

Poole Mennonite Church

December 19, 2021

Advent-Dare to Imagine

Mission Statement: To plant seeds of love and nourish roots in Jesus Christ to grow and harvest the Kingdom of God.

Prelude
Welcome & Announcements
Call to Worship & Prayer



Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle
- Anika Van Den Tempel, Cameron Kuepfer and Zachary Yantzi
Song *He Came Down* VT 239



Introduction to Christmas Program
Song Christmas Time by Bryan Adams
Scripture Reading – Luke 2:1-19

Song Away in a Manger
Rejoice – Zachary Yantzi



Jesus is the Reason – Cameron Kuepfer
Bethlehem of Judea – Kase Van Den Tempel
Spirit of Christmas – Liam Yantzi

The Story of the 12 Days of Christmas – Anika Van Den Tempel
Song The 12 Days of Christmas

A Chubby Snowman – Ryker Van Den Tempel
What Is Christmas? – Madelynn Kuepfer

A Good Little Boy – Brock Van Den Tempel
Christmas Gift – Liam Yantzi



What Can I Give Him? – Megan Yantzi
Song The Little Drummer Boy By For King and Country
Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

T'was The Night Before Jesus Came
– Zachary Yantzi and Cameron Kuepfer

Merry Christmas to You – Kase Van Den Tempel
Christmas Prayer – Madelynn Kuepfer

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Christmas Giving – Anika Van Den Tempel

Christmas Star – Megan Yantzi

Song – Jingle Bells



Benediction

Thanks to Sandra Kuepfer and the Sunday School Children, Wendy and the Audio-visual booth for their roles in the service.

Welcome to all who are here in person and those listening on-line.

There will be no Sunday School today.

Last Sunday Attendance: 55

Sharing time: If you have a prayer request or would like to share something on a Sunday morning, please see Fred or Janet before the service or email Janet before Sunday morning.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- Poole Person to remember: **Don Gerber**

- **Remember the four couples** that Fred married this year:

Krystal Jantzi and Curtis Priestap

Rebecca Ropp and Justin Byers

Luke Shantz and Stephanie Field

Krystal Richards and Matt Duff



- **Remember the flood victims** in B.C., and the tornado survivors in the United States.

- **Pray for the** local work of MCC.

- **Be in prayer** for the budget process for 2022 for Poole.

- **Pray for our** Christmas Eve service.

Pray for safe travels and many blessings in happy celebrations of all the gifts of Christ.

- **Pray and reach out to anyone** you know who may have a 'blue' Christmas, who may be alone and lonely.

- **Be safe and** careful at family gatherings.

- **Pray for our** public health officials



Our sympathy is extended to:

Ralph & Millie Brennehan's children, Marg Jutzi & Martha & Don Ropp and their extended family in the passing of Millie on Saturday Dec. 11.



Aman da Poole and Monica Miranda in the sudden passing of their mother Lisa Poole (daughter of the late Laverne & Mary Ann) and to **Beatrice Poole & Irene & Ab Leis**(niece) and their extended family, She passed away Last Sunday.

Pray for the families at this time of grief.

Remember **Beatrice Gee** as it marked one year on Dec. 15 since her husband Sherman passed away


Thank You  Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fund Raiser. Optimism Place \$526.61 plus \$50.00 donation, **total** \$576.61. Shelterlink \$526.61 plus \$300.00 in donations, **total** \$826.61. **VERY WELL DONE!!**

The Elder team would like to thank you for your donations of warm socks and winter gloves the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank.



Coming Events:

Blue Christmas service - Tonight 7:00 p.m.

 During the holidays when lights and tinsel sparkle, many suffer for all kinds of reasons. The magnitude of our weary world weighs on our hearts and minds. *We wrestle with chronic pain, broken relationships, grief, shattered dreams, fragile faith, and many unexpected losses due to pandemic.* Our grief and sorrow feel particularly acute in light of the season's celebration. For this reason, we are hosting a contemplative Blue Christmas service including prayers, songs and candle lighting. All are welcome!

Tues. Dec. 21: Church Council reports due.

Dec. 24:



Christmas Eve at 7pm.
Candle Light Service

If you know members of your family are planning to attend and have NOT been to a worship service during the pandemic – please connect Janet as a waiver will need to be completed

Tues. Dec. 28: Blood Donor Clinic at Perth East Recreation Complex 1 to 7 p.m.



PWIM will resume again in the New Year.

1st meeting - Tuesday, Jan. 4 at 9 a.m. Quilting, knotting and fellowship. Please wear a mask when you enter the church. Coffee and tea will be provided.



Thurs. Jan. 6: Church Council 7pm. By zoom or at the church.

Jan. 13. Annual reports due to secretary



2022 is the 200th anniversary of Christian Nafziger's land **Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp** is looking to hire a part-time facilitator for CLASP, a community and life skills program for young adults with special needs. For details, visit our website (<https://hiddenacres.ca/opportunities/year-round-employment>) or contact Chris Pot at 519-625-8602 or chrispot@hiddenacres.ca.

Volume 60	Church	No 48
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Jenni Yantzi	595-3411	Church: 595-4622
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Blue Christmas

Mission Statement: To plant seeds of love and nourish roots in Jesus Christ to grow and harvest the Kingdom of God.

A GATHERING TO SHARE HOPE IN THE DARKNESS

Prelude

Song: *Come and fill our hearts with your peace* VT 52

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Leaders: In the midst of festivities, shouts, and bright lights, some of us are feeling the gloom of our souls, the weight of grief, deep sadness, and loss.

People: Come, God of power and grace, help us.

Leaders: In the midst of a pandemic and our pain, some of us are feeling alone and alienated.

People: Come, God of love and hope, hear our cries.

Leaders: In the midst of celebration, our hearts cry out.

ALL: Lord, hear us and come to us. Bring us peace. Amen.

CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING

OPENING PRAYER

Song: *Behold Him* by: Francesca Battistelli  CCLI 283714

Reading: “*When Christmas Brings More Pain than Joy*”

Song: *O Little town of Bethlehem* VT 245 (vs. 1 & 2)

Reading: **Luke 14: 15-23**

GRIEF CANDLE LIGHTING

Song: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* VT 210 (vs. 1, 2 & 7)

Reading: **Matthew 11: 28-29**

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COURAGE CANDLE LIGHTING

Instrumental: *In the Bleak Midwinter*

 CCLI 283714

MEMORY CANDLE LIGHTING

Reading: **Revelation 21: 1-7**

LOVE CANDLE LIGHTING

Song: *Nothing is lost on the breath of God* VT 653

INVITATION TO CANDLE LIGHTING

Acknowledging our grief, pain, and our need for God’s gentle care, all are invited to come forward and light a tea light from the Christ candle. You may wish to light a candle representing your own need for light to break through the darkness. Or, you may wish to light a candle on behalf of a loved one or a situation which you are holding in prayer.

Prayer

Sending Blessing

Postlude

Please feel free to remain in this space as long as you need.
God is with us and draws near the broken-hearted with healing, compassion, and hope.

Thanks to Pastor Kara, Wendy, Bonnie and the Audio-visual booth for their roles in the service.

