

**This Week at MRMC**

Monday 6:30 pm MR YAHM  
 Wednesday 7:30-4:30 Cheer Crates  
 6:30 pm PCRC  
 7-8 pm AA Meeting in Basement  
 Thursday 10:30am Baby Boomers +  
 Sunday 10:00 am Worship Service via Zoom

## Welcome to Mount Royal Mennonite Church

Learning to live - through relationships with Jesus,  
 our neighbours and each other

Worship Service 10:00 am

**Vol. 57**

**December 13, 2020**

**No. 50**

### **Thought for the week**

‘Repentance is a complete turnaround, a change of course, a change of heart and mind and life. Repentance is too busy redeeming the present to apologize for the past. Repentance spends less time hating the bad than loving the good. Repentance is a matter of being grasped by God, of being picked up and put down again so that everything looks different, so that you lose your old bearings and are offered new ones instead. That is God's part in the process, anyhow. Our part is to have the good sense to say "thank you" instead of "no" or "not yet," and to learn how to steer by those new lights instead of scrambling to return to our old, familiar ones.’

[Barbara Brown Taylor]

### **Announcing!**

*Giving by Interac e-transfer is now available. See the church website "Get Involved / Giving" for more information.*

<https://mountroualmennonite.org/getinvolved/giving>

### **Today's Service**

Worship Leader: Zach D

Song Leader: Rita H

Pianist: Val R

Organ: Grace P

Video: Darrell B

Prelude

Announcements

Silence

### **ADVENT: A Mighty River of the Spirit**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Jodi E

We Sing

*O Come, O Come Immanuel (v1,6)* HWB #172

Call to Worship

Prayer

We sing

*Joy to the World (v 1,2)*

Psalm 37: 1-7

Jodi E

Offering

Story for all ages

Kelly J

We Sing

*My soul cries out*

StS #124

Scripture

**Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11**

Zach D

**Luke 3: 1-20**

Sunday School

Sermon

**‘What then should we do?’**

Garth E F

Hymn of Response

*Helpless and Hungry*

StS #26

Peace Lamp

Sharing our stories

Sharing our prayers

Sending song

*Sing a different song*

StS #27

Sending words

Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Postlude

### Joys & Concerns

- **Pray for:** *Alex and Joel S, Hedie B, Maureen G, Betty U, Nettie and Roy W, Marg W, Kelly and Pam J*
- **Families of the week:** *Al and Anne P, John P and Sharon J P, Joe and Kerry G*
- Our offering last Sunday was \$3,256, received with joy and thanksgiving for all that God is doing here and in our community.
- Please pray for the staff and volunteers of **Parkland Restorative Justice** as they provide positive social support to those in the justice system.
- Evelyn S. has been moved to a more supportive housing situation at the Stonebridge Crossing facility on Wellman Cres. Thank you so much for all the communication you send so regularly. She reads it and saves it all! She also enjoys watching the services online. Her mail will be forwarded to our address and we will get it to her. If and when we decide she will have a mailbox at S. Bridge Crossing I will let you know. For now: 322-105 Willis Cres. S7T 0Z3. She will have her same phone number after Dec. 11th. Thanks again for all your support and visits. (Jeanette G.)

### MRMC Coming Events and Notes

- **Operation Potato Peeler:** If you would like further info please go to the MRMC website <https://mountroyalmennonite.org/missions-and-service/#mission-service>. The total raised including MDS and MC Sask donations so far is \$ 5,445!
- The **Creation Care blog** is now accessible by getting onto the **Mount Royal Mennonite Church** website, go to **Get Involved** and then to **CreationCare blog**. Thank you to all who have already submitted your creation care practices. If you would like to share yours, please send it to Claire, and she will make sure it gets onto the website. It makes for very good reading!
- Calling all Women of MRMC! **Women Together** is a group for women of all ages and stages of life who want to support each other while reading and discussing April Yamasaki's book *Sacred Pauses*. We plan to meet every second week via Zoom beginning Thursday, January 14 at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to be part of this group, please let Claire know.
- **Dec 16:** Friends, we are pleased to inform you that the **Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation** will be using our **multi-purpose room on December 16** to prepare **Cheer Crates** or hampers for

distribution in our community. Please contact Claire if you can help between 8:30a.m. and 3:30p.m.

- **Dec 16:** PCRC Meeting. Please contact Gwen, Travis, RaeLynn or Dave if there are any concerns or topics you feel need to be discussed.
- Gwen will be away from the office on Wednesday and Thursday.

