

Order of Worship: Sunday, December 8, 2024

Second Advent

10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for Him, to give His people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he lived in the wilderness until he appeared publicly to Israel.

Opening prayer

Opening Hymn: #181 HWB - My soul proclaims with wonder

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10 (NIV)

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him; the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD; and He will delight in the fear of the LORD.

He will not judge by what He sees with His eyes, or decide by what He hears with His ears; but with righteousness He will judge the needy, with justice He will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth; with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be His belt and faithfulness the sash around His waist.

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.

They will neither harm nor destroy on all My holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Hymn: #180 HWB - The angel Gabriel

Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-8 (NIV) Heather

Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All people are like grass,

and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever. ”

Message: *Preparing the way – Confession ~ Pastor Jim*

Kneeling prayer: confession and affirmation.

Hymn of Response: #172 HWB - O come O come Immanuel [v.1-4]

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Closing Hymn: #275 VT - O Beautiful Star

Benediction

Postlude

Please join us downstairs for sermon discussion/coffee time.

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**Announcements**

**Pastor Jim has a few pieces still available from his workshop** [boards, bowls, life edge pieces] and Gail has a beautiful beaded wall hanging as well, which are available by donation for potential Christmas gifts. All donations will be sent to the Food Bank of Waterloo Region.

**From Canadian Mennonite:** With the Canada Post strike, your December print issue will be delayed. Sign up for digital delivery to get it by email on November 29. CM sends an email each Friday and attaches a PDF copy of the magazine once per month. Contact Lorna at [office@canadianmennonite.org](mailto:office@canadianmennonite.org).

**Wilmot Ignited Christmas Choir** will be performing at these events over the Christmas season:

1. Thursday, December 12, 7:00 pm - WI Christmas Program at Nithview Home auditorium
2. Sunday, December 29, 10:00 am - Joint WI service at Wilmot Mennonite Church, featuring the WI Christmas Choir

**Silver Lake Mennonite Camp is seeking** a Fundraising & Communications Manager. This is a permanent, half-time, hybrid position in Kitchener. If you would like to inspire and engage SLMC's generous community, read more at [slmc.ca/about/board-of-directors](http://slmc.ca/about/board-of-directors) and apply soon! **Winter and Spring Retreats Registration Now Open:** Come to Silver Lake in 2025 for fun camp experiences! Fathers & Kids Retreat (Jan 17-19), Women's Retreat (Jan 31-Feb 2), Winter Camp for Grown-Ups (Feb 28-Mar 2), Staff Alumni Retreat (Mar 21-23), Music Retreat (Mar 28-30), Family Camp (May 16-18). Go to [slmc.ca/retreats](http://slmc.ca/retreats) for more info. **Summer Camp:** Registration for overnight camp and day camp opens February 1 at 8am. Outtrip registration opens Jan 7 – sign up before Jan 30 to get \$100 off! Visit [slmc.ca/summer-camp](http://slmc.ca/summer-camp) to have a sneak peek at the 2025 schedule.

**Wilmot Family Resource Centre Community Christmas Dinner,** Wed. December 25, 12:00 noon, Steinman Mennonite Church. See poster for more details.

**Exciting News! The New MCC Meat Cannery is ready!** *Saturday, January 18, 2025 from 1:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., 65 Heritage Dr., New Hamburg* After months of hard work and anticipation, the MCC Meat Cannery in New Hamburg is complete—and it's time to celebrate! **Join us for the grand dedication event.** Explore the new facility. Discover the life-changing impact of MCC's canned meat around the world. Enjoy delicious refreshments and appetizers. No need to RSVP—just come as you are and be part of this special moment. For details, visit [mcc.org/meat-cannery-dedication](http://mcc.org/meat-cannery-dedication).

**Join our comforter knotting blitz!** *January 25, 2025, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the MCC Hub, 65 Heritage Dr, New Hamburg.* Enjoy hot beverages, great company, and the joy of giving. No experience needed - knotting comforters is fun for all! Go to [mcc.org/events](http://mcc.org/events) for more info.

**Lebanon Emergency Response.** With the escalating violence in Lebanon, people's lives are in danger and the need for basic necessities is great. MCC partners have mobilized in central Lebanon and Beirut to help, providing meals, hygiene items, bedding, health services, hot meals and psychosocial support for children. Every donation made by Canadians to a Humanitarian Coalition member is matched to a maximum of \$3 million until November 3, 2024. MCC participates in the Humanitarian Coalition through our membership in Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Donate today 888.622.6337 [mcc.org/lebanonemergency](http://mcc.org/lebanonemergency)

**Upcoming Worship Services:**

Dec 8: Pastor Jim

Dec 15: Robert Mann

Dec 22: Pastor Jim - Potluck to follow the service

Dec 24: Christmas eve service

**This year's Wilmot Ignite long weekend services** are as follows:

Dec 29: hosted by Wilmot

**Future events**

**\*Thanks to all who helped in the spring cleaning of the foyer, office and sanctuary!**

**The basement cleaning is on hold until construction of the ramp is completed.**

Dec 10: Christmas Caroling. It will be on Tuesday, Dec 10th @ 6:15pm starting at Clare Dietz's place of residence (Highview). The plan will be to go to Sheryl & Gail's in Waterloo followed by Donell & Judy's, Wayne & Floris in New Hamburg.

Dec 22: Christmas potluck and then carolling at church.