

Community Christian Reformed Church
Kitchener, Ontario
December 23, 2018



The New Creation

Revelation 21

Maranatha

4th Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Pastor Carel Geleynse

Elder-in-Charge: Laura D

[* Please rise, in body or spirit]

There is no Sunday School this morning and Sunday, Dec 30th. All classes will resume on January 6.

Gathering and Greeting

Gathering Song: *"Joy to the World"*

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

*God's Greeting and Mutual Greeting

*Songs of Praise: PsH #198 *"Arise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come"*

Candle Lighting

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 65: 17-25

Song: *"Meekness and Majesty"*

Advent Prayer

Advent Declaration

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Song of Response: PsH #346 vs. 1, 2, 4, 5 *"Once in Royal David's City"*

Children's Message

Proclamation of the Word

Song of Preparation: PsH #341 *"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Revelation 21

Sermon: **"All Things Made New"**

Prayer of Application

Response to the Word

*Song of Response: *"Christ is the World's True Light"*

Prayers of the People

Offering: 1) Ministries of Community Christian Reformed Church
2) Monica Place

Offertory Song: *"O Holy Night"*

Song of Dedication: PsH #354 vs. 1, 2, 4 *"Angels From the Realms of Glory"*

*God's Parting Blessing

*Doxology: PsH #354 vs. 5 *"Angels from the Realms of Glory"*

**The congregation is asked to remain in their seats after the service to allow the Pastor and people with special duties or disabilities to exit first.
Please exit when the music begins.**



Following the service, everyone is invited to come together for fellowship and coffee/tea/juice in the gymnasium. Coffee for seniors is served in the Multi-Purpose room.

**6:00 pm
Candlelight Service
Pastor Amanda Bakale/Pastor Carel Geleyne**



[Please rise, in body or spirit]*

Praise and Prayer

Call to Worship:

Let us praise our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

At Christmas Jesus came as a baby.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

He came to be like us because he loves us.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

He came to save us from our sin.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

He died, rose from the dead, and lives in heaven.

He will come again because he loves us.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

We praise Jesus, who came as a baby
and will come again at the end of time.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

*God's Greeting

*Song: *"My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9: 2-7

Song: "PsH #329 *"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"*

Scripture Reading: John 1: 1-14

Song: PsH #342 *"Of the Father's Love Begotten"*

Offering: Monica House

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Meditation: **"The Darkness Will Not Overcome"**

