

Welcome to
Calvin Presbyterian Church
"Renew, Rebuild & Reach Out"



Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 23, 2018

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)*

Carol Sing Before Service

- #166 "Once in royal David's city" (vv. 1-4)
- #147 "Angels we have heard on high" (vv. 1-3)
- #161 "What child is this" (vv. 1-3)
- "The little drummer boy" (vv. 1-3)
- #133 "Go tell it on the mountain" (vv. 1-3)
- #138 "While shepherds watched" (vv. 1,3,5)
- "Do you hear what I hear?" (vv. 1-4)
- #142 "I wonder as I wander" (vv. 1-4)
- #168 "See amid the winter's snow" (vv. 1-3)
- #144 "Twas in the moon of wintertime" (vv. 1-4)

Welcome

The Life and Work of the Church

Call to Worship (see 'Fourth Sunday in Advent: Love' insert)

(Light the candle of love)

Leader: People of love, God desires people who are not afraid to risk everything and respond to the invitation of God's kingdom.

People: Make us those loving people!

Leader: God longs for people to overcome prejudice and fear. God wants bold and loving companions on the way.

People: Make us those loving people!

Leader: God yearns for people who find creative ways to invite others into loving community.

People: Make us those loving people!

Leader: Let's pray together...

People: God of love, we thank you for the invitation to live in your love. Bring light to our path as we await the Lord of love. Amen

Written by the Rev. Robert J. Murray
Produced by Presbyterian World Service & Development

Golden Verse: "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29b

* Hymn #117 "Herald, sound the note of judgement" (vv. 1-4)

Offering

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

* Prayer of Dedication

I praise you, Almighty God! You have blessed me with immense wealth and opportunity. Lord, you have commanded me to honour you with my wealth, and I pray that you will be honoured greatly this day as I give to

you what is already yours. Bless me to be able to give more for your glory and in your name. Amen

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (Contemporary Version)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

* Hymn #114 "*Emmanuel, Emmanuel*" (3x)

Children's Time

Anthem "*To a maiden meek and mild*"

Spanish Carol/ arr. A. Zabel

Scriptures

- Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7
- John 1:29-34

Congregational Response

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

* Hymn #145 "*In the bleak mid-winter*" (vv. 1-4)

Prayer of Understanding

Source of all wisdom, insight and understanding, as we read Scripture today, help us to focus on you. Show us your will and attune our ears to hear your word. In the name of Jesus our teacher and saviour, we pray. Amen

Golden Verse - John 1:29b

Sermon "The Lamb of God"

* Hymn #165 "*O little town of Bethlehem*" (vv. 1-4)

Prayers of the People

Golden Verse - John 1:29b

* Hymn #125 "*People, look east*" (vv. 1-5)

* Benediction

* Song of Blessing: #119 "*Hope is a star*" (v. 4)

Postlude

Thanks to: scripture reader – Rob Johnston; greeters – Kevin Kingsley and Betsy Dickie
Advent liturgy readers - Rob Johnston, Kim Moore and Audrey; coffee hour hosts – Ena Joachim Wuest

NOTICES FOR CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH December 23, 2018

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 and your elders are willing to visit with those who need pastoral support. Please call Rev. Frank for appointment request at 226-647-4705.

Join us for communion services at Calvin – first Sunday of February, June, October and December plus Maundy Thursday and Easter.

Next Sunday: "As God's Child"

CALVIN CALENDAR

Sun. Dec. 23	- Prayer Group, 9:15 a.m., Lounge - Carol Sing, 9:45 a.m., Sanctuary - Worship Service, 10:15 a.m., Sanctuary
Mon. Dec. 24	- Christmas Eve Service, 7 p.m., Sanctuary
Tues. Dec. 25	- Christmas Day Service, 10:15 a.m., Sanctuary
Sunday Dec. 30	- Prayer Group, 9:15 a.m., Lounge - Worship Service, 10:15 a.m., Sanctuary

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

Special Services

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



2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES – If you do not have offering envelopes and would like a set for 2019, please 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 Dec. 31 to be part of the 2018 tax year. Anything received on January 1 will be considered part of the 2019 givings. Contact Frank Thompson with any questions.

Holiday Hours –The office will be open this week only on Friday Dec. 28. Regular office hours resume Wednesday Jan. 2. Rev. Frank will be available for pastoral care during this time.

PYROS Youth - We are planning to go tubing on Thursday, January 3 at the Chicopee Tube Park, 1600 River Road East, Kitchener. Meet at the hill at 5 p.m. We'll tube for 2 hours. Bring \$10 toward cost of hill pass. If weather is warm, we will go to Skyzone instead. Contact Michael michael.turman@calvinchurch.ca to RSVP.

