

This page intentionally left blank

Sunday, December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

WE APPROACH GOD

Prelude - Leo Clossen

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 98:4-9*)

L: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

P: break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

L: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

P: With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

L: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

P: Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.

L: He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - Harry Zylstra

On this third Sunday of Advent, as we think about the coming of Jesus Christ, we light the candle of joy.

When Christ comes into our lives, He brings the fullness of joy. He anoints our hearts with the oil of gladness. (Isaiah 61:3)

When Jesus was born, the angels said that His coming was good news of great joy for all people. (Luke 2:10)

Because Christ has come to us, we can live every day in the joy of the Lord. Praise to His name!

Hymn: We Lift the Light of Hope, verse 3

(to the tune of #43 - All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name)

We lift the light of joy, O God.

Your praise is our delight!
Your blessings flow that all may know
Unbounded joy in Christ.
Your blessings flow that all may know
Unbounded joy in Christ.

***SONGS OF APPROACH**

- #270 - Joy to the World
- #271 - Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Judges 10:15*)

**ALL: We have sinned; Do to us whatever seems good to you.
Only please deliver us this day.** (*Time of silent prayer and
confession*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (*Ephesians 1:7*)

L: In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of
our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

P: Thanks be to God.

**OPENING PRAYER - PRAYERS FOR OTHERS - THE LORD'S
PRAYER**

***SONG OF PRAISE**

- #259 - Angels, from the Realms of Glory
- #300 - All Glory, Laud and Honor

TO HEAR HIS WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:1-14; Luke 24:44-53 [*p 1099; 1136*]

Reader: Pat Pluister

SERMON: "Jesus Is Joy" - Matthew Senior

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD

AND RESPOND TO HIS WORD

OFFERTORY PRAYER – OFFERING

* #815 - Doxology

***BENEDICTION**

***CLOSING SONG**

#258 - Go, Tell It on the Mountain (chorus, verse 1, chorus)

* Indicates where congregation is to stand, if able.

Sermon Notes

ERC THIS WEEK

Sun 17th Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship Service 10:30 am
Matthew Senior preaching
Library open after service

Mon 18th

Tues 19th Consistory meeting 7:00 pm

Wed 20th

Thu 21st

Fri 22nd

Sat 23rd

Sun 24th Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship Service 10:30 am
Christmas Eve



PRAYER CORNER

Carly Hippern

Hennie Ryken

Nelly VandenBrink

Fred Hippern

Allan Blake

Mina Trachsler

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

James 5:16 (LEB) Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous person accomplishes much.

Tony VanderLey
Gerrard & Marion VanderLinden
Janet VanderMeulen

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD'S BLESSINGS to **Pastor Don Waterhouse** (birthday 22nd).

CONSISTORY VOTING: Kryn Duivesteyn has consented to serve as elder for a one-year term. The Deacon nomination ballots are in the mail slots. Please return by January 7.

CONGRATULATIONS to Ron & Ann Reitsma on the birth of their grandson, Zachary Joel Reitsma. He was born November 21, 5 minutes after arriving at the hospital. He is Clint & Joella's second son, joining big brother Levi.

A CORDIAL INVITATION: Marinus Rensink would like to cordially invite you to join him in the fellowship hall after the service next Sunday for a special coffee time, in celebration of his 95th birthday on December 28th. We rejoice with him in his continued good health and active life.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE: Please join us on Christmas Day at 10:00 am for a special Christmas service.

DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE: During the month of December, we'll be holding a food drive for a local food bank. If you would like participate, please bring your donated items to the church.

THANK YOU NOTE: Thank you to everyone that prayed for me and visited me while I was in the hospital and rehabilitation centre. I wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. Special thanks to all the men for their help every Sunday in the elevator, and to Jacob, who was very good to me. --Mina Trachsler

MISSIONS OFFERING: Last week we collected \$2,152 for missions. Thank you for your generous gifts! We now need \$5,002 to fully fund the missions budget.

OFFERING ENVELOPES: The 2018 offering envelopes have been distributed. If you didn't receive a set and would like one, please speak with Kevin or Tricia Groeneveld.

TRANSPORTATION NEEDED: Emmanuel has been invited to host delegates from the Regional Synod for the Sunday morning service on April 22, 2018. There could be 10-15 people needing to be picked up and brought back to Mississauga. What we need is some drivers to do this. A lunch will also be served.

Gate 3:16 Outreach Centre located at 394-Simcoe St S in Oshawa is looking for volunteers who can spend time with our staff serving our less fortunate and homeless as volunteers. The need is great and the laborers are few to serve with brotherly and sisterly compassion those who have fallen into the direness of poverty and hopelessness, homelessness and loneliness. Responsibilities would include helping to serve and prepare meals, clean up, conversing and spiritually caring for those less fortunate. If you feel called to serve in this manner, please call 905-432-5316 ext. 22 or email office@gate316.org. Ask for either Rita or Alan. Many blessings of God's grace and peace.

Emmanuel Reformed Church

401 Rossland Road West Whitby, Ontario L1N 3J1
Office: 905-668-3542 ercwhitby@rogers.com
www.ercwhitby.com

Welcome Greeters

December 17 Michael & Marion Fulcher
December 24 Neil & Ann VanStaveren
December 31 Pat Pluister & Jo Veenstra
January 7 Paul & Carly Hippern

Scripture Readers

December 17 Pat Pluister
December 24 Lisa London
December 31 Susan Duivesteyn
January 7 Tricia Groeneveld

Coffee Fellowship

(An extended list may be found at ercwhitby.com/announcements)

Dec 17 Michael & Marion Fulcher with Trudy Van Staveren
Dec 24 Marinus Rensink with Ken & Joanne Reinsma
Dec 31 Kryn & Anne Duivesteyn with Elizabeth Raaphorst
Jan 7 Herman & Susan Duivesteyn with Janet Vander Meulen

Nursery Helpers

December 17 Cathy Warren
December 24 Pat Pluister
December 31 Kathy Wielinga
January 7 Trudy Van Staveren

PowerPoint Operators

December 17, 24 Tricia Groeneveld
December 31, January 7 Paul Hippern

Sound Technicians

December 17, 24 Kevin Groeneveld
December 31, January 7 Chris Groeneveld