*Song of Response: *"This Little Light of Mine"*

Advent Prayer

Passing the Light of Christ

Songs

PsH #344 *"Silent Night! Holy Night!"*

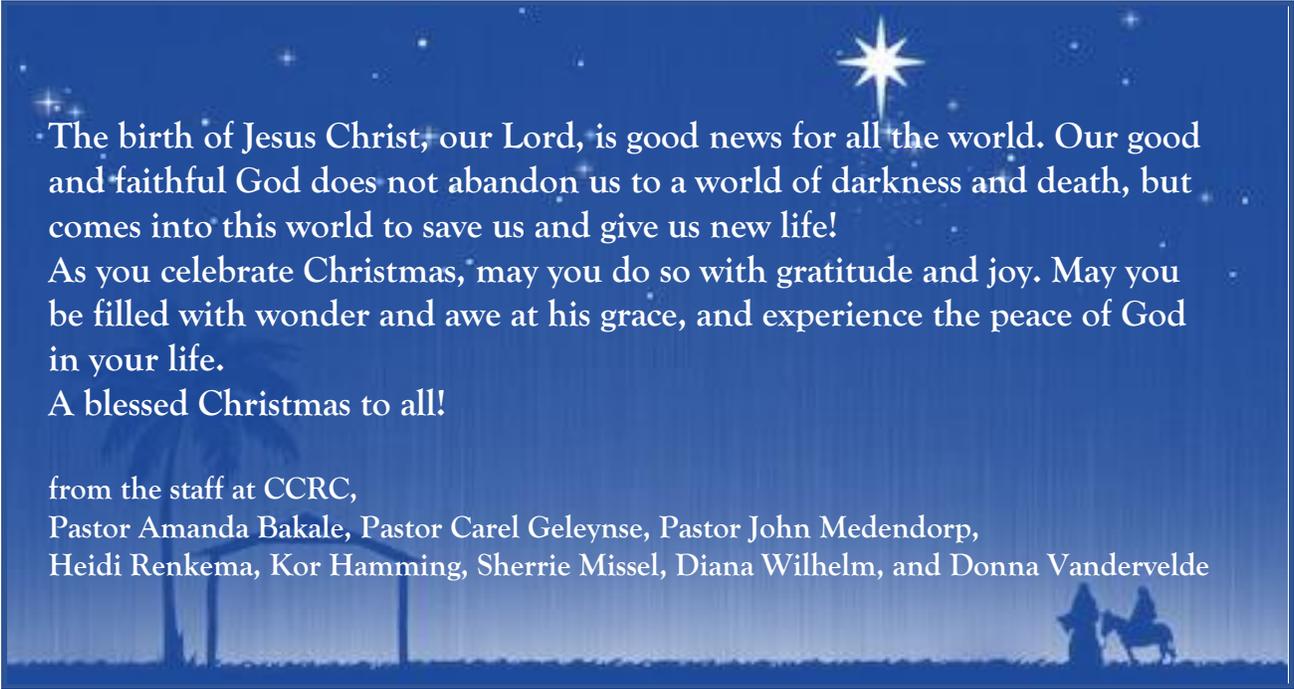
"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

"What Child is This?"

"O Holy Night"

*God's Parting Blessing

*Doxology: PsH #340 vs. 1, 2, 3 *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*



The birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord, is good news for all the world. Our good and faithful God does not abandon us to a world of darkness and death, but comes into this world to save us and give us new life!

As you celebrate Christmas, may you do so with gratitude and joy. May you be filled with wonder and awe at his grace, and experience the peace of God in your life.

A blessed Christmas to all!

from the staff at CCRC,

Pastor Amanda Bakale, Pastor Carel Geleynse, Pastor John Medendorp, Heidi Renkema, Kor Hamming, Sherrie Missel, Diana Wilhelm, and Donna Vandervelde

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

The bracketed numbers indicate the Community to which these individuals belong

Lynda J (14) has moved from Freeport Hospital to Doon Retirement Residence for a time of recovery and respite. She is in suite 313. Pray for a good time of recovery.

Harriet R (3) has spent the last week at the Woodstock General Hospital. At the time of writing it was not known when she would be able to return home again.

Please continue to pray for:

- those who are shut-in and/or unable to worship with us on a regular basis because of various health issues; **Mandy B** (7); **Gine K** (1); **Sandra K** (9); **Olga S** (11); **Jenny W** (6); **Ralph W**(14);
- those dealing with depression and other forms of mental illness;

- those dealing with cancer, its treatment and effects: **Arend S** (11) at Innisfree House;
- those dealing with broken relationships;
- those who are unemployed or underemployed;
- **Anthony and Barbara P** with Daystar Ministries on Manitoulin Island;
- the staff and leadership at the Journey;
- the persecuted Church;
- the Ministries and the Leadership of our congregation

Congratulations to **Hank and Barbara T** (13) who celebrate their 50th anniversary on December 29. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Congratulations to the following



members celebrating a birthday in the coming week:

Dec 27 – Linda D (13)

Dec 29 – John D (2) in Florida

Dec 29 – Mary V (6)

May they experience God’s richest blessings in the coming year and as they celebrate their birthday!

