

The Second Sunday in Advent

December 4, 2016



THE MESSENGER OF THE COVENANT IN WHOM
YOU TAKE DELIGHT IS COMING, SAYS THE LORD.

THE WAY

- MALACHI 3:1

HOLY CROSS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

322 East Avenue, Kitchener, ON N2H 1Z5

519-742-5812

www.holycrosskitchener.org

The Second Sunday in Advent

8:30 & 11:00 am - Holy Communion Services

9:45 am - Sunday School, and Bible Classes for All Ages

1:00 pm - Christmas Caroling

Order of Service: Divine Service Setting Four, LSB page 203

(11:00) See Printed Order of Service

Hymns: 344, 359, (331, 348), 338

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10 (Pew Bible, Page 664)
Romans 15:4-13 (Pew Bible, Page 1101)
St. Matthew 3:1-12 (Pew Bible, Page 955)

Anthem: (11:00 - Church Choir) "Yahweh, Hear Our Pleas" by Randy Vader, Joy Rouse
Jennifer Massicotte (*director*), Heather Schein (*piano*), Brian Hallman (*tambourine*)

Special Music: Jonathan Astley (*French Horn*)

Sermon: "STUMPED" Isaiah 11:1-10

Serving in God's House Today: Pastor Astley (*Preacher*), Pastor Syens (*Officiant*), Pastor Lloyd Wentzlaff (*8:30 Communion Assistant*), Rick Hutfloetz, Joe Das (*11:00 Communion Assistants*), Jennifer Massicotte (*organist*), Ella Kuhlman & Kendra Schmidt (*8:30 Acolytes*), Jonathan Das & William Lavender (*11:00 Acolytes*), Jerry Golschesky (*8:30 Sound Operator*), Chris Bohl (*11:00 Sound Operator*)

Prayer Concerns: In our prayers today we ask God to grant us a ***blessed Advent time*** as we prepare our hearts not only for Christmas, but also for the return of our Lord and Saviour on the Last Day. We pray for ***all our students*** who are studying for exams and writing papers as they prepare for the Christmas Holidays. We continue to pray for ***those struggling with illness, Paul VanderGriendt*** as he continues his rehabilitation in Toronto and for those who are recovering from surgery. We pray that ***the message of Christ this Christmas*** through services, preaching and carols will bring comfort to people throughout the world. We pray for ***our carolers*** as they minister to our shut-ins this afternoon. We ask God to be with all who mourn, particularly with ***Marilyn Peters and family*** as they mourn the passing of Marilyn's husband Bob Peters whose memorial service was held yesterday at Walser Funeral Home. We thank the Lord for ***the many people who volunteer*** and care for others.

Children's Activity Bulletins... Ask an usher for a special Advent bulletin to help your kids prepare for Christmas in an activity based way.

Caroling is today.. Join us at ***1:00 p.m. in the basement.*** We'll organize into teams, then set out to sing carols to our shut-ins. We plan to return to the church at 4:45 p.m.

Today's Education Hour

Time Together is in recess until January 8. **Praising God** for a great 1st season – thanks to Beth, Michelle, Ashley, Krysti and the Families!

Age 3 Angels will meet with Teacher Joan today & next week. Parents, please complete sign in & out paperwork with her.


Sunday School Opening is in the Basement today and next week. We'll be singing & then off to our classrooms today but **FULL REHEARSAL next Sunday, December 11.**

YABS this Sunday will be led by Melanie. The topic is "Apologetics".

Adult Bible Class is lead by Pastor Syens as he continues the study on the book of 1 Peter.

Coming Events...

TWO Saturday Children's Christmas Service Practises to be held December 10 & 17 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. "Extra choir" meets 11:30 – 11:50.

 **Reflections of Christmas: Concert & Carol Sing!** Join us for a free afternoon of music, carols, readings, and stories to celebrate this wonderful time of year on **Sunday, December 11 at 2:00 p.m.** Hear some of your Christmas favourites presented for brass quintet and organ and some arrangements made famous by the Canadian Brass. Some familiar faces in the presenters are: Jonathan Astley, Mitch Kehn and Jennifer Massicotte from our church family! Join us afterwards for hot chocolate, hot apple cider, and Christmas baking! The concert is informal and feel free to bring children. A freewill offering will go to support the church organ fund as well as the musicians.

Our Children's Christmas Worship Service: Sunday School children will once again have the opportunity to lead a special worship service on **Sunday, December 18, 10 a.m.** A Congregation Fellowship time will follow the service in the Parish Hall Gym.

Calling all Bakers It's that time of year again where we ask if you can share some of your treats for the luncheon after the Children's Christmas Service on **Sunday, December 18.** The fellowship committee would appreciate **nut-free** cookies, squares, or Christmas cake to serve with the sandwiches, veggies & dip, cheese, tea & coffee. We hope to see everyone in the gym for some fellowship and a bite to eat.

Longest Night Service ...Christmas can be a difficult time for those who are experiencing loss in their lives, especially the loss of a loved one. Come join us at Holy Cross Lutheran Church for a special service of God's hope and comfort, **Monday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.** Refreshments to follow.

