

How Will We Know?



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Christmas Eve

Waterford Mennonite Church

December 24, 2023

- Prelude Anne Lehman
- Gathering song *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* VT 247
Strings: JD Smucker, Christina Herrmann, Matthew Herrmann,
Miranda Pfahler, Dom Ramer, Anna Smucker, Andrew Smucker
- Welcome & Call to worship Cindy Voth
- Lighting the peace lamp*
- Offering
(Gifts are for Operating Fund unless designated otherwise)
Please pass the friendship pad
- Congregational prayer Cindy
- Children's Time Ron Weirich
- Lesson 1:**
Isaiah 7:10-14 – Bervalie Lehman
Carol: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* VT 218
- Lesson 2:**
Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 – Rachael Hochstedler
Carol: *To Us a Child of Hope is Born* VT 259
- Lesson 3:**
Jeremiah 33:14-16 – Eleanor Habecker
Carol: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* VT 216
- Lesson 4:**
Micah 5:2-5a – Arnold Roth
Carol: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* VT 245
- Lesson 5:**
Luke 2:1-7 – Hannah Claassen
Carols: *What Child is this & Helpless and Hungry* VT 267, 268
- Lesson 6:**
Luke 2:8-20 – Jason Herrmann
Moment of Silence with question
Carol: *O Come, All Ye Faithful* VT 241, verses 1-3

Lesson 7:

John 1:1-14 – Esther Farmwald

Carol and candle lighting: *Silent Night, Holy Night* VT 244
Strings will play while we share the light of Christ with each other, dipping the unlit candle to light from the upright lit candle. Then we will sing together all 4 verses of Silent Night.

Advent Candle Lighting/Benediction

Sending song

Longing for Light

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

Thank you to Derrick and Sara Method for creating the worship visuals during this Advent season.
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Prayers

Karen and Dave Hostetler as they celebrate the life of Karen's father, Sanford Christophel, with family this coming week.

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for peace in the land where Jesus was born more than 2000 years ago. Pray, especially, for partners — *Bethlehem Bible College, Nazareth Hospital and Nazareth Village* — who faithfully work to peel away the layers of fear and hate that distort Jesus' message of peace, in a time of escalating violence in Israel-Palestine.

For members of Parkview Mennonite Church to reach out and invite friends, relatives, etc. to come and worship with them so that others can also experience God.

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.

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.

Pastoral Team	Phone	Email
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