



# Sunday, December 11, 2022

## Third Sunday of Advent

Worship Service — 10 am

Worship Leader — Brenda Fischer  
Speaker — Al Rempel, MCEC Regional Minister

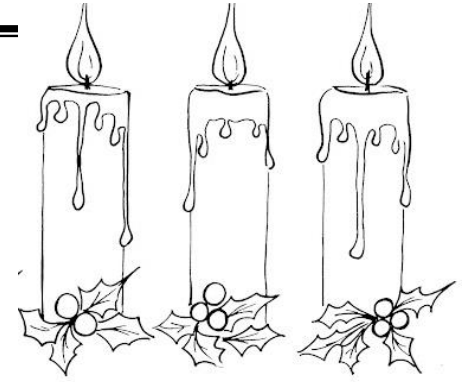
Growing relationships, in Christ.

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**10 minutes prior to the worship service,  
we will sing a few Christmas carols.**

### **Order of Worship**

#### **Tell what you hear and see**



Prelude and Christmas carol singing  
Words of welcome  
Announcements  
Opening song, VT #245, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
Call to worship  
Opening prayer  
Candle lighting, VT #219, *Prepare Ye the Way*  
Candle lighting reading  
Children's time  
Offering with VT #255, *Love Came Down at Christmas*  
Offering prayer  
Scripture reading — Matthew 11:2-11  
Message — The Already Not Yet Kingdom of God  
VT #267 & #268, *What Child Is This / Helpless and Hungry*  
Sharing time & prayer  
Sending song VT #241, *O Come, All Ye Faithful*  
Sending prayer

Thank you to our participants today including: *Susie Amlin, Nick DiLaudo, Brenda Fischer, Keith Klassen, Victor Martens, Al Rempel, Sandra Warkentin.*

***Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the worship service.***

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# Church Life . . .

## ◆ Community Health Update

On Monday, November 14, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Kieran Moore, strongly recommended that people start to wear masks in all indoor public settings, including in schools and child-care settings. The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit also supports this practice and states “mask use in public settings is one small action that can help to mitigate the concerning respiratory illness trends we have seen rising in our community since early November.” We, at NLUMC, feel it is necessary to follow public health recommendations and so we also suggest wearing a mask indoors in public settings. Masks are available in the church foyer for the benefit of all.

## ◆ Third Sunday of Advent, December 11, Congregational Discernment Exercise. Pastor Al Rempel, MCEC Regional Minister is leading NLUMC in a Congregational Discernment Exercise **today Sunday, December 11, 2022 and Sunday, January 15, 2023.**

Our hope is to be candid about the challenges we are facing and find new energies for what the Holy Spirit is calling us to. There are probably a lot of assumptions that people have, and we want to openly name how each of us may be feeling and what we are thinking during this time of transition. (taken from: “How to Lead When You Don’t Know Where You’re Going” by Susan Beaumont)

**Timeframe: Part 1, December 11, 2022, Message: *Liminal Spaces - What are our blessings and what continues to be energizing to us at NLUMC?***

Congregational exercises (very low threshold items) to be carried out in the four-week timeframe from December 11 to January 15 - eg. creating a sticky note tree with congregants’ ideas, in order to follow emerging themes.

**Part 2, January 15, 2023, Message: *Aspiring to follow God in our discipleship*** followed by potluck lunch and then a short afternoon talk session: What is already part of our DNA that creates a context for support and encourages us in our aspirations moving forward?

Church Council will continue our discussions as we prepare for these conversations, and we look forward to Pastor Al Rempel facilitating us through this journey. If you have any thoughts or ideas, please contact someone on Church Council to discuss further.

## ◆ Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18. Join us for worship as Joel Epp leads worship and Pastor Ken brings the message.

## ◆ Coffee Time

We all love coffee time following the worship service! Volunteers are needed to assist with preparing the coffee. Please contact Nadine Driedger at [jerrynadine.driedger@gmail.com](mailto:jerrynadine.driedger@gmail.com) if you are able to help. The following date is available; December 18. . . *The Hospitality Team*

## ◆ Missions Team News

**Keeping Heads Warm! Toques for Kids!** Thank-you from the Salvation Army for our recent donation of 46 gloves/mittens, 8 scarves and 75 toques/winter hats. Our church community has made our community a WARMER place this winter! Donations for this project will be accepted for two more weeks. Thankyou.

## ◆ Donations to NLUMC are Accepted by —

- 1) Automatic transfers – contact Susan
- 2) E-transfer – email [treasurer@nlumc.com](mailto:treasurer@nlumc.com) - include member # in message
- 3) Mail donation to church address
- 4) Offering on Sunday morning

Contact Susan Klassen, [office@nlumc.com](mailto:office@nlumc.com); or Brenda Klassen, [treasurer@nlumc.com](mailto:treasurer@nlumc.com)

## — Upcoming Events —

**Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve Service – 7 pm**

**Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day Service – 10 am**

**Sunday, January 1, New Year's Day Service – 10 am**

## — Church Office Holiday Hours —

### Open

**Friday, December 23, 9 am – 12 noon**

**Thursday, December 29, 9 am – 3 pm**

**Friday, December 30, 9 am – 12 noon**

**Wednesday, January 4, 9 am – 3 pm**

### Closed

**December 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, January 1, 2, 3.**

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## Community/Conference Events . . .

### ◆ Soli Deo Gloria Singers News

Choral concert “Moving Forward in Hope” on **Sunday, December 11** at 3 pm at Leamington United Mennonite Church. Suggested donation of \$15 at the door. Everyone welcome.

