

**Together on the Journey**

**Christmas**

**Keeping Promises**

# Waterford Mennonite Church

December 29, 2024

Pre-service singing	Bob Brenneman, Anne Lehman
Go Tell It on the Mountain	VT 252
Love Has Come	VT 258
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	VT 243
Good Christian Friends Rejoice	VT 261
Gathering songs	
<i>Hark! The Glad Sound</i>	VT 217
<i>To Us a Child of Hope Is Born</i>	VT 259
<i>How Many Times We Start Again</i>	VT 553
Welcome & Call to Worship	Lynda Hollinger-Janzen, Cori Chupp
Lighting the Advent Candles	
Offering	<i>Please pass the friendship pads</i> (Gifts are for Mennonite Education unless designated otherwise)
Children's time	Aaron Lehman
<i>God, Give Me Faith like a Child</i>	VT 519
Song	<i>What Child Is This/Helpless and Hungry</i> VT 267/2868
Readers Theatre	"God's Big Plan"
Sermon	"It Takes a Village" Cindy Voth
Song of Response	<i>Joy to the World</i> VT 240
Congregational prayer & Lighting the Peace Lamp*	Deron Bergstresser
Benediction	
Sending song	<i>Sing a New World into Being</i> VT 809

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

*Wilmer Hollinger*, who celebrates his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday on Wednesday, January 1, for God's grace and joy to be poured out on him. Join in his celebration by signing a card for him at the table in the foyer.

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for *Alfonsina and José Oyanguren*, who are engaged in teaching and accompanying Toba-Qom communities in Argentina's Chaco region. Pray that our *Toba-Qom brothers and sisters* will be able to live ever more fully into God's abundant life.

*Andrew Smucker* as he continues his year with SALT in Bolivia.

*Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship* as they discern how best to live into the call to be Christ's loving, healing, caring presence to people who feel targeted or abandoned by national, state, and community leaders.

We pray for *Ron Graber* as he recovers from hip surgery, and give thanks that the surgery went well.

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

## 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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