

# The Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 18, 2016



HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS  
ARE THE FEET OF A MESSENGER WHO PROCLAIMS

# PEACE

- ISAIAH 52:7

**HOLY CROSS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

322 East Avenue, Kitchener, ON N2H 1Z5

519-742-5812

[www.holycrosskitchener.org](http://www.holycrosskitchener.org)

# The Fourth Sunday in Advent

8:30 am - Holy Communion Service  
 10:00 am - Children's Christmas Service  
 11:15 am - Congregational Fellowship

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

**Hymns:** (8:30) 357 (v1-3), 347, (361, 349), 357 (v4-7)

**Readings:** Isaiah 7:1-7 (Pew Bible, Page 669)  
 Romans 1:1-10 (Pew Bible, Page 1090)  
 St. Matthew 1:18-25 (Pew Bible, Page 933)

**Sermon:** "THE CHRISTMAS LETTER" Romans 1:1-7

**Serving in God's House Today:** Pastor Nolan Astley (*Preacher*), Pastor Roland Syens, Pastor Lloyd Wentzlaff (*8:30 Communion Assistants*), Anne Forler (*8:30 Organist*), Jerry Golschesky (*8:30 Sound Operator*)

**Prayer Concerns:** In our prayers today we give thanks for **our Sunday School** and those who have worked tirelessly to prepare our special service today. We also remember all those who look to the Lord for healing including **Joan Klages** who in KW hospital after surgery to repair a broken hip, **Kurt Boese** who is at Freeport for rehab after a fall, and **Paul VanderGriendt** who is at Lyndhurst rehab hospital in Toronto. We also remember those who are shut-in or who will be alone at Christmas and we ask God to grant us all a blessed, safe holiday as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Sunday School and Bible classes are in recess today** as we gather in the sanctuary for our **annual Children's Christmas Worship 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.

**Advent Food Hamper Collection ends today!** All donations received this year will support the Community Cupboard at Historic St. Paul's Church. Your generous support of this food collection is very much appreciated.

## Education Update

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**Time Together through Young Adults** - we'll see you "in class" on January 8! Enjoy your Christmas Day and New Year's Day Worship Services only!

**Sunday School Families & Staff** - thank you for your willingness to be a part of our Children's Christmas Worship Service! Thanks to Claude Massicotte and Kaitlyn Neustaedter who came to practises to help with music & sound!

**Thanks to everyone who gifted us with items for the Clothing Tree!** We will distribute to Community Centres/Historic St. Paul's Community Cupboard on December 28.

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## Coming Events...

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**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.

**Help Needed!** The Board of Fellowship would appreciate help on **Tuesday, December 27 at 9:00 a.m.** in the church basement to assist in the prep work for St. John's Kitchen. People are needed to help peel potatoes and assemble the Shepherds' Pie! If you can help please contact Patti Koch at 519-741-5032.

**Volunteers needed 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 at the Welcome Centre. Please only sign in the spaces that are allotted. Any questions please contact Anita Syens at 519-896-7574.

**Those Who Make Offerings to the Lord's work:** Just a reminder that contributions included for 2016 are those received by **Saturday, December 31**. All contributions received after this date will be credited to 2017.

**Friday evening Bible Study** is in recess for the rest of December! It will resume in the new year on **Friday, January 6, 2017**.

**LINC returns on January 25, 2017:** Come to these friendly evenings with **Dinner, Bible Learning** for all ages (including Confirmation classes) and **Response Activities** from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Even our Lenten worship services are included in the mix! We'll meet for 11 Wednesdays, January 25 to April 5, with no LINC in March Break. **Register** for LINC in the parlour **on January 8, 15 and 22**.

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## Please Note

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**Organ Fund Update:** At the November Special Voters meeting unanimous approval was given proceed with the installation of the new-to-us Casavant Pipe Organ here at Holy Cross. However, before we sign the contract we need to raise another \$9,300.00. As you consider year-end giving options please give prayerful thought to a special gift to the organ fund. It is our hope to have the organ installed in plenty of time for the celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation in the fall of 2017.

**2017 Contribution Envelopes** are in your pigeonholes today! Pick them up and use them in the New Year. For those who did not receive an envelope packet and wish to have one, contact the church office (742-5812), or email to: [debbie@holycrosskitchener.org](mailto:debbie@holycrosskitchener.org).

## Last Week at Holy Cross...

<b>Sunday Attendance:</b>	115 & 156	Total 271	('15 – 606)
<b>Sunday School:</b>	Pupils: 46 Staff: 18	Total 64	('15 – 52)
<b>Adult Bible Class:</b>	Pupils: 34 Staff: 1	Total 35	('15 – n/a)
<b>Youth Bible Class:</b>	Pupils: 12 Staff: 1	Total 13	('15 – n/a)
<b>YABS:</b>	Pupils: 8 Staff: 1	Total 9	('15 – n/a)

**Memorial:** In memory of **ESTHER BUSCHERT** to the Organ Fund from Jim Buschert. In memory of **ALMA GOLSCHESKY** to the Organ Fund from Gerald & Lilian Golschesky. In memory of **ESTHER & ROY FLEISCHAUER** to the Organ Fund from Annette Collins. In memory of **WALLY GAFUR** to the Organ Fund from Grant & Joanne Schaefer. In memory of **BOB PETERS** to the Organ Fund from Gladys Musselman. In memory of **JANET CRESS** to the Organ Fund from Barry & Lorraine Cress, Anna Kremer, Raymond Kremer. In memory of **FRANK SCOTT** to the Missions from Gerry & Ila Wentzlauff. To the Organ Fund from Ron & Doris Johnston, Bruno & Jean Fergin, Norine Fielding.

**Thankofferings:** In honour of **JENNIFER MASSICOTTE, HEATHER SCHEIN, ANNE FORLER** to the Organ Fund from Brian & Leslie Ann Webb. In honour of **JENNIFER MASSICOTTE** and **HEATHER SCHEIN** to the Organ Fund from, Jack & Elaine Kahl.

## Weekly Calendar

Monday December 19 to Sunday December 25, 2016

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Longest Night Service</b> , Church .....	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	Board of Stewardship, Triple Bible Classroom .....	7:00 p.m.
<b>Wednesday</b>	Church Band, Mezzanine.....	7:30 p.m.
	Ladies Ensemble Rehearsal, Mezzanine .....	8:30 p.m.
<b>Thursday</b>	Beginnings, Downstairs.....	9:30 a.m.
	Church Choir, Church.....	6:30 p.m.
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Service</b> , Church.....	<b>4:30 p.m.</b>
	<b>Christmas Eve Service</b> , Church.....	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>The Nativity of Our Lord</b>	
	<b>Christmas Day Holy Communion Service</b> , Church .....	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>