STAFF INFORMATION

The church office hours for this coming week are as follows:

- December 24 - Closed
- December 25 – Closed
- December 26 – Closed
- December 27 – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- December 28 – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

UPCOMING SERVICES

Dec 25	10 a.m.	Christmas Day Service Pastor Carel
Dec 30	10 a.m.	Pastor Amanda Professions of Faith: Kayla M (13) Sydney V (5)
	6 p.m.	Pastor Carel/Pastor Amanda Last service of 2018 Lord’s Supper
Jan 6	10 a.m.	Pastor Carel First service of 2019
	6 p.m.	Pastor Amanda Evening Service

Next week (December 30) we will be celebrating the sacrament of Communion in the evening service. The Council of Community CRC invites believers of all ages to the table, following an age and ability appropriate public profession of faith. If you desire to come to the table but have not made profession of faith, please let a pastor or elder know so we can begin the conversation.

A Note from Council:

Congregation,
At our council meeting in November it was overlooked that the New Year’s Eve service was scheduled for Dec 30th instead of the 31st. Once this was highlighted, efforts were made to coordinate volunteer schedules to allow revising of the date but these were not successful.

We realize that the changing of the year is a treasured time for reflection and thanksgiving and will do our best in the future to ensure the scheduling of a service the final day of the year.

Recognizing that this mistake was unintentional our hope is that, as a congregation, we can overlook the timing of the service and have an extra well-attended “New Year’s Eve” celebration on Sunday evening that reflects our gratefulness for blessings of the year past and in anticipation of what good things God has in store for the year to come.

My personal apologies for this oversight,
Ed H
Chair of Council

OFFERING SCHEDULE

**Budget Contributions
For December 16, 2018**

	Actual Contributions Received	Targeted Contributions	Contributions (Shortfall)/ Surplus
Dec 16	\$20,392	\$12,758	\$7,634
YTD	\$745,495	\$833,996	(\$88,501)
Woodland Christian High School			\$ 1,804
World Renew			\$ 1,300
House of Friendship			\$ 225
Friendship Ministries			\$ 100
Waterloo Campus Ministry			\$ 40
Monica Place			\$ 40
Resonate Global Mission			\$ 20

Our offering today is for Monica Place.

“Monica Place is a registered charity that provides supports to pregnant and parenting youth. Monica Place is a community that provides supportive housing, counseling and on-site education creating opportunities for growth, learning and skill development.”

On Christmas Day our offering is for World Renew.

“World Renew, compelled by God’s passion for justice & mercy, joins communities around the world to renew hope, reconcile lives, and restore creation. World Renew is the development, disaster response, and justice arm of the Christian Reformed Church. World Renew does not receive denominational ministry shares and depends on the regular financial support of God’s people.”

Next week our offering is for Habitat for Humanity. *“Seeking to put God’s love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope. Families and individuals in need of a hand up partner with Habitat for Humanity to build or improve a place they can call home. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. Through financial support, volunteering or adding a voice to support affordable housing, everyone can help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves.”*

MISSIONARY CORNER

Recently we also received an update from **Anthony and Barbara P** who work with Daystar Ministries on Manitoulin Island. They wanted *“to share what God has been doing in their lives and the blessings He has showered upon them in 2018!”*

Copies of the update are available at the Information Centre, please help yourself.

COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWS

Sunday School News: Sunday School is taking a break this morning and next Sunday. **All classes will resume on January 6.** There will be colouring sheets available today and Christmas day at the sanctuary doors. Please help yourself to a copy as you enter the sanctuary or ask an usher for a copy.

TODAY Booklets: The English and Korean January/February 2019 editions of the Today Devotional Booklets are available at the Information Centre or on the shelves by the front doors. Large print copies are in the mailboxes of those who have requested them. Please, help yourself to a copy.

