

How Will We Know?



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What's Next?

Waterford Mennonite Church

December 17, 2023

Prelude		Ruthie Saunders
Gathering songs		Colleen Stoltzfus
	<i>Hark! The Glad Sound!</i>	VT 217
	<i>Hope Is a Candle</i>	VT 211
Drama	Ethan Claassen, Neer Goswami, Dominic Ramer	
Welcome & Call to worship		Katie Misz
Lighting the peace lamp*	Beckett and Brynn Replogle	
Scripture	1 Thessalonians 5:16-18	Nathaniel Snyder
Christmas songs		Wee Wonderers
Song	<i>Joy to the World</i>	VT 240
Offering	<i>Please pass the friendship pads</i> (Gifts are for Operating Fund unless designated otherwise)	
Christmas Pageant	“A Very Special Child”	Waterford Children
Song of Response	Solemn Stillness, Weary Streets	Children
Children’s Time		Helen Bowman
Moment of Silence		
Congregational prayer		Katie Misz
Advent Candle Lighting		Micah Ramão
Sending song	<i>Longing for Light</i>	VT 715

VT = Voices Together; SJ = *Sing the Journey*; SS = *Sing the Story*

*We light the peace lamp every Sunday to lament all unnecessary and violent loss of life around the world.

Prayers

Arnold and Lucille Roth, who will celebrate their 68th wedding anniversary on December 17.

For the *Mennonite Day of Action on Tuesday* as Mennonites throughout the United States and Canada will join together in public actions for peace and justice in Gaza. May our commitment to peace shine bright at the local demonstration in Mishawaka at 3:00 outside Rudy Yakym's office.

Rosie Hershberger, who is not receiving hospice care at Greencroft.

SADRA (Southern African Development and Reconstruction Agency) Conflict Transformation is a Mennonite Mission Network partner that offers a Christian response to injustice in South Africa. Pray for *the conflict mediators*, who train members of their communities to de-escalate situations that could lead to violence.

<p>Thank you to Derrick and Sara Method for creating the worship visuals during this Advent season.</p>

Welcome Guests

We are glad to have you join us in worship today. Children of all ages are welcome in worship. There are sermon boards for children outside the sanctuary doors; please pick one up as you enter. If desired, there is a nursery available in the west end of the foyer for infants and toddlers. Large print copies of the hymnal and hearing aid systems are available from the ushers. We invite you to stay for our nurture hour. Look for the welcome brochure on the front table in the foyer.

Our Mission Statement

As the people of Waterford Mennonite Church, we

Welcome everyone to faith and fellowship in Jesus Christ,

Minister to the needs of one another and our neighbors through the Holy Spirit, and

Call out each other's gifts for the joyful work of God's reconciling mission.

We celebrate that everyone is created in God's image, and as followers of Jesus we welcome people of every age, ability, race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, marital status, socio-economic situation, gender identity, and citizenship status as full participants in the life of our congregation.

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