

Community Christian Reformed Church
Kitchener, Ontario
December 29, 2019



SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

The King has Come

"But you, Bethlehem,
in the land of Judah ...
out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people."

December 29, 2019 10:00 a.m.

Pastor John Medendorp

Elder-in-Charge: Judy H.

[* *Please rise, in body or spirit*]

There are no Sunday School classes today. Classes begin again January 5th.

Gathering and Greeting

Gathering Song: *"God is Here"*

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

*God's Greeting and Mutual Greeting

*Songs of Praise: *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"* PsH 340

"Immanuel"

"Angels We Have Heard on High" PsH 347

"Behold Our God"

Children's Blessing

Proclamation of the Word

Song of Preparation: *"What Child is This?"*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2: 13-18

Sermon: **"A Very Different Christmas Story"**

Prayer of Application

Response to the Word

*Song of Response: *"Blest Are the Innocents"*

Prayers of the People

Offering: 1) Ministries of Community Christian Reformed Church

2) Habitat for Humanity

Offertory Song: *"King of Kings"*

*God's Parting Blessing

*Doxology: *"King of Kings"* (chorus 2x)

6:00 pm

Pastor John Medendorp

Litanist: Pastor Carel Geleyse

Pianist: Lorraine V.

[* *Please rise, in body or spirit*]

Praise and Prayer

Welcome

Call to Worship

*God's Greeting

*Song of Praise: *"Abide with Me"* PsH 442 v. 1-3,5

Confession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1

Song of Response: *"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"* PsH 556

Prayers for the Past Year

Offering: Habitat for Humanity

Hearing the Word

Song of Preparation: *"Ancient Words"*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 63: 7-9

Sermon: **"All the Days of Old"**

Prayer of Application

*Song of Response: *"Children of the Heavenly Father"* PsH 440

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

The Institution

The Teaching

Song: *"Lift Up Your Hearts unto the Lord"* PsH 309

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Invitation

The Distribution of the Elements

*Song of Response: *"The Day You Gave Us, Lord, Is Ended"* PsH 318

*God's Parting Blessing

*Doxology: *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* PsH 638

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

The bracketed numbers indicate the Community to which these individuals belong

Our condolences are extended to **Kevin** and **Annita B.** (5) and their extended family, with the passing away of Kevin's father, **Felix B.** He was Opa to **Andrew, Erica,** and **Katelyn.** Mr. B. passed away early Thursday morning, Dec. 26, as a result of complications from heart surgery.

He was in his 83rd year. The family wrote, "We are comforted that he is a child of the King and now resides with him but we are profoundly sad to have lost him." Funeral details are yet to be determined.

Jake V. (6) spent this past week at Grand River Hospital recovering from his recent surgery. At the time of writing it was not known when he could return home. Pray for a good recovery.

Janet B. (14) and **Jane V.** (2) are presently in the midst of their time of volunteering at the Seafarers Centre in Montreal. They are returning on January 2nd. Pray for opportunities to serve and for safety in their return travels.

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;
- those dealing with depression and other forms of mental illness;
- those dealing with cancer, its treatment and effects;
- those dealing with broken relationships;
- those who are unemployed or underemployed;
- **Anthony and Barbara P.** with Daystar Ministries on Manitoulin Island; **Hank and Rosario S.** volunteering in Guatemala; **Shannon C.** serving as Chaplain at Forest Heights Long Term Care; **Pastor Brian B.** serving with Waterloo Campus Ministry
- the staff and leadership at the Journey
- the persecuted Church;
- the Ministries and the Leadership of our congregation

As we come to the close of another year, we will be celebrating the sacrament of Lord's Supper tonight in our year end worship 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.

STAFF INFORMATION

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

December 30: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
 December 31: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
 January 1: Closed
 January 2: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
 January 3: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Pastor Amanda will be back in the office on December 31.