Administrative Council Meeting Highlights December 18, 2018:

- Approved November 27, 2018 minutes of Council meeting and also minutes of Congregational Meeting on November 30, 2018 along with approval of the 2019 CCRC budget.
- Received and reviewed various ministry and staff reports.
- Lesli V (CRC Faith Formation Catalyzer) will be visiting with the Consistory and the Diaconate on Tuesday January 8, 2019 and introducing the “Renegotiating Faith” report.
- Reviewed Epiphany Sermon series overview (“God’s love, our love” - Jan/Feb).
- Discussed the low attendance at the November Congregational meeting and discussed ways to improve future attendance.
- Discussed CCRC By-Laws and 2013 proposed revisions that were in response to anticipated governmental regulation changes which never passed yet. We will wait for provincial legislation before making changes to the By-Laws.
- Youth of CCRC have requested to organize a mission trip this summer. A SERVE trip to Muskegon, Michigan has been reserved at this time. Watch for further details.

- Jane V and Diana Z have been selected by Classis Huron to be CCRC reps at the CRC National Gathering in Edmonton in May 2019
- Council approved sending a job description of the Forest Heights Long Term Care Chaplain position to Classis Huron for their determination to ensure that the position is ministerial in nature. Shannon C has been hired as a chaplain at the facility and is asking for Commissioned Pastor status.
- The Kitchen Auxiliary team has indicated their desire previously to step down at the end of 2018. There have been no new volunteers nor people willing to take on this role at this time. The current Kitchen Auxiliary will be retired as of the end of 2018.

Update from the CCRC go! Committee:

We are delighted to let you know that construction is progressing very well on the CCRC go! renovation. The roof is now on, floors have been completed and we now have ceilings, insulation and some walls in the new addition. You'll also notice that new windows have been installed in these new areas which help it take shape and blend in with our existing structure. These are important steps to have completed so that the work inside can progress for the new classrooms and meeting rooms. Look forward to some additional pictures on the CCRC go! area of the website shortly! For ministry program planning, we previously communicated that classroom changeover would not be until sometime after January. As progress continues inside in the new year we will have a more precise date however, at this time we expect this to

happen around the last two weeks of February.

Thank you to everyone who has provided their pledge amounts on the planned timeline. As a reminder, pledges made before the Dec 31 for CCRC go! will be eligible for a 2018 tax receipt. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any of the CCRC go! Steering Committee members.

Sunday School Teachers Needed: There is a need for **2 additional teachers for grade 3**. This group meets during the morning service. If you are able to help, please contact Sherrie M.

The Visual Arts team would appreciate some help with packing up the Advent decorations on Wednesday, January 2nd. If you have some time available that morning, please join them at 9:30 a.m.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

For all of the announcements, employment and volunteer opportunities available through the Denomination and others, please see the listing and posters on the Deacons bulletin board across from the washrooms for information.

Christmas Remixed - Did you know the book of Revelation tells the Christmas story? It's true. Complete with dragons and intense drama. Study Revelation 12 with Groundwork see the cosmic perspective on Christ's birth and purpose revealed through the Apostle John's vision. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Advent Family Faith Formation Tip - On this fourth Sunday in Advent, retell the events leading up to Jesus' birth using the figures in your nativity crèche. Don't have one? Use Lego or Playmobil people and blocks to make your own. Choose a narrator to read Luke 2:1-20 as the rest of you re-enact the story. (Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

2018 CBC Sing-In - Recorded in mid-December at the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, Montréal, the 39th annual CBC Sing-In will be broadcast on Christmas Day, December 25, on CBC Radio One at 12:00 (noon), again at 4 pm on CBC Music, as well as Dec. 25 at 2 pm on ICI Musique classique, Radio-Canada's classical web radio service. The program is hosted by Julie Nesrallah, produced by Robert Rowat and led by Conductor Dr. Jean-Sébastien Vallée, Organist and Director of Music, Dr. Jonathan Oldengarm, the Choir of the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, and the CBC brass and percussion ensemble. It is available anytime on-line: CBCMusic.ca/SingIn Enjoy the program!

Calvin Symposium on Worship - Join us January 24-26, 2019, at Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary. The three-day conference brings together a wide audience of artists, musicians, pastors, scholars, students, worship leaders and planners, and other interested worshipers. Excellent rates for students and groups from churches. All worship services are free and open to the public. See worship.calvin.edu/symposium/ for information and registration.