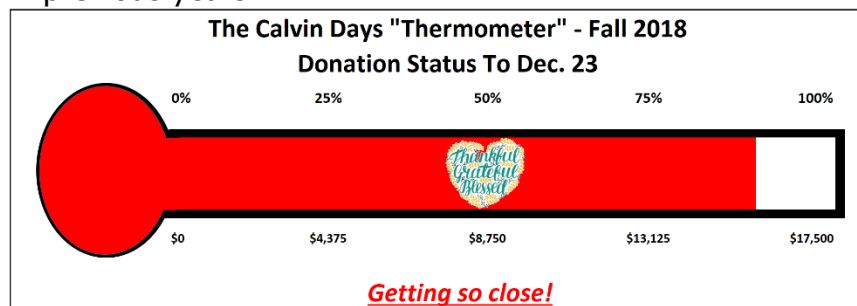
Your report is important for our congregation's **2018 Annual Report!** The deadline for submissions is January 29, 2019. Please email your report to Margaret Woods at margaret@calvinchurch.ca or drop it off at the church office. The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday February 24, 2019.

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

Volunteers to read scripture and host coffee hour in January-March 2019 are needed. Please sign up in the Narthex.

Greetings again Calvin,

With Christmas almost upon us, we would like to offer this final written update on our annual **Calvin Days** funding drive. After last week's collection, our total for the 2018 initiative stands at \$15,832, representing 90% of our goal, and leaving us just \$1,668 short of our mark. Even if we stop our efforts today, this total is a remarkable achievement; and it's an effort I want to thank the entire congregation for. Our additional, Calvin Day contributions to the treasury, have traditionally allowed us to achieve more and remaining financially intact, despite the unexpected surprises that often have overtaken us in previous years.



If there is anyone who still wishes to contribute to this year's success, our Treasurer tells me that we can still process donations for 2018 up to the 31st of December. Should the spirit of giving overtake you in this holy season, we will be thrilled to see how much closer to the goal your generosity can get us!

Rob Johnston, on behalf of M&S

The Presbyterian Connection is a Canadian Christian newspaper that strives to unite Presbyterians from across the country through stories, reflections, interviews and articles, allowing us to share and develop our faith. It is distributed four times per year, free of charge. The goal of the newspaper is to further equip leaders, connect congregations and missions, facilitate communication and highlight denominational work—strengthening our denominational ties across the country. The winter 2018 issue has arrived! Copies are available in the Narthex. To receive free home delivery, subscribe online at

presbyterian.ca/presbyterian-connection or contact the PCC Communications Office at 1-800-619-7301 ext. 243.

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.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society invites you to their **38th Annual Burns Supper** – Saturday Jan. 19 at St. Jacobs Community Center (29 Parkside Dr., St. Jacobs), 5:30-11:30 p.m. A fine evening's entertainment in true Scottish fashion with traditional Scottish fare and Burns programme. Dancing for everyone. Tickets: \$50 per person before Dec. 31 or \$55 per person in January. Ticket order forms available on the bulletin board near the kitchen. Contact Bob Kerr at 519-576-2378 for more information.

Mission Moment: Yemen Crisis Response

Yemen is the worst humanitarian crisis the world currently faces. Conflict has resulted in widespread hunger, with more than eight million people facing famine. Ongoing bombing campaigns and disease outbreaks are devastating the lives of millions as the war continues into its fourth year. Yemen's cholera outbreak is the worst in the world—those facing extreme hunger are even more susceptible to the disease. The World Health Organization reports that roughly 10,000 suspected cases are being reported every week. Access to clean water and sanitation services are essential. **PWS&D will be responding in Yemen with emergency food assistance and water and sanitation programs.** Canadian Foodgrains Bank members are responding to provide over 1,000 vulnerable families with emergency food rations. PWS&D is also monitoring developments through the ACT Alliance and hope to support their Yemen response in the coming months. With conflict ongoing, families and communities are lacking the basic essentials for life—food, clean water, health services and so much more. We need your help to save lives. Please donate today. You can make a donation through your church envelope (marked as "Yemen"), by mailing a cheque to PWS&D, donating online or calling 1-800-619-7301 x291.

Our Values at Calvin Church

- Faith in Jesus Christ as our Saviour and our Guide
- Hope, joy, and fellowship
- Rejoice in service, so we may make the world better through our actions
- Embrace diversity of all people
- Be visible in our community

Statement of Purpose: We at Calvin are loving followers of Jesus Christ whose teachings include love, joy, hope, as well as diversity, inclusiveness, compassion, and service to others.

*Calvin Presbyterian Church,
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Phone: 519-744-4061
Website: www.calvinchurch.ca*

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. Dr. 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: Bonnie Street

Phone 519-576-6503, email bonnie.l.street@gmail.com

Chair, Board of Managers: Phil von Farra

Phone 519-635-8849, email pccsb@rogers.com

Treasurer: Frank Thompson

Phone 519-579-8600; email frank.thompson@calvinchurch.ca

Program Coordinator: Michael Turman

Phone 519-744-4061, email michael.turman@calvinchurch.ca

Michael's Office Hours – Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Music Leader: Michel Allard

Phone 519-744-4061, email michel@calvinchurch.ca

Office Administrator: Margaret Woods

Phone 519-744-4061, 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.

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