Volunteer's need at St. John's Kitchen! What a wonderful opportunity to serve a meal to the homeless and working poor in our community. This year, on **Wednesday, December 28**, we have the privilege of providing a meal to those who may not have one. Won't you join us this year, and bless others through this ministry. Sign-up sheet will be available soon at the Welcome Centre. Please only sign in the spaces that are allotted. Any questions~ contact Anita Syens at 519-896-7574.

Please Note

We Need Your Help! Can you help us distribute flyers to our neighborhood? If you have a few moments after Church or in the next day or two, we invite you to drop by the church and pick up a packet of invitations and distribute them to the neighborhood around the church. The Board of Evangelism is inviting the neighborhood and our community to a Christmas Concert and Carol Sing for next Sunday, December 11. The sooner we can get the flyers/invitations out the better. Packets in groups of 15-60 can be found in the parlour along with maps for the different areas. Thanks for helping out.

Advent Devotional Booklets are available at the Welcome Centre. Why not sit around the supper table, read a bit and meditate on God's Word, of the Advent and coming Christmas season? These can be rich moments for all families.

Pick up a Christmas Invitation and Invite a Friend! Share the joy of Christmas with a friend at one of our Christmas services! Pick up invitations from our Welcome Centre.

Our Clothing & Mitten Tree is set up in the narthex and is in need of **new socks & underwear** as well as the **new mittens, gloves, hats and scarves**. Your gifts are then forwarded to grateful folks who need them both locally and in communities far away. Clothing / Decoration will be accepted until December 21.

Christmas Poinsettias: Just a reminder that last year our members helped to purchase artificial poinsettias to decorate the church at Christmas. So there will be no need for us to have a sign up for them this year. We encourage our members who did sign up in past years to donate to your favourite mission this Christmas instead.

Last Week at Holy Cross...

Sunday Attendance:	93& 247	Total 340	('15 – 284)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 37 Staff: 12	Total 49	('15 – 53)
Adult Bible Class:	Pupils: 47 Staff: 1	Total 48	('15 – 44)
Youth Bible Class:	Pupils: 8 Staff: 1	Total 9	('15 – 8)
YABS:	Pupils: 9 Staff: 1	Total 10	('15 – 8)

Memorial: In memory of **ESTHER FLEISCHAUER** to the Organ Fund from Bruce & Norene Brubacher. In memory of **JANET CRESS** to the Unified Church Budget from Sherry Swartz-Hill. In memory of **WALLY GAFUR** to the Unified Church Budget from Marlene Lemon. To the Lutheran Hour from Bob & Jean Schmitt.

Weekly Calendar

Monday December 5 to Sunday December 11, 2016

Monday	ESL English Conversation, <i>Historic St. Paul's</i>	10:30 a.m.
	Griefshare, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	6:30 p.m.
	Brass Quintet Rehearsal, <i>Mezzanine</i>	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Pauls</i>	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Knotty Ladies, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	9:00 a.m.
	Board of Missions, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Board of Young Peoples, <i>Youth Centre</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Board of Fellowship, <i>Kitchen</i>	7:30 p.m.
	Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	8:30 p.m.
Thursday	Beginnings, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Prayer Group, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Praise Singers, <i>Church</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Church Choir, <i>Church</i>	8:00 p.m.
Friday	Small Group Bible Study, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Youth Event, <i>Youth Centre</i>	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	Sunday School Service Practice, <i>Church, Basement, Gym</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Brass Quintet Rehearsal, <i>Mezzanine</i>	4:00 p.m.
	WICK Event, <i>Waterloo Region Museum</i>	7:00 p.m.
Sunday	The Third Sunday in Advent	
	Divine Service, <i>Church</i>	8:30 a.m.
	Sunday School, <i>Basement</i>	9:45 a.m.
	YABS, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Youth Bible Class, <i>Youth Centre</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Divine Service, <i>Church</i>	11:00 a.m.
	Reflections of Christmas Concert, <i>Church</i>	2:00 p.m.
Slovak Congregation Service, <i>Church</i>	3:30 p.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*

**You're Invited To The Following
Advent/Christmas Services**

Advent



**Holy Cross
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church**

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Ontario N2H 1Z5
(519) 742-5812
www.holycrosskitchener.org

*The true light, which enlightens
everyone, was coming into the
world. John 1:9*

**Reflections of Christmas:
Christmas Concert & Carol Sing**

Sunday, December 11, 2016
2:00 p.m.

(fellowship & refreshments to follow)

**Sunday School Children's
Worship Service**

Sunday, December 18, 2016
10:00 a.m.

(congregation fellowship to follow ~ all are welcome)

Longest Night Service

Monday, December 19, 2016
7:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Services**

Saturday, December 24, 2016
4:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

**Christmas Day
Holy Communion Service**

Sunday, December 25, 2016
10:00 a.m.

**New Year's Eve
Holy Communion Service**

Saturday, December 31, 2016
7:00 p.m.

**New Year's Day
Holy Communion Service**

Sunday, January 1, 2017
10:00 a.m.