

Together on the Journey

Advent 3

Anointing for Justice

Waterford Mennonite Church

December 15, 2024

Prelude	WMC Christmas Orchestra	JD Smucker, director
Gathering songs	Vyron & Elvina Schmidt	
	<i>O come, All Ye Faithful (v.1-3)</i>	VT 241
	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High (v.1-3)</i>	VT 249
	<i>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (v.1,2)</i>	VT 216
Welcome & Call to Worship	Eleanor Habecker, Christa Graber Kauffman	
Offering	<i>Please pass the friendship pads</i> (Gifts are for Operating Fund unless designated otherwise)	
Passing the Peace		
Lighting the Advent Candles		
Children's time	Fancheon Resler	
	<i>God, Give Me Faith like a Child</i>	VT 519
Song	<i>Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child</i> SS 19	
Scripture	Luke 4:14-21	
Sermon	"The Magical Gift Card"	Cindy Voth
Anointing	Pastors Matthew Herrmann, Ruthie Saunders	
Congregational prayer & Lighting the Peace Lamp*	Deron Bergstresser	
Benediction		
Sending song	<i>How Many Times We Start Again</i>	VT 553

*Thank you to Zoë Brown and Layna Stoltzfus for
creating the worship visuals for Advent.*

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 69th wedding anniversary on December 17.

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for the *Tanzania Mennonite Church*, as they begin three days of Sister Care/Compassionate Care seminars on Wednesday, for God's spirit to move in powerful ways to heal trauma and broken relationships.

Herb and Fancheon Resler, who will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on December 19.

Give thanks with *Belmont Neighborhood Fellowship* for the blessing of renewed energy in worship, sermon dialogue, and fellowship; and pray for wisdom as they discern what future direction to take.

We remember this week our JYF Sponsors *Mariko Claassen, Krista Daniels, Mark Daniels* and *Nathan Berkey*.

We pray for *all those around the world affected by extreme weather disasters* and that *governments, industries and other producers* would move decisively toward changes that are sustainable and mitigate environmental situations. Pray that we would respond as Christians by tending to those affected, changing our lifestyles and speaking out.

We celebrate with *Ariana Pérez Diener* on her engagement to marry *Sam Lasiti*, a previous Mennonite Central Committee IVEPer from Kenya.

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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