

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 23, 2018

Advent IV

Rain down, you heavens, from above,
And let the skies
pour down righteousness!
Let the earth open,
let them bring forth salvation—
And let righteousness
spring up together!

Isaiah 45:8a



Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church Canada

322 East Avenue, Kitchener, Ontario N2H 1Z5 (519)742-5812 www.holycrosskitchener.org

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

8:30 am - Divine Service

10:00 am - Children's Christmas Service

11:15 pm - Congregational Christmas Fellowship

2:00 pm - Nuer Language Service

Order of Service: (8:30) Divine Service Setting Three, LSB page 184
(10:00) See Printed Order of Service

Hymns: 341, 384, 357

Readings: Micah 5:2-5a (Pew Bible, Page 902)
Hebrews 10:5-10 (Pew Bible, Page 1167)
St. Luke 1:39-45 (Pew Bible, Page 991)

Sermon Micah 5:2-5
"TOO SMALL NO MORE"

Serving in God's House Today: Pastor Nolan Astley (8:30 Officiant), Pastor Roland Syens (10:00 Officiant), Anne Forler (8:30 Organist), Kate Sommer (8:30 Acolyte), Erik Reed (8:30 Sound Operator).

Prayer Concerns: In our prayers today we remember *the family of Jim Keller* who passed away suddenly last Saturday evening, at age 59. The memorial service will be held at Walser's Funeral Home on Saturday December 29 at 3:30 pm. We also remember those who are *sick or shut-in* over the Christmas holiday and also those who will travel to be with loved ones. May God grant us all a blessed celebration of the Saviour's birth and renewed faith as we move forward as His people.

Adult Bible study is in recess the today. On **Sunday, December 30** there will be a mission presentation focussing upon our assistance to Good Shepherd Lutheran in Moncton NB.

Sunday School and Bible classes are in recess today as we gather in the sanctuary for our **annual Sunday School Christmas Service at 10:00 a.m.** Sunday School children should meet in the basement at 9:40 a.m. to line up for our processional. Join us in the gym following the service for a time of fellowship.

Coming Events...

Nursery on **Christmas Eve at the 4:30pm service** there will be a staffed nursery for little ones needing care.

St. John's Kitchen On **Thursday December 27**, we have an opportunity to serve a hot lunch to the homeless and working poor in our community. There are many different opportunities to participate in this day, as it truly takes a team of people for this ministry. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parlour if you would like to take part. Contact Anita Syens if you have any questions 519-896-7574

YABS Christmas Party on **Friday, December 28 at 5:30 p.m.** It's at the Chernukhin's at 104 Pinebrook Pl. in Waterloo. It's a potluck and also a White Elephant gift exchange, so you can bring a meal/snack and something from your house you no longer want for a gift exchange. If you need a ride to/from the party please email or call/text me Oleg ahead of time and we will arrange something for you: 519-807-2197.

Youth Lock-In – Not tired out from the holidays? **December 28-29** will be the Youth Lock-In for Grades 8-12. Keep your eyes on your email for more details.

Men's Retreat will be held at the **Guelph Bible Centre on March 1 and 2, 2019**. The speaker will be Rev. Charles St-Onge, Pastor at Ascension Lutheran Church in Montreal. The topic will be Science and the Bible. The cost will be the same as the 2015 retreat, \$125 for lodging, meals and snacks or \$85 if no accommodation required.

Those Who Make Offerings to the Lord's work: Just a reminder that contributions included for 2018 are those received by **Monday, December 31**. All contributions received after this date will be credited to 2019.

Please Note...

Fill the Clothing Tree in the Parlour! We distribute gifts of toques, mittens, scarves, socks & children's items right after Christmas.

Last Week at Holy Cross...

Sunday Attendance:	104 & 216	Total	320	('17 – 268)
Communion Attendance:	95 & 155	Total	250	('17 – 127)
Christmas in Brass	120	Total	120	
Longest Night	56	Total	56	('17 – 34)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 35 Staff: 11	Total	46	('17 – 49)
Adult Bible Class:	Pupils: 44 Staff: 1	Total	45	('17 – 50)
YABS:	Pupils: 5 Staff: 2	Total	7	('17 – 4)
Youth Bible Class:	Pupils: 6 Staff: 2	Total	8	('17 – 10)

Thankoffering: In honour of **ARNOLD & CHERI DRUNG** to the Refugee Family Sponsorship from Richard & Christine Seip.

Memorial: In memory of **GORDON & DOROTHY WEBER** to the Refugee Family Sponsorship from Peter Weber. In memory of **LOVED ONES** to Canadian Lutheran World Relief from Doreen Groff.

Weekly Calendar

Monday December 24 to Sunday December 30, 2018

Monday	Christmas Eve Service, Church	4:30 p.m.
	Christmas Eve Service, Church	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Christmas Day Holy Communion Service, Church	10:00 a.m.
	Nuer Language Service, Church	2:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Boxing Day, <i>Church office closed</i>	
	Slovak Service, Church	3:30 p.m.
Thursday	St. John's Kitchen, <i>St. John's Kitchen</i>	8:30 a.m.
Friday	YABS Christmas Party, <i>Chernukhin's home</i>	5:30 p.m.
Friday-Saturday	Youth Lock-In, <i>Everywhere</i>	7:00 p.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Sunday	The First Sunday after Christmas	
	Divine Service, Church	8:30 a.m.
	Mission Presentation, <i>Church</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Sunday School, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Divine Service, Church	11:00 a.m.

By God's grace, the members of Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church will be a caring, vibrant diverse community of blessed believers, lovingly reaching out with the message of Jesus Christ." - *Vision Statement 2010*