

<u>This Week at MRMC</u>		
Wednesday	7-8 pm	AA Meeting in Basement
Thursday	10:30am	Baby Boomers +
	7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service via ZOOM
Friday	10:00 am	Christmas Day Service
Sunday	10:00 am	Sunday Gathering via Zoom

### Thought for the week

*'As the angel choir withdrew, the shepherders talked it over. 'Let's get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us.' They left, running, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. Seeing was believing. They told everyone they met...about this child. All who heard the shepherders were astonished.'*  
*[Luke 2.15-18]*

### **Announcing!**

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

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

### Today's Service

Worship Leader: Trevor S  
 Song Leader: Sarah O  
 Pianist: Pam O  
 Video: Darrell B

## 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 20, 2020**

**No. 51**

Prelude

Announcements

Silence

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

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Mark H

We Sing

*Joyful, joyful we adore thee*

HWB #71

Call to Worship

Prayer

We sing

*Angels we have heard on high*

HWB #197

Psalm 89: 1-8, 13-18

Mark H

Offering

Story for all ages

Val R

We Sing

*While Shepherds watched their flocks*

HWB #196

Scripture

**Romans 16: 25-27**

Trevor S

**Luke 2: 8-20**

Sunday School

Sermon

***Shepherds- the charismatic stream***

Melody N

Hymn of Response

*Joy to the World*

HWB #318

Peace Lamp

Sharing our stories

Sharing our prayers

Sending song

*Come, thou long expected Jesus*

HWB #178

Sending words

Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Postlude

### Joys & Concerns

- **Pray for:** *Hedie B, Maureen G, Betty U, Nettie and Roy W, Marg W, Kelly and Pam J, Alex and Joel S*
- **Families of the week:** *Dennis, Tabitha, Oren and Isaac P, Mike, Jenna, Sawyer, William and Dawson P, Helmut and Dory I*
- We are thankful for last week's offering of \$2,875, given in support of our ministry here and around the world.
- Congratulations to Dennis and Tabitha P on the birth of their second son, Isaac Albert on December 2, 2020. He is joining a family with big brother Oren, and grandpa Helmut and Grandma Dory I. May God bless you richly as you grow together as a family.

### MRMC Coming Events and Notes

- Thank you friends! Operation Potato Peeler has been a massive success. Friendship Inn is now working with a total cost of \$9,195.23 to purchase the potato peeler and its base. \$6,045.00 will be sent from MRMC the Friendship Inn to be mixed with funds from church folks and friends which have been donated directly. We set a goal for ourselves of \$7,500.00 and we more than reached it. We are extremely grateful for each donation. MDS started us off with a \$2,000.00 gift, MC Sask also sent along \$500.00, and the rest was graciously donated by congregants. Other churches and businesses have also made donations directly to Friendship Inn in response to Operation Potato Peeler. Yesterday we also heard that Nutrien Ag Solutions is matching all donations up to \$100,000.00 made to the Friendship Inn during the month of December! In conversation with staff at Friendship Inn yesterday, we were told that these monies will also make it possible to purchase a commercial food processor and coffee maker. Thank you!
- 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.

- Gwen will be on holidays from Dec 19 until the Jan 5. Len will be covering for Gwen and Garth and Claire will still be in the office.
- **December 31, 2020 at 12 noon**, is the deadline for donations to be receipted for 2020. All donations must be received at the church office by that time in order to be deposited in 2020, and receipted for 2020. This includes donations by tithe.ly and e-transfer. Tithe.ly donations typically take 48 to 72 hours from donation date to deposit date.

### Conference and Community Events

- a) **Thank you for your contributions to the MC Sask body this year.** Your financial gifts, time, and prayer, support our work regionally (MC Sask), nationally (MC Canada), and globally (International Witness and Mennonite World Conference). As we continue to build up the body of Christ both near and far, please consider MC Sask in your year-end giving. Visit [www.mcsask.ca/donations](http://www.mcsask.ca/donations).
- b) **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).
- c) **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. Enjoy stories, music, and singing. And maybe a little dummheit. See our website for more information: <https://shekinah.ca/events/2020/a-very-shekinah-christmas>
- d) **MCC Connects:** If you haven't had a chance to check out our Quilt Sale yet, now is the time! All remaining quilts are 50% off their listed price! Follow our [Facebook event page](#) or visit our website at <https://mcccana.ca/mcc-saskatchewan-quilt-sale> to see the amazing quilts donated by our skilled and very generous donors. These quilts are also displayed in our viewing room at the MCC office in Saskatoon (600 45<sup>th</sup> St W) so feel free to pop by and admire them. If you have any questions, or wish to purchase a quilt, call 306.665.2555.

## Joyful, joyful we adore thee

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1907, *Poems of Henry van Dyke*, 1911, alt.  
Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1823; adapted by Edward Hodges, *Trinity Collection of Church Music*, 1864

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love.  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
praising thee their sun above,  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee,  
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,  
stars and angels sing around thee,  
centre of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
blooming meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever bless'd,  
well-spring of the joy of living,  
ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,  
all who live in love are thine.  
Teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus  
which the morning stars began.  
Love divine is reigning o'er us,  
leading us with mercy's hand.  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
victors in the midst of strife.  
Joyful music lifts us sunward  
in the triumph song of life!

## Angels we have heard on high

Text: Unknown, *Nouveau Recueil de Cantiques*, 1855; tr. unknown, altered by Earl Marlatt, *New Church Hymnal*, 1937  
Music: Traditional French carol, *Nouveau Recueil de Cantiques*, 1855

1. Angels we have heard on high,  
singing sweetly through the night,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their brave delight.

Refrain  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why these songs of happy cheer?  
What great brightness did you see?  
What glad tidings did you hear?

Refrain  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing.  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn king.

Refrain  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

4. See him in a manger laid  
whom the angels praise above.  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

## While shepherds watched

Text: Nahum Tate, *A Supplement to the New Version of the Psalms*, 1700

Music: Thomas Est, *Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1592

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down,  
and glory shone around.

“Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind.

“Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and humankind.”

“To you, in David’s town, this day  
is born of David’s line  
the Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,  
and this shall be the sign:

“The heavenly babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all humbly wrapped in swathing bands,  
and in a manger laid.”

Thus spoke the seraph and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng  
of angels praising God, and thus  
addressed their joyful song:

“All glory be to God on high  
and to the earth be peace,  
good will henceforth from heaven to  
begin and never cease!”

## 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.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground.  
He comes to make his blessings  
flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

## Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Text: Charles Wesley, *Hymns for the Nativity of our Lord*, 1744

Music: Rowland H. Pritchard, ca. 1830, *Cyfall y Cantorion*, 1844; arr. Ralph

Vaughan Williams, (*English hymnal*, 1906)

1951, *BBC Hymn Book*

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adpt.

Come, thou long-expected Jesus!  
born to set thy people free,  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel’s strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art,

dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child, and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit,  
rule in all our hearts alone.  
By thine all sufficient merit,  
raise us to thy glorious throne.