



THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

**DECEMBER 14, 2025** 

# **December 14, 2025 Third Sunday in Advent**

10:00 am: Pastor Tim Leferink

**Welcome and Announcements** Gathering BY God's Grace
Advent Candle Lighting - Joy
\*Song: LUYH# 92 Joy to the World
\*God Calls Us Into Worship:

\*Opening Prayer and Greeting
\*Song of Praise: LUYH# 512 **Now with Joyful Exultation** 

**Growing through God's Grace** Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

\*Profession of Fardon:

\*Profession of Faith: Psalm 98:1-6

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things;
his right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him. he Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn shout for joy before the Lord, the King.

\*Song: LUYH# 86 Away in a Manger

Prayer with the Children (children ages 3 – grade 2 leave for Sunday School)

Song of Preparation: LUYH# 81 vs. 3 **Angels, From the Realms of Glory Scripture Reading: Ruth 3** 

Sermon: "Under the Stars of Bethlehem – Good News of Great Joy" \*Song of Response: LUYH# 581 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Offering: Indwell - Sarnia

### **Going WITH God's Grace**

Congregational Praver

\*Blessing

\*Closing Song: LUYH# 76 O Come, All Ye Faithful



 $oldsymbol{\mathsf{c}}$ 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!  $\sim$ 

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**PRAYER:** If you would like someone to pray with you, Pastor Tim and/or the • Officiating Elder will be at the front of the sanctuary after each service.

#### **OFFICIATING ELDER:**

December 14: Wayne Vandendool December 21: Nick Dykema December 25: Glen Lubbers December 28: Gary DePooter January 1: Jim Kraayenbrink January 4: Wayne Vandendool

#### **OFFERINGS:**

December 14: Indwell Sarnia

Deacons: Wilf Allaer and Kaley Bergsma

December 21: Mission Montreal

Deacons: Jeff DePooter and Judy Vandendool

December 25: Knox Food Bank

Deacons: Fred Kraayenbrink and Wilf Allaer

December 28: Knox Food Bank

Deacons: Kaley Bergsma and Jeff DePooter

THIS WEEK'S OFFERING: Today, December 14th our offering will support Indwell. **Indwell** is a Christian charity that creates affordable housing communities that support people seeking health, wellness and belonging. Indwell offers tenants a permanent affordable apartment, and provides on-site services including mental health & addiction support, nursing, and food security support.

Learn more about the upcoming George Street Project, Sarnia at indwell.ca

**NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING:** Next week, December 21<sup>st</sup>, we continue our pledge and our support of Mission Montreal, a collaborative effort of Resonate Global Mission, Diaconal Ministries Canada, First CRC Montreal, Classis Eastern Canada, and a partner ministry called Christian Direction. At its heart, Mission Montreal is about equipping and mobilizing Christians and Christian leaders to engage their culture.

Mission Montreal is working in the most unreached areas of Montreal to bring the light of Christ. They depend on your support to continue their work in the three areas of focus: young adult faith formation, ministry to newcomers, and church engagement.

For more information, you can email our contact: Beth Fellinger, Canada East Mission Leader at: bfellinger@crcna.org

#### **Receipts:**

Budget Nov 30 + Dec 7 = \$5730.00 WCST/A = \$1096.85Salvation Army = \$1117.10

**MIT'S BIT'S:** Creating memories... Perhaps the greatest thing about Christmastime is the memories. I have many fond remembrances of years gone by, as I'm sure many of you do too. The family gatherings, the Christmas services, the tasty food, and time away from the regular routine, all lead to the specialness of this time of year.

As I look at the younger generations growing up through each year, I wonder if I am helping to contribute fond memories for them. In the future, are they going to say that they remembered when the church had this event, or those decorations, or that music? Are they going to remember the emotion of the brass band's rendition of "Ere zij God" on Christmas Day? Will they recall, later in life, the beautiful adornments complete with poinsettias? Will they look back, like I am today, and reminisce the wonder of the season from their childhood? Will they remember lighting a candle or two in front of the congregation with their families?

It's impossible to tell what leads to our memories. But we present opportunities for all people to come to know who Jesus is and how He came into the world. Through it all, we trust that God is giving us everything we need to share this special gift with others, both young and not so

**PICKLE BALL:** WCRC Pickle Ball continues this Wednesday, December 17 at 7 pm.

**PHOTOS:** It is that time of year again. We are looking for any photos you might have from this past year of events that happened in our church. We would like to put them together for new Year's Day. If you have any please send them to Karen or Lucia. Thank-you

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE: All Committees and Ministries are asked to make their requests known to the Finance Committee for the 2026 Budget by Sunday, December 14th. The Finance Committee members are: Gary DePooter, Olga DePooter, Rob Kraayenbrink, and Denise Tessier.

**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROL SING:** We are pleased to invite you to an evening filled with cheer and harmonious melodies as we 'Worship the King' at our **Community Christmas** Carol Sing! Join us Tuesday, December 16 at 7 pm at Our Lady Help of Christians Church. The Ministerial's church choirs (all the various churches in town and surrounding area) will be gracing us with their angelic voices, spreading joy and the spirit of the season to all. Whether you're a choir member, a music lover, or someone who simply loves praising God, we welcome you to sing along and celebrate with us. Let's come together to fill the church with the joy of the coming of Christ!