### ◆ UMEI Christian High School News

► **UMEI Senior Drama** presents *The Giver*; book by Lois Lowry, adapted by Eric Coble, directed by Jill Suta. Opens **Friday, December 16**, 7 pm. Matinee **Saturday, December 17**, 2 pm. Tickets on sale at the door. Attention teachers, daytime performances to host your class, Grade 6+ are now listed at

[www.umei.ca/theatre](http://www.umei.ca/theatre)

► **UMEI Choir** along with Erin Armstrong’s Music Moves Kids Choir is singing with Windsor Symphony Orchestra **December 17 & 18**. Tickets are available at <https://www.windsorsymphony.com/event/a-grinchy-holiday-pops-1/>

► **Experience Day is Friday, January 20**. This event is for Grade 7s and 8s and it is a PA day in the GECD SB board. We will have "preview" classes and chapel in the morning, lunch included, and then games, dodgeball, and prizes in the afternoon. Details and registration are here: <https://umei.ca/experience-day/>

◆ **South Essex Community Council (SECC)** would like to send our sincere gratitude to the NLUMC congregation for the generous donations to our Emergency Grocery Card Program that is tied to your Communion. These donations will be used to support individuals and families in need in our community. Last Communion, NLUMC members donated \$790 in grocery cards and online donations, which brings the total donation amount to \$2,305. On behalf of all the Board of Directors and staff at SECC, we appreciate your very generous donations!

### ◆ Silver Lake Mennonite Camp News

**2023 Winter and Spring Retreats now open for registration.** Come to Silver Lake in 2023 for some fun camp experiences! Dads & Kids, Snowshoe Hike, Women’s Retreat, Couples Retreat, Winter Camp for Grown-Ups, March Break Family Getaway, Youth Camp and Family Camp – there are options for all ages! Go to [SLMC Retreats & Events](#) for more info and to register. These make fantastic Christmas gifts!

### ◆ Leamington Mennonite Home News

This year the Leamington Mennonite Home initiated a fundraising project to renovate the kitchens in the Homeview Apartments. This 16-unit apartment

building provides safe and secure housing for lower income seniors. Initially, our goal was to raise \$200,000 to replace the original kitchen cupboards. We soon realized that each unit could use a complete facelift. We increased our budget amount to \$340,000. To date, the Home has successfully raised \$310,000! Please consider a donation to the Home toward this project so that we can reach our fundraising goal to complete this project.

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## Junior Youth News

### **New Date for the Christmas Party!!!**

Junior Youth (grades 5-8) will have our Christmas party on **Friday, December 16, 6:30-8:30** at the church. It will be a time of fun Christmas games and snacks. You won't want to miss it!

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## **Land Acknowledgement**

We acknowledge that we are gathering on the traditional territory of indigenous peoples. In Leamington, we gather on the traditional, unceded territory of the Caldwell First Nation, and the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations comprised of the Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi and Huron/Wendat peoples. We give thanks to the Creator and to those peoples who have stewarded this land for generations.

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## **Prayer List . . .**

**Neighbouring Congregation** — Today, in our cycle of prayer, area churches are remembering **Leamington United Mennonite Church** and their pastor David Dyck.

Each week MCEC, **Mennonite Church Eastern Canada**, prays for one of our congregations. This week we are praying for **First Mennonite Church, Vineland**, in Vineland, Ontario.

Our prayers go out to the family of *John N. Driedger*, husband of Marion and father of Jane Klassen (late John) (Rod Deneau), Len Driedger (Caroline Hamm), Pete Driedger (Jennifer) (late Sandra Derksen-Driedger), who passed away Monday, December 5. The funeral was held at NLUMC on Friday, December 9.

Congratulations to *Irma Janzen*, who became a great Omi for the second time. Grandchildren Stephanie & Sam welcomed Henry Bruce MacTavish on Monday, December 5, 2022. Oma Jeanne Epp is delighted. All are well, all are healthy, grateful, and joyful.

The Leamington Mennonite Home thanks all who came to sing carols outside on Tuesday, December 7. The presentation of another COVID case the previous day prevented the indoor Care-giving Christmas social from happening at The Home.

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## Connect . . .

- Check out our church website at [nlumc.com](http://nlumc.com), including YouTube videos of our past services.
- Watch our Sunday morning service via YouTube livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCdn1sLuXDZYqHsEyd92k0g/featured>
- Get updates on our ministries by joining our Facebook group.
- See photos of what we are doing on our Instagram page.
- Contact the church office, pastor or Council members for more information.

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## Care . . .

If you are aware of any crises needs or visitation needs within our community of faith, please contact the church office or Linda Driedger, Caregiving Team chairperson, 519-733-6130.

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## Contacts . . .

Ken Driedger ..... cell 519-329-6215 ..... [ken@nlumc.com](mailto:ken@nlumc.com)  
David Hrynyk..... cell 613-743-9299 ..... [youthleader@nlumc.com](mailto:youthleader@nlumc.com)

Church Council Chairperson; Brenda Fischer; Council members; Dennis Dick, Dennis Driedger, Brenda Klassen, Sandra Warkentin, Sonya Cornies, Paul Tiessen, Louise Neufeld, Fred Driedger, Linda Driedger, Kevin Fischer, Barb Fischer, Ken Hamm, Lindsey Ecker, Joanne Brown, Maida Tiessen, Greg Driedger.

Church phone: 519-326-7928 ..... Email: [office@nlumc.com](mailto:office@nlumc.com)

Facebook: North Leamington United Mennonite Church.....

Website: [www.northleamington.com](http://www.northleamington.com) ..... Instagram: [wethenorthchurch](https://www.instagram.com/wethenorthchurch)

Office hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9 am – 3 pm