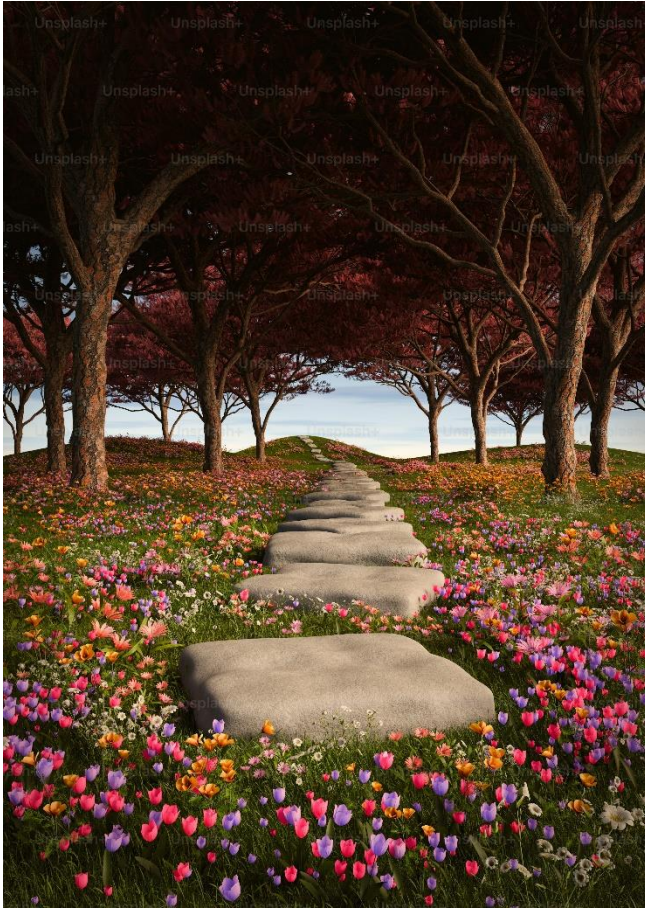


# Together on the Journey

## Advent 2



*Jigar Panchal, Unsplash*

## Opening Our Hearts

# Waterford Mennonite Church

December 8, 2024

Prelude		Shelby Eby
Gathering songs		Worship Team
	<i>Holy Spirit, Come with Power</i>	VT 57
	<i>Let Us Build a House</i>	VT 36
	<i>Comfort, Comfort, O My People</i>	VT 212
Welcome and Call to worship		Carla Miller, Katie Misz
Lighting the Advent Candles		Lorene Miller
Offering	<i>Please pass the friendship pads</i>	
	(Gifts are for Mennonite Education unless designated otherwise)	
Children's time		Jerry Landes
	<i>God, Give Me Faith like a Child</i>	VT 519
Song	<i>How Many Times We Start Again</i>	VT 553
Scripture	Joel 2:12-13, 28-29	Karen Thompson
	Luke 11:13	Gretchen Bateman
Sermon	"Wake Up and Dream"	Deron Bergstresser
Song of response	<i>Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus</i>	VT 218
Congregational prayer & Lighting the Peace Lamp*		
Benediction		
Sending song	<i>Sing a New World into Being</i>	VT 809

*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**

We join *Len & Loanne Harms* in waiting to receive word of travel clearance for the Ukrainian family of five they are sponsoring, and for the *Ukrainian family* as they wait in this liminal space.

Join Mennonite Mission Network in praying for *Odesa Theological Seminary in Ukraine*. Professors are adapting curricula to the changing needs of a society traumatized by prolonged war. Pray for *the students*, who are immediately putting into practice what they learn in their courses about Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and crisis counseling and as they share the healing love of Christ.

We remember this week our MYF Sponsors *Matt Bateman, Becky Bateman, Emily Bowman, Colton Eby, Shelby Eby, Emily Hunsbaker, and Luke Voth*.

*Belmont Mennonite Church* as they continue to discern learning from and connecting with the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, updating bylaws and Safe Church policy, and navigating changing attendance and participation patterns.

## **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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