

Fort Garry Evangelical Mennonite
Church
Sunday, December 23, 2018



WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship Leader: **Len Harms**
Song Leader: **Muehling PG**
Soundperson: **Kurt Friesen**
PowerPoint: **Aaron Friesen**

Prelude **Aiden Muehling**

Congregational Singing

- Of the Father's Love Begotten #122
- He will Come and Save you

Call to Worship **Psalm 80:1-7** **Prayer for Israel's Restoration**

Leader: ¹ Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth ² before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!

People: ³ Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Leader: ⁴ O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? ⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure.

⁶ You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

People: ⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Candle Lighting

Prayer

Congregational Song – Advent Theme Song

- Longing for Light/Christ be our Light

Children's Story - Love

Glenda Friesen

Announcements

Prayers of the People

John and Leona Kornelsen

Offering/Offertory

Katie Muehling

Scripture Readings

Jeremy Plett

Micah 5:2-5a

The Ruler from Bethlehem

2 But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

3 Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. **4** And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; **5** and he shall be the one of peace.

Luke 2:39-45

Mary Visits Elizabeth

39 In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, **40** where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. **41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit **42** and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. **43** And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? **44** For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. **45** And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Luke 2:46-55

Mary's Song of Praise

46 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, **47** and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, **48** for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; **49** for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. **50** His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. **51** He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. **52** He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; **53** he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. **54** He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, **55** according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

*there is no babysitting in the basement today.

Sermon

Karen Schellenberg

Prayer of Confession

Congregational Singing

- The Servant of the Lord
- What Child is this? #105

Benediction

Congregational Singing

- The First Noel #108

Postlude

****Please help yourself to a cup of coffee or tea and then everyone, young & old is welcome back into the sanctuary for a Christmas sing-a-long.**

A Christmas Poem (Madeleine L'Engle)

God did not wait till the world was ready,
Till . . . nations were at peace.
God came when the Heavens were unsteady,
And prisoners cried out for release.

God did not wait for the perfect time.
God came when the need was deep and great.
God dined with sinners in all their grime,
turned water into wine.

God did not wait till hearts were pure.
In joy God came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
God came, and God's Light would not go out.

God came to a world which did not mesh,
To heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
The Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane
To raise our songs with joyful voice,
For to share our grief, to touch our pain,
God came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

Remembering One Another

- Pray for Dean Olfert's Dad, Robert, who suffered a heart attack on Tuesday.
- Pray for Cheryl Hiebert who is continuing to recover at home from surgery.
- Pray for Sean Barkwell's father, Robert, who continues to be in the ICU with serious health issues, although there has been some improvement this week.

Events of the Week

Monday, December 24 7pm

Christmas Eve Service - Invite your family and friends.

Pastor Karen is looking for a few more parents and children to be a part of a Nativity scent on Christmas Eve. These are none-speaking roles, please contact Karen today if you would like to be one of the angels, shepherds, or wise men.

Tuesday, December 25 12 Noon

Christmas Potluck and Program in the Church basement. Everyone is Welcome! Please contact Irma Janzen for more details.

Monday, December 24 - Tuesday, January 1st

The Church office will be closed and there will be no Church bulletin on December 30.

Fort Garry News

• Financial Update as of Nov. 30, 2018

Total Revenue \$299,598
Total Expenses \$346,493
Net Loss \$(46,895)

Year-End General Giving

With anticipated expenses of just over \$42,000 for December, our total donation need for year end in order to meet our expenses is \$89,000. To date, we have raised a total of \$32,000 so the balance to raise is **\$57,000.**

Please have all cheques in to the office by **NOON on December 31st** in order to qualify for 2018 donation receipts. There is also a new option available on the church website to donate through **PayPal**. Go to fortgarryemc.ca and choose "**Donations**" from the menu in order to access the site.

- Are you interested in representing our church as an EMC delegate, MCC delegate or as our church reporter? Come talk to the nominating committee!!! -Josh Muehling, Sharon Harms, Norm Hiebert, Janna Olfert

- **Committee Heads/Chairpersons, in preparation for our Annual Meeting, this is the LAST CALL for your committee's report, please email it (in Word format) to Irma McKenzie ilmckenzie@hotmail.com for inclusion in the Annual Report. Thank you!**

Coming Events

O come let us adore Him: Come start the New Year off with a time of worshipping and focusing our attention on our great and glorious God!

All ARE WELCOME! Please bring your Bibles.
We will be gathering for an hour of praise January 1, 2 and 3 at 3pm in the sanctuary. For more info contact Glenda Friesen.

Saturday, January 26
FGEMC Annual General Meeting

Friday, Feb 22 - Sunday, Feb 24
Women's Retreat at Camp Cedarwood

Check the bulletin board in the foyer for detailed print-outs from **MDS, MCC** and **CMU** each week regarding the many events and updates from these organizations. See the bulletin board in the foyer and in the library hallway for posters, brochures, and lots of information for things happening in our city and province.

FORT GARRY EVANGELICAL MENNONITE CHURCH

602 Pasadena, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2S9
204-261-1084

E-mail: fortgarryemc@mymts.net

Website: www.fortgarryemc.ca

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Tues, Wed, & Fri 9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.
Administrative Assistant: Donita Reimer

INTERIM PASTOR

Karen Schellenberg

(Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday)

204-223-4383 cell 204-261-8370 landline

Email: karenc.schell@gmail.com

ASSOCIATE PASTOR for youth

Andrew Krahn 204-801-6776 Cell

Email: andrew.fgemc@shaw.ca

ASSOCIATE PASTOR for young adults and university ministry

Len Harms 204-794-7426 Cell

Email: len.harms@mymts.net

MINISTER: Cameron McKenzie

204-223-1495 Cell Email: cameron.mckenzie@prov.ca

PASTOR EMERITA Irma Janzen

CUSTODIAN: Elaine Mao

204-898-2777 Email: yanli2012@yahoo.ca