the sanctuary.

Saturday, December 19 at 3:00 pm: NPMC Christmas Worship and Celebration in the sanctuary.

Sunday, December 20 at 6:00 pm: NPMC Christmas Worship and Celebration in the sanctuary.