### Conference and Community Events

- Dec 13:** You are invited to spend **A Very Shekinah Christmas with Shekinah Retreat Centre!** Join us online for 12 Days of Christmas, starting December 13, 2020. See our website for more information: <https://shekinah.ca/events/2020/a-very-shekinah-christmas>
- Dec 17 @ 7:30 pm: RJC Christmas Program: There Is Still Hope** - This online event will be held <https://rjc.sk.ca/christmas>. The program will feature music, art, and other items of hope and celebration by RJC students and staff.
- MCC Connects:** This Christmas give a gift that gives back! The 2020 MCC Christmas catalogue has gifts of all shapes and sizes that help change lives across the globe. Share these gifts of comfort and joy with your family and friends and help make a difference. View our online catalogue at <https://mcccanada.ca/christmas#!> or call the MCC office at 306.665.2555.
- In this season of hope, joy, love, and peace (and Covid!), we are grateful to be able to partner with ministries who focus on the 'least of these.'** The work of restorative justice, reconciling with our Indigenous neighbours, and caring for our elders are just a few of the ways we as MC Sask respond to the invitation of Immanuel. Your support makes these partnerships, and this work, possible. Visit [www.mcsask.ca](http://www.mcsask.ca) to learn more.
- Dear MC Sask;** In this Season of Advent, as we wait for God-in-Jesus to enter the world, *the Word made flesh*, this yearning for the presence of "someone who has some skin," is more poignant than usual... (continue reading at <https://mcsask.ca/dearmcsaskdec2020>)
- The December 2020 UPDATE from MC Sask is available now!** Check it out at [www.mcsask.ca](http://www.mcsask.ca) Get details on who's coming, the 2021 ADS and some great Christmas gift ideas!
- Give the gift of communication!** The Micah Mission is looking for donations of old, gently used, flip phones to give to individuals reentering the community after a period of incarceration. For more information, please call: 306.653.3099, or email: [info@themicahmission.org](mailto:info@themicahmission.org).

## O come, O come, Immanuel

Text: anonymous, ca. 6th-7th c., *Veni veni Emmanuel*, 12th c.; tr. John M. Neale (Sts. 1-4), *Medieval Hymns and sequences*, 1851; Henry Sloane Coffin (St. 5-6), *Hymns of the Kingdom of God*, 1916

Music: trope melody, 15th c.

1. O come, O come, Immanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here,  
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Immanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

6. O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind.  
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease.  
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Immanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

## Joy to the World

Text: Isaac Watts, *Psalms of David*, 1719, alt.

Music: "From Handel," Lowell Mason, *Occasional Psalm and Hymn tunes*, 1836

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!  
Let all their songs employ  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

## My soul cries out

Text: Rory Cooney, based on Luke 1:46-58

Music: Irish traditional; arranged by Rory Cooney

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1. My soul cries out with a joyful shout  
that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things  
that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servants plight,  
and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest.  
Could the world be about the turn?

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.

Let the fires of your justice burn.

Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near  
and the world is about to turn!

2. Though I am small, my God, my all,  
you work great things in me,  
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past  
to the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame,  
and to those who would for you yearn,  
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,  
for the world is about to turn.

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.

Let the fires of your justice burn.

Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near  
and the world is about to turn!

3. From the halls of power to the fortress tower,  
not a stone will be left on stone.  
Let the king beware for your justice tears  
every tyrant from his throne.  
The hungry poor shall weep no more,  
for the food they can never earn;

there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,  
for the world is about to turn.

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near  
and the world is about to turn!

4. Though the nations rage from age to age,  
we remember who holds us fast;  
God's mercy must deliver us  
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard  
is the promise which holds us bound, '  
'til the spear and rod can be crushed by God,  
who is turning the world around.

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near  
and the world is about to turn!

**Helpless and hungry**

Text: Scott Soper

Music: Scott Soper

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1. Helpless and hungry, lowly, afraid,  
wrapped in the chill of midwinter;  
comes now among us,  
born into poverty's embrace,  
new life for the world.

Refrain

Who is this who lives with the lowly,  
sharing their sorrows, knowing their hunger?  
This is Christ, revealed to the world

in the eyes of a child, a child of the poor.

2. Who is the stranger here in our midst,  
looking for shelter among us?  
Who is the outcast?  
Who do we see amid the poor,  
the children of God?

Refrain

Who is this who lives with the lowly,  
sharing their sorrows, knowing their hunger?  
This is Christ, revealed to the world  
in the eyes of a child, a child of the poor.

3. Bring all the thirsty, all who seek peace;  
bring those with nothing to offer.  
Strengthen the feeble,  
say to the frightened heart; "Fear not;  
here is your God!"

Refrain

Who is this who lives with the lowly,  
sharing their sorrows, knowing their hunger?  
This is Christ, revealed to the world  
in the eyes of a child, a child of the poor.

**Sing a different song**

Text: The Iona Community, 1987, based on Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; 42:10-11; Matthew 1:23, alt.

Music: John L. Bell, 1987

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Sing a different song now Christmas is here,  
sing a song of people knowing God's near;  
The Messiah is born in the face of our scorn,  
sing a different song to welcome and warn.

Shout different shout now Christmas is here,  
shout a shout of joy and genuine cheer;

Fill the earth and the sky with the news from on high,  
shout a different shout that all may come by.

Love a different love now Christmas is here,  
love without condition, love without fear;  
With the humble and poor, with the shy and unsure,  
love a different love. Let Christ be the cure!

Dance a different dance now Christmas is here,  
dance a dance of war on suffering and fear;  
Peace and justice are one, in the light of the sun.  
Dance a different dance. God's reign has begun!