



**SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DECEMBER 10, 2023**

10:00 am: Pastor Tim Leferink

Rejoicing in the Lord’s Presence

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements
Mini Movie—Peace
Call to Worship
Opening Song: LUYH #80 vs.1,2,3 **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**
God’s Greeting

Approaching the Lord’s Heart

Prayer of Confession
Assurance of Pardon
Song: LUYH #87 vs.1,3,4,5 **Once in Royal David’s City**

Candle Lighting

Song: LUYH #365 **“I Serve a Risen Savior”**
Children’s Message
(children ages 3—grade 2 leave for Sunday School)

Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #60 vs.1,2,3,4 **Hark, the Glad Sound!**

Listening to the Lord’s Word

Scripture: Luke 1:39-45

Message: “The Touch of Christmas”

(Sunday school class for grades 3 –6 cancelled)

Song: LUYH #532 **Be Still for the Presence**

Offering: UCB Canada
Congregational Prayer

Leaving to Love and Serve the Lord

God’s Parting Blessing
Song: **He Shall Reign Forevermore**

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A warm and special welcome to all those who are joining us in worship today.  
We are so glad you are here!  
May we have a blessed day as we praise our awesome God!

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OFFICIATING ELDER:

December 10: Wayne Dykema
December 24: Wayne Vandendool
December 31: Dave Foster

December 17: Jim Kraayenbrink
December 25: Casey DePooter
January 1: Wayne Dykema

OFFERINGS:

December 10: UCB Canada
Deacons: Nicolina Benn and Fred Kraayenbrink
December 17: Seafarers
Deacons: Ed Van Gelder and Linda Watson
December 24: Rock Missions - Wallaceburg Drop-in Centre
Deacons: Olga DePooter and Nicolina Benn
December 25: NeighbourLink
Deacons: Fred Kraayenbrink and Ed Van Gelder
December 31: WCS Tuition Assistance
Deacons: Linda Watson and Olga DePooter

THIS WEEK'S OFFERING: This morning our offering will be in support of **UCB Radio Canada.**

UCB Canada's vision is to communicate hope in Christ by being a leading media company in Canada known for meaningful, encouraging and inspiring content. UCB creates an engaging media connection to encourage your faith. You can **listen** by tuning in to **FM 89.3** or live stream at ucbcanada.com/listen

NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING: Next week, our offering is in support of "**M2S – Ministry to Seafarers**", a ministry based at the Port of Montreal. Two-thirds of Canada's international trade flows through Montreal. More than 2,000 ships of all kinds, including cruise ships visit the port each year.

The Ministry to Seafarers (M2S) is dedicated to enhancing the lives of seafarers regardless of race, religion, gender or rank, through ship visiting, advocacy and hospitality; and showing Jesus' love by caring for their physical, emotional, spiritual and justice needs. More interesting information about M2S can be found on their website: ministrytoseafarers.org

From Michelle DePooter, Chaplain at the Port of Montreal: It's hard to believe it's the end of November already! Time goes by very quickly.

Here is a short update for the Ministry to Seafarers.

The Ministry to Seafarers is in the middle of our busiest time of year - Christmas parcel season! We welcomed a couple of new volunteers this November who have joined us to help sort and pack the parcels, and they commented individually that they can see the love that is put in every parcel that is sent to us. The seafarers also see this love, and they appreciate receiving the gifts.

After several long years of COVID restrictions, all of the ships coming to Montreal are now allowed shore leave. We have restarted hosting monthly events at the Seafarers' Centre, including parties for Day of the Seafarer in June, World Maritime Day in September, and a Games Night in November. The events were enjoyed by all the seafarers who attended. Thank you for your continued support and prayers. Winter can be difficult and dangerous for seafarers, and we are thankful to be allowed on board the ships to provide support and encouragement to all crew members in their physical, emotional, spiritual, and justice needs.



FAMILY CIRCLE: Continue to pray for all of our seniors, those who suffer illnesses, and those who are lonely or shut-in. May they feel God's presence in their lives and may He bring healing.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU;
THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE ON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU;
THE LORD TURN HIS FACE TOWARD YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE.
NUMBERS 6:4-26

Alyssa Lam ~ December 12
Timothy Kraayenbrink ~ December 13

E-Transfer Summary November 1 - 30 2023

Budget = \$2,066.00	Cdn Foodgrains Bank = \$3,355.00
ReFrame Ministries = \$65.00	Cdn Foodgrains Bank-Gaza/Israel = \$1,005.00
CK Womens' Centre = \$350.00	
TOTAL = \$6,841.00	

BIBLE STUDY: The Bible Study on the book of Ecclesiastes has finished for the Christmas break and will begin again on January 9th.



MIT'S BITS: Sometimes the Lord allows for things to happen to give us rest. This happens to me quite regularly. At times I have a very full week lined up, so much so, that it seems that I'll never get the work completed. And so I pray that God will be with me through the week, so that I will be able to accomplish all that I need to.

Often then, a meeting will be canceled, or someone will have to reschedule a visit, or some other thing gets dropped, which of course makes the week's work a bit lighter. We have one of those times now. We were anticipating a Candlelight Service next Sunday night, December 17th. Worship Committee spent a bit of time planning and scheduling and praying! And yet, because of several reasons, we will not be having Candlelight this year. It's sad. I know.

