

December 24 2017

4th Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve
God's Love in Action

Prelude Strings

Opening songs

SS 22 *There were angels hovering round*
HWB 201 *Hark the herald angels sing*

Prayer SS 130

Welcome

Luke 2:7 "... the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Song:

SS 28 *Holy Child within a manger*
SS25 *A stable lamp*

Offering

Children's time

Song:

SS 26 *Helpless and Hungry*

Reading: HWB 714

Sharing and prayer

Song *Joy to the world*

Announcements

Benediction

Sending Song Strings

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Greeters/Ushers – Alf and Roxana Enns **Music** – Rochelle Drudge and Strings
Service leader: Kevin Drudge **Visuals** – Roxana Enns, Betty Enns, Rita Wiebe
Monthly Cleaning (December) – Doug and Pearl Braun-Dyck

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This Sunday

❖ **9:45 a.m.: Covenant Middle Years Children's Connection:** No Class this Sunday.

- ❖ **The Pre-school Class and Primary Classes:** No Class this Sunday.
- ❖ **9:45a.m: Covenant Youth Connection:** No class this Sunday.
- ❖ **9:45 a.m.: Covenant Adult Connection:** No class this Sunday.
- ❖ **11:00 a.m.:** Sunday Worship: Worship leader: Kevin Drudge

The Covenant Calendar

December 24: Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 10:30pm: Christmas Eve Vigil and Communion.

December 25: Christmas Day. No service.

December 28, 5:30pm: Covenant Christmas Party. Supper served. Bring table games, old and new, and spend an enjoyable evening together with friends.

December 31: Epiphany Sunday

January 7: Written report to be handed in to the Congregational Chair in preparation for Annual Meeting.

Here at Covenant

December 24: No potluck lunch after the morning service.

On **Sunday, December 24, at 10:30pm**, Covenant will again hold its annual **Christmas Eve Vigil and Communion Service**. Everyone is invited to come and participate by singing, listening, lighting a candle, sharing communion, or offering a reading or special musical number. Invite friends and listen to the Scriptures' telling of the Christmas Story, the singing of carols and special music set in candlelight and followed by a midnight communion service.

Christmas Giving Project: Our special Christmas giving this year is going to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) projects selected by the Children's Connection class. Donations can be made to these projects until Sunday, December 24. Cheques should be made out to: "Covenant Mennonite Church" with Memo Line reading "Christmas Giving."

In our Community

"Could you survive a month of poverty?" Central Station together with Garden Valley School Division, the GVTA is inviting you to participate in a local poverty simulation to be held at the Emerald Centennial School on February 2. Please RSVP by December 22 if you wish to participate in a morning or afternoon session by calling 204-325-0257 or emailing info@winklercentralstation.ca. Further info available on the bulletin board in the church foyer at the back of the church.

Recovery of Hope Counseling, together with the Neufeld Institute – Manitoba Chapter, is proud to announce that **Dr Gordon Neufeld, author of "Hold On to Your Kids: Why Parents Need to Matter More Than Peers," is coming to Morden on Saturday, Feb 10, 2018** to deliver a new full-day workshop called **"Keeping Children Safe in a Wounding World."** Parents, educators, youth workers and caregivers will be interested to learn from Dr. Neufeld, one of

Canada's leading developmental psychologists, as he uncovers the keys to helping children thrive while living in a wounding world. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit www.edenhealthcare.ca or call 1-866-493-6202.

MCC Manitoba

Merry Christmas from MCC!

Thank you for the many ways you have supported and partnered with MCC this year. Your volunteered time, donations, and prayers are greatly appreciated. We pray you have a joyous Christmas!

MC Manitoba

Purchase gift certificates towards the payment of 2018 summer camp. A great way to encourage children (grandchildren?) to attend Camps with Meaning! Please contact the camp office for more information. Call 204-895-2267, email camps@mennochurch.mb.ca

MC Canada

Encourage winter reading! CommonWord can send you 12 different books on loan for a 6-week period – at no cost. This Cheaper by the Dozen program is a great way to augment your congregational library, inspire a church committee, or profile a worship or educational theme. For more information, see www.commonword.ca/go/1428.

CMU

Thinking about a unique option for after high school? **Outtatown** is a unique, one or two-semester certificate program of CMU. It's an incredible year for recent high school grads looking to travel, serve others, learn more about God and the world, make lifelong friends, and experience 'once-in-a-lifetime' adventure. For more info:

Outtatown.com.

Invitation to Prayer

Pray for our friends in care: Bill and Marlene at Salem.

Pray for Bev in hospital.

Pray for John, recuperating at home.

Pray for our broken world. Pray for those who are suffering from famine, war, and earthquakes and other disasters.

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Prayer: We await your coming, Lord, with eagerness and thanksgiving and a fair amount of fear. Shine your true light in the corners of our hearts and in the vast wastelands of our society that we might see more clearly the glory of the creation you have come to redeem. Amen.

Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals

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