<u>COMMUNITY MEAL:</u> Join us **Tuesday, December 16 at 5 pm** for our **Free Community Meal**. We will be serving chicken, potatoes, vegetables, refreshments, salad, and dessert. Come out and make the many that join us from the community feel welcome. All are welcome!!



#### **Prayer Corner**

Please continue to pray for:

- Wilf Allaer recovering from hip replacement surgery
- Jeff Tessier needing a kidney donor
- Mike Maguire for peace, strength and healing
- Strength and healing for others with health concerns
- College and university students in exams

#### Council news from December 10, 2025

- 1. Council approved a summary statement of position of the Wallaceburg CRC regarding the HSR derived from Synod in 2022.
- 2. Church Visitor Pastor Nate Van Denend and George Flikweert have been invited and will be attending the March 11, 2026 Council Meeting.
- 3. Council continues to read and review Question and Answers in the Heidelberg Catechism.
- 4. Council approved names of possible Worship Committee members.
- 5. Council shared a round table prayer taking turns praying for needs of the congregation, community, and world.
- 6. Council approved renewing the Congregational Assistance Plan (CAP) contract for 2026. CAP provides anonymous professional counselling to congregants at no charge, available through the Congregational Assistance Plan. CAP is provided through the Shalem Mental Health Network. Call Shalem directly at 905-528-0353 or toll-free 1-866-347-0041
- 7. Council approved renewing its membership with the Canadian Centre for Christian Charities.
- 8. Council accepted a letter from Bryan and Linda Watson requesting to remove their membership as they are attending Church on the River. Council prays for God's blessing on Bryan and Linda as they worship and serve the Lord in their new church home.
- 9. The next Council Meeting is January 14, 2026.

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<u>Thrive Faith Formation Tip</u> - Around the world a lot of people are thinking about giving and receiving gifts for Christmas. Did you know that Christmas is, in some way, God's gift to God? It marks that important moment when God entered our earthly life in order to restore God's broken world through the cross of Christ and the empty tomb. A restored world had been a desire of God's heart for a long time, so now is a good time to write God a Christmas card, praising the Lord that salvation is possible through the birth of the Christ-child in Bethlehem. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

**Kids Corner Devotions: Advent at Home: Joy to the World** - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Advent at Home: Joy to the World" at www.kidscorner.net. This week of Advent is all about joy! Maybe light the hope, peace, and joy candles with your family, sing a favorite Christmas song, like Joy to the World, and remember that Jesus is the best reason to celebrate. Explore all the great content at kidscorner.net, including the Kids Corner Christmas Collection of devotions, Bible stories, crafts, and activities.

#### **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

Kyle Kraayenbrink ~ December 17 Colin Kraayenbrink ~ December 18 Sloan Peters ~ December 19 Logan Hensel ~ December 20 "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

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**Groundwork: Out of Darkness and into the Light** - Turning on a light changes everything. What changes can we anticipate when Jesus brings his light to our world? Join Groundwork as we study Isaiah 2:2-5, John 8:12-19, and John 12:44-50 to discover the significant effects we can expect the presence of the Light of the World to bring in our lives and our world. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

World Renew Nicaragua Young Adults Trip - Young adults (18–30), join us in Nicaragua from February 13-22, 2026! Experience God in another culture, while you explore poverty, international development and the global church through the lens of faith. Discover the impact of World Renew's work, witnessing how Nicaraguans are transforming their lives through faith and resilience. To learn more about this trip and to register, visit: <a href="https://bit.ly/nicaragua2026info">https://bit.ly/nicaragua2026info</a>

## **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

DATE	14- DEC	21- DEC	25- DEC	28-DEC	1-JAN
Sunday School Ages 3—5	Cassandra H	Tara F	No Sunday School	Tara F	No Sunday School
Sunday School Grades 1-3	Alie P	Linda L	No Sunday School	Linda L	No Sunday School
Sunday School Grades 4-8	Lucas D	Lucas D	No Sunday School	Lucas D	No Sunday School D
Nursery	Paige K Judy F	Bernard K Carolyn B	Tonda G Denise T	Dana L Wayne D	Nursery Unlocked
Roamer	Bill D	Wayne D	Fred K	Jim K	Matt F
Greeter	Irene K Tina F	Matt & Tara	Shawn & Beth	Cyril & Alie	Fred & Valerie
Coffee Set-up/ Clean-up	John & Erica	Bernard & Karlene	Jim & Lucia	Bill & Olga	Gerald & Linda
Scripture Readers	Ruth 3 Tonda G	Ruth 4 Rita H	Ruth 4:18-22 Linda L	Luke 13:6- 9 Valerie K	Ephesians 3:20-21
VIDEO	Kyle	Dan	Connor	Larissa	Lucia
CAMERA	Connor	Kyle	Dan	Colin	
SOUND	Edmund	Casey	Jim / Eli	Edmund	Jim

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