And while Candlelight is one of my favourite services, I'm okay with letting it go this year. Why? Because I trust that God would not be honoured by it if we were to push to get it done. Rather it would be more of a time of pressure and guilt. Those who are already overloaded with events would have to make time to make it work. Others would be guilted into attending and/or participating. And that's not what this service is about. Let's take this unexpected time away from Candlelight to ask the Lord to speak to us and to thank Him for the change this year. You may be surprised by His answer!



ANGEL TREE: Once again, our Church will be taking part in the Angel Tree Program. Cards containing the names of children whose parent will be in prison this Christmas will be placed on a tree in the hallway outside the sanctuary. The parent has requested that their child receive a Christmas gift from them. The card will contain information about the child as well as gift suggestions. You can take that card, sign your name on the list beside the tree, purchase a gift with a value of up to \$35, wrap the gift and return it to the Church by Sunday, December 17. Thank you for continuing to show God's love to these innocent victims of crime.

COUNCIL MEETING: Council meets this Wednesday, December 13 at 7 pm.

SOUP AND BUN SUNDAY: Join us today Sunday, December 10th after the service for a soup and bun potluck. Each family is asked to bring a pot of soup to share if able. Buns, dessert, and refreshments will be provided. All are welcome!!

Candlelight Service Cancelled: The Worship Committee regrets to announce that the Candlelight Service, scheduled for next Sunday evening (Dec 17) is cancelled. Several factors led the committee to that decision. Council has received notice and confirms this motion. But fear not! We will do this again next year, when, with the Lord's will, conditions will be better! Peace to you through this Christmas Season! Your Worship Committee.



THE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROL SING: Join us on Thursday, December 14th at 7 pm for the Annual Community Christmas Carol Sing at First Baptist Church. Featuring readings from God’s Word / Congregational Carols / Special Music Selections from area churches. Fellowship and refreshments will follow. Feel free to share your Christmas baking with us. All are welcome.

COMMUNITY MEAL: Join us this Tuesday, December 12th at 5 PM for our Free Community Meal. We will be serving ham, roasted potatoes, baked beans, corn, and dessert. Come out and help the many that join us from the community feel welcome. All are welcome!!

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - In the Bible, the Greek term that is usually translated as “hospitality” means “love of strangers.” How might your home (whether it’s a house, an apartment, a dorm room, or another place) become a space to practice the love of strangers? Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

God’s Love at Christmas - Advent is the time we remember God’s sacrificial love for us through the birth of Jesus. You can share the warmth of God’s love with a person living in poverty through World Renew’s Gift Catalogue this Christmas. Your life-changing gift helps someone facing hardship and hunger in the year ahead! Donate today at worldrenew.ca/gifts or call 1-888-975-3769 to give.

Stories & Strategies: Strengthening the CRC in Canada - Are you interested in learning more about church planting and renewal in the CRC? Join the Canadian Ministry Board for stories (and best practice learnings from those experiences) and how they might be applicable to your local church context. We look forward to discussing these ideas with you alongside other church members & leaders. More at crcna.org/Canada

Kids Corner: Promises and Peace - Check out this week’s kids’ devotion at www.kidscorner.net. During Advent, we remember the story of Mary, a teenager, called by God to be Jesus’ mother. “How could this be?” she wondered at first. But the angel Gabriel assured Mary. “God’s favor is on you,” he said. “Anything is possible with God.” Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Bible story podcast “The Birth of Jesus.”

Groundwork: Jesus: Our Mighty God - The prophet Isaiah next calls the coming Messiah “Mighty God.” Join Groundwork as we explore Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 10:21, Acts 1:6-8, and Revelation 5:6,11-14 to discover what this title communicates to us about Jesus. Together, we’ll discuss how his presence as a helpless baby displays the awesomeness of God’s power and gives us hope as we anticipate his return. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork’s weekly emails for future episodes.

Family Fire - is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

SOCO Beach Project Update: In this week’s update, read about all that’s happening at the SOCO house. If you are a young adult (18 - 29), be part of SOCO summer 2024 ~ living in an intentional Christian community while having a summer job, learning how God’s story shapes your story to impact the world’s story. For more information: www.southcoastbeachproject.org. Join SOCO in the exciting work of investing in young adults with a year-end gift. Newsletter link: <https://mailchi.mp/southcoastbeachproject/soco-update-dec-7-6211885>

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Cadets 7-9 pm	Community Meal 5 PM	Friendship 7 PM	GEMS 7 –9 pm	
		Council 7 PM		

SUNDAY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

DATE	10—DEC	17– DEC	24 - DEC	25 - DEC
Sunday School Ages 3—5	Tara Feddes	Tara Feddes	Tara Feddes	Tara Feddes
Sunday School Grades 3—6	cancelled	cancelled	cancelled	cancelled
Nursery	Nicolina Benn Jordan Lubbers	Jillian Lubbers Torey DePooter	Alie Peters Cass Hensel	Peter Hensel Cyril Peters
Roamer	Bill DePooter	Wayne Dykema	Jim K	Fred K
Greeters	John & Erica	Bill & Olga	Lucas & Nicole	Ed & Trish
Coffee Set- up/Clean-up	Soup & Bun Sunday	Gary & Shirley	Edmund & Alyssa	Dick & Carolyn
Scripture Readers	Beth/Emma Luke 1:39-45	Mikki Luke 2:1-7	Henry G Luke 2:1-20	Joyce/Wayne Matt 2:1-12
VIDEO	Connor	Colin	Celia	Kyle
CAMERA	Russell	Dan	Emma	Connor
SOUND	Jim	Edmund	Jeff	Casey

