Welcome to
Calvin Presbyterian Church

December 17, 2017
Third Sunday of Advent - Joy
Calvin Presbyterian Church
248 Westmount Road East,
Kitchener, ON N2M 4Z1
Phone 519-744-4061
www.calvinchurch.ca

As the prelude begins, you are invited to enter into quiet, and allow the music to help prepare you for worship. (= Please stand if you are able)*

Prelude

Introit *"Be still for the presence"* David Evan
Soloist: Olivia Dodge

Welcome

The Life and Work of the Church

Call to Worship (see 'Third Sunday of Advent: Joy' insert)

Leader: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice."
People: Christ comes to bring good news to the oppressed, to offer healing to the broken, to comfort those who mourn.
Leader: Rejoice and give thanks, for God comes to offer good news and comfort.
People: Tears of sorrow shall turn to laughter and weeping into shouts of praise!
Leader: Enter the joy of the Lord! Take delight in all of God's deeds and promises.
People: The Lord has done great things for us! We shall rejoice with praise and thanksgiving!

(Light the candle of joy.)

Written by The Rev. Jeffrey Murray
Produced by Presbyterian World Service & Development

Golden Verse: *"The Lord is not slow about his promise,… but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance."* 2 Peter 3:9

Hymn Sing (remain seated)

> *There will be 3 hymns sung with the congregation's choice from the list on page 4 of the bulletin.*

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (Traditional Version)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn Sing (remain seated)

> *There will be 2 hymns sung with the congregation's choice from the list on page 4 of the bulletin.*

Anthem *"Who is this tiny babe?"* Suzanne Lord

Children's Time

Scriptures

- Luke 21:7-11; 20; 25-28
- 2 Peter 3:1-13

Congregational Response

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
Response: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Understanding

I pray, Lord, that You would give me a deeper understanding of Your Word - Your plan for Israel, Your plan for church. I pray, as I read and study the scripture, that my heart would be flooded with light so that I can understand all that You would teach me, that I would live in a way that is honouring You, and that I would draw closer to You with every passing day. Amen

Golden Verse - 2 Peter 3:9

Sermon "Jesus Will Come Back"

* Hymn #131 *"Tomorrow Christ is coming"* (vv. 1-4)
(Tune: "The church's one foundation")

Offering

>> Presentation of gifts, tithes and offering during the singing of the hymn

* Prayer of Dedication

Lord God, our Refuge and our Fortress, receive our gifts as pledges of our trust. In our giving, we proclaim that it is You who protects and provides. Bless our gifts, and use them and us to bring Your justice to all creation. Amen

Prayers of the People

Golden Verse - 2 Peter 3:9

* Hymn #115 *"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"* (vv. 1-3)

* Benediction

* Song of Blessing: Hymn #119 *"Hope is a star"* (v. 3)

Postlude

Hymn Sing

Note that we will sing selected verses.

1) #133 – Go, tell it on the mountain (vv. 1-3)
2) #137 – Born in the night (vv. 1-4)
3) #138 – While shepherds watched (vv. 1-2,6)
4) #141 – Good Christians, all rejoice (vv. 1-3)
5) #142 – I wonder as I wander (vv. 1,3)
6) #144 – 'Twas in the moon of wintertime (vv. 1-2,4)
7) #145 – In the bleak mid-winter (vv. 1,4)
8) #149 – Away in a manger (vv. 1-3)
9) #150 – Jesus, our brother, kind and good (vv. 1-2)
10) #157 – The snow lay on the ground (vv. 1,4)
11) #160 – Unto us a child is born (vv. 1-2)
12) #161 – What child is this (vv. 1-3)
13) #166 – Once in royal David's city (vv. 1-2)
14) #168 – See amid the winter's snow (vv. 1-2,5)

Thanks to:
scripture reader – Mary Hetherington
greeters – Maija Eclarin & Dave Duncan
Advent liturgy readers – Roi, Maija & Desi Eclarin

All are welcome to Coffee Hour
in Calvin Hall following the service.

The picture on the front of the bulletin is reprinted with permission from imagebank.org.uk

NOTICES FOR
CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
December 17, 2017

Good morning to all who are worshipping with us today. If you are visiting, please make yourself known to us. We encourage you to fill out one of the visitor envelopes in the pew and give it to an usher or put it in the offering plate. Nursery care is provided for young children.
Rev. Frank Szatmari is willing to visit with those who need pastoral support. Please call Rev. Frank for appointment request at 226-647-4705.

Next Week: "Rejoice! Jesus is Here"

CALVIN CALENDAR	
Sun. Dec. 17	- Prayer Group, 9:15 a.m., Lounge - Worship Service, 10:15 a.m., Sanctuary
Tues. Dec. 19	- Advent Evening, 6:30 p.m., Narthex
Wed. Dec. 20	- Seniors Exercise Program, 1 p.m., Hall
Thurs. Dec. 21	- Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary
Sun. Dec. 24	- Prayer Group, 9:15 a.m., Lounge - Worship Service, 10:15 a.m., Sanctuary - Christmas Eve Worship Service, 7 p.m., Sanctuary
Mon. Dec. 25	- Christmas Day Worship Service, 10:15 a.m., Sanctuary

Advent Evening – All ages gathering in the Narthex on Tuesday Dec. 19, 6:30-7:30 p.m. for a time of devotions, Christmas carols, crafts and a snack. Sign up in the Narthex or call the church office if you plan to attend so we can purchase supplies.

