



Zion
Mennonite
Church

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Office hours Tuesdays to Fridays

9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Sunday In-person Worship at 10 AM

Vol. 65

December 18, 2022

No. 51

Pianist – Marion D.

Worship Leader – Carla P.
Song Leader – Ken D.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Restoration is Near

God has promised to restore us and has acted in Jesus to further God's plan of restoration.

Because of God's promise, we can act by asking for what we need and by stepping out in faith.

Prelude

Gathering Song HWB #205 *From heav'n above to earth I come*

Focus Statement

Candle Lighting

Rowan R.

Leader: We cry out for restoration, we call upon God to give us life.

People: Do not be afraid, says the Lord. I have promised to be with you.

Leader: As we hold fast to God's promise, we light this candle as a sign of our joy.

All: Bring your restoration to your people, we pray.

Theme Song SS #4 *Rejoice, rejoice, the Savior comes*

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Behold! Do not be afraid; God is with us. God is our strength and our salvation!

People: Lord, we stand in your presence in faith, not fear.

Leader: God will send angels to keep watch over you, to comfort you, to keep you.

People: Lord, our strong hope is built on your unfailing love. Our hearts yield to you and trust in your transforming power.

All: Praise ye the Lord!

Prayer

Praise Songs HWB #172 *O come, O come, Immanuel sz.3,4,5*
HWB #181 *My soul proclaims with wonder*

Offering Blessing

Sunday School class *Living Upside-Down*

Opportunities and Sharing

Prayer

Song SS #28 *Holy Child within the manger*

Scripture Isaiah 7:10-16; Romans 1:1-7

Linda T.

Message *Do not be afraid*

Lois Bukar

Response Song HWB #206 *Infant holy, infant lowly*

Benediction

May you go out in joy, courageously trusting in God's promise of restoration.

Sending Song HWB #178 *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

Postlude

Today 5 am Church Christmas Gathering

For the Christmas Event supper a **collection basket** will be present at the entrance to the supper **for the cost of the meal**, no amount will be specified. Later in the evening an **offering** will be taken for the Chaplaincy Program (receipts for the offering available).

Saturday 7 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight

Next Sunday 11 am Christmas Morning

I Wonder About Christmas
includes Children's Time

Pray for:

- our shut-ins and those with ongoing health concerns and their caregivers
- those grieving the loss of loved ones
- those recovering, those still struggling, and those facing new challenges
- health issues in COVID recovery
- our Leadership Team / Executive
- Swift Current: East Side Church of God
- Mennonite Church Sask: Herschel Ebenfeld Mennonite Church, pastor Margaret Ewen Peters & Gary Peters
- Ukraine / Russia
- small congregations and house churches in Thailand's Friends of Grace network

Shirley Ens will be organizing a **turkey dinner** for those who will not have family here to have Christmas with. It will be on **Christmas day** at the church around **1:30 pm**. See the bright yellow **sign up sheet** on the bulletin board.

As decided at the last Executive meeting, we will **resume live streaming** of our worship services starting in 2023. We will ask those wishing to receive the streaming service to request it by calling the Church office. It was thought best to resume in the New Year so as not to disrupt church events already planned for the Christmas season.

Christmas and Coming Events

December 18 5 pm **Church Christmas Gathering**

December 24 7 pm **Christmas Eve Candlelight**

December 25 11 am **Christmas Day** worship service

January 1 11 am **Communion**

January 8 ***Epiphany Sunday***, potluck lunch

January 10 tied **quilting** begins