UPCOMING SERVICES

Jan 1	10 a.m.	Pastor Carel, New Year's Day Service
Jan 5	10 a.m.	Pastor Amanda
	6 p.m.	Pastor John
Jan 12	10 a.m.	Pastor Carel Lord's Supper
	6 p.m.	Communities Meet

OFFERING SCHEDULE

**Budget Contributions
For December 22, 2019**

	Actual Contributions Received	Targeted Contributions	Contributions (Shortfall)/ Surplus	
Dec. 22	\$97,305			
YTD	\$870,235	\$927,970	\$57,735	
CCRC Go Fund			\$	15,375
House of Friendship			\$	3,512
World Renew			\$	1,075
Barb & Anthony P.			\$	1,060
Deaconate			\$	700
Laurentian Hills Christian School			\$	250
Sunday School – World Renew			\$	190
Woodland Christian High School			\$	150
Waterloo Campus Ministry			\$	30
Monica's Place			\$	25

Our offering today 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.”*

On New Year's Day, our offering is for Faith's Orphans Fund. Faith's Orphan Fund ministers to over 3900 HIV/AIDS orphans and vulnerable children in rural Zambia through 24 centres set up across the country. CCRC's own Knifty Knitters regularly send knitted blankets, clothes and other items to this organization. For more information, please go to FOFcanada.com

Next week our offering is for the Refugee Fund (Benevolence). Next week's collection is designated for the Refugee Fund. This fund is used by the deacons to collect money for the support of refugees locally in our community. CCRC, as the sponsors for the K. family, are responsible to support this family fully for their 1st year in Canada. We are continuing to support them in their living expenses and the rental of their apartment.

Update on the K. Family: Arriving on June 20, 2019, it has been 6 months since the K. family arrived in Canada. The family is doing very well and have greatly improved in their English language skills. The two girls love school and the youngest is growing well. Mom and Dad attend ESL classes each day during the week. Mom has also been going to school on weekends so she

can become a Personal Support Worker. She hopes to be finished sometime in June. Dad is continuing to look for work. The K. family is glad to be in Canada and are very thankful to our church community for all the things we do for them. We thank God who made all of this possible.

COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWS

There is a New Year's Day Service at 10 AM this coming Wednesday allowing us to begin the new year and decade together. However, there will be no nursery care available.

Community Sundays: For scheduling purposes, please note that the following Sunday evenings are set aside for Communities to meet: January 12, January 26, February 9, February 23, March 8, March 22, April 5, April 19, and May 3. If you are unsure which Community you belong to, please speak with an Elder or one of the Pastors.

Volunteers Needed: Coffee Break's snowbird childcare volunteers have flown the coop for the winter season! Please help us out by volunteering to spend some time in our toddler nursery on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:00. We need volunteers for the following dates:

- Wednesday, January 29
- Wednesday, February 5
- Wednesday, February 12
- Wednesday, February 19
- Wednesday, February 26

If you are willing to help us out, please contact the Coffee Break Leadership Team. Thank you!

New Speakers: New speakers, with their own volume switches in each area, have been installed in the Community Room, front lobby, and nurseries, allowing for you to hear what is happening in the service even if you are not

able to be in the sanctuary for whatever reason.

Impact Big Group Night - Wednesday, Jan 8 @ 7-8:30pm

Friday Night Dinner: **January 10** @ 6-8pm
Are you a young adult looking for a place to connect over a good meal? Join other young adults from Community CRC, Waterloo CRC, and Waterloo Campus Ministry at Pastor Amanda and Brian's home for dinner and conversation. Contact Pastor Amanda to RSVP!

Save the Date! Faith Formation Workshop - Friday, Jan 17, 7-9 pm @ CCRC. Everyone at CCRC is invited to participate in an evening workshop exploring the question: "How do young adults stick with faith?" Rev. Lesli V. will facilitate our interactive conversation with insights from the Renegotiating Faith Report, a large survey of young adult Christians in Canada. This 2019 report highlights the new cultural challenges and struggles of emerging adults in our modern context...and the way that the church is helping or hindering young adults as they navigate their changing world and their faith.

Questions? Please contact Pastor Amanda.

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.

At-home Faith Formation Tip - As the year draws to a close, gather as a family or with friends to reflect on the events of the past 12 months and tell stories of how God guided, protected, convicted, loved, and provided for you. Hearing each others' stories is one of the best ways to grow in faith! (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries crcna.org/FaithFormation)

Young Adults! - Join other folks aged 18-30ish for the Young Adult Winter Retreat on **January 24-26th** at Maranatha CRC in Woodstock! Pastor Daryl will teach us about seeing God, yourself and the world with clarity. It will be a weekend of faith-based discussions, service, workshops, worship, and fellowship. Register by January 10 to receive the Early Bird rate of \$55. For info and to register, visit our Facebook page "Young Adult Winter Retreat".