2017 Christmas Pageant - Thank you to all the children and youth who participated in the Sunday School Christmas Pageant last Sunday. Thank you, also, to all the parents, grandparents and caregivers who brought their children to extra rehearsals, coached them with lines, helped prepare outfits, or supported in any way. Have a blessed Christmas.

Blood Donor Clinic – Monday Dec. 18, 2:30-7:30 p.m. in Calvin Hall. Help save a life!

Special Services in December

- Sunday December 24 – Service at 10:15 a.m. + Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m.
- Monday December 25 – Christmas Day Service, 10:15 a.m. Come celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Refreshments will be served in the Narthex following the Christmas Eve service – hosted by the Men's Breakfast Group. The men of Calvin are asked to bring cookies etc. to share. Juice will be supplied.

Seniors Exercise Class is cancelled on December 27 and will resume on Wednesday January 3.

Holiday Hours – The office will be closed the week of December 24-30. Rev. Frank will be available for pastoral care during this time. All announcements for the Dec. 24 and 31 bulletins must be received in the office by 10 a.m. on Thursday Dec. 21.

Envelopes for 2018 – Pick yours up in the Narthex today! Your envelope number might have changed so please discard any leftover envelopes from previous years. If you would like to have envelopes but have not been assigned them, let the office know.

Thinking of switching to **PAR** (Pre-authorized remittance)? Want to change the amount of your givings? Contact Margaret Woods in the office.

Donations must be received by the church by Sunday Dec. 31 to be part of the 2017 tax year. Anything received on January 1 will be considered part of the 2018 givings. Contact Frank Thompson with any questions.

Volunteers to read scripture in January-March 2018 are needed. Please sign up in the Narthex.

Your report is important for our congregation's **2017 Annual Report**! The deadline for submissions is January 30, 2018. Please drop off your report at the church office or email it to Margaret Woods at margaret@calvinchurch.ca. The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday February 25, 2018.

Precaution – Be sure not to leave keys or any other valuables in your pockets when you hang up your coat.

BUDGET REQUESTS – It is that time of year when we ask all committees to prepare your budget requests for next year. Please submit all requests to Frank Thompson as soon as possible – in writing or by email to frank.thompson@calvinchurch.ca.

Our traditional **Calvin Days** financial drive is currently underway to let us bolster Calvin's financial resilience, and to ensure our capability to deliver on our church's vision and mission is not diminished. Our goal this year is to raise $17,500, which we hope to use to eliminate our accumulated debt. This is a small increase over what we successfully raised last year, and would finally free us from the lingering burden of the debt gathered over the past several years. If you are able, please consider contributing a little extra during our Calvin Days drive to keep Calvin the stable home that we all rely on. Every little bit helps! As of December 10, $16,740 has been contributed.

Menno Singers Messiah Sing-a-Long – Today, 3 p.m., with orchestra and soloists at St. Jacobs Mennonite Church (1310 King St. N., St. Jacobs). Bring your score and join your voice part, or come and listen to your favourite choruses. Attendance is by donation with tax receipts for over $20.

Renaissance Singers & the Choir of St. John the Evangelist present
Festive Voices: Lessons and Carols for Christmas – Today, 7 p.m. at Church of St. John the Evangelist (Duke & Water Streets, Kitchener). Free-will offering. Wheelchair accessible.

The Longest Night Service - Thursday Dec. 21 at Knox Presbyterian Church (50 Erb St. W., Waterloo) at 7 p.m. This time of year can be stressful and sad, especially when you have lost a loved one. You are invited to attend a service with time for quiet reflection, music and words of encouragement, lighting a candle, and a brief address from people who know what it is like to seek hope in difficult days.

The winter 2017 issue of **Presbyterian Connection newspaper** is available in the Narthex and we are in it! Check out page 19 for a picture of Calvin's Flag Day.

Canadian Bible Society Daily Bible Reading Guide for 2018 – Copies are available in the Narthex on the large wooden table. If the Guide is used every day during 2018, 48 books of the Bible will be utilized and 11 will be read in their entirety.

Please notify the office by phone, 519-744-4061 or email calvin@calvinchurch.ca if you learn of any sickness, shut in, new baby or any need within the congregation.
Announcements for the bulletin **must** be received
by Margaret Woods in the office by 10 a.m. Thursday.

Minister: Rev. Frank Szatmari
Phone 226-647-4705, email revfrank@calvinchurch.ca
Minister in Association: Rev. Bob Duncanson
Phone 519-745-2142, email rduncanson@rogers.com
Clerk of Session: Dean Bulloch
Phone 519-897-8332, email dean@calvinchurch.ca
Program Coordinator: Michael Turman
email michael.turman@calvinchurch.ca
Michael's Office Hours – Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Music Leader: Michel Allard
email michel@calvinchurch.ca
Office Administrator: Margaret Woods
email margaret@calvinchurch.ca

Office Hours
Tuesday and Thursday – 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Wednesday and Friday – 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.