

# Joy

FEAR NOT: FOR, BEHOLD,  
I BRING YOU GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY.

LUKE 2:10



# Grace Mennonite Church

December 12, 2021

10:00 am – Worship Service

Pastors Mel Letkeman & Kyle Penner

[www.gracesteinbach.ca](http://www.gracesteinbach.ca) 204 326 3707

Vol 60, No. 50



## Third Advent - Joy

Welcome and Life of the Congregation

**Hark! the Herald Angels Sing** VT 247

Call to Worship

**Love Has Come** VT 258

**O Come, All Ye Faithful** VT 241

[Isaiah 12:1-6](#)

Confession and Assurance

**Light Three Candles**

Candle Lighting Litany

Candle Lighting

Time with the Children

[Luke 2:1-7](#)

Poetry – *Kenosis (Self Emptying)* by Luci Shaw

**Unto Us a Child is Born**

Hopeful Immensity

**Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** VT 243

Congregational Prayer & Offering

**Sing for Joy, Ye People**

Benediction

Worship Speaker	Mel Letkeman
Worship Leader	Jenn Kulpa
Musicians	Emmy Friesen, Gerry Sapinsky
Accompanists	Rob & Kim Sidorchuk, Julie Sidorchuk
Candle Lighters	Andrew & Erin Unger
Children's Time	Kyle Penner, Ashlyn Wolfe
Scripture	Edna Huese
Poetry	Tamara Rempel
Technicians	Bruce Blatz, Chris Peters
Ushers	Doug & Elsie Kathler
Greeters	John & Kiran Mahi

## Third Advent Sunday – December 12

### 10:00 am - Worship Service - Attendance OPTION B

Sunday morning in-person worship services attendance Option B - no capacity limits, proof of vaccination cards required.

For people unable to attend in-person worship **the worship service will also be livestreamed from 10 – 11 am**. Please go to the YouTube website and search for Grace Mennonite Steinbach channel. You will be able to access an **audio recording** on the church website following the morning worship service.

**9:00 am – Sisters of Grace** will meet in the downstairs lounge every Sunday. We will gather before the worship service for a time of sharing and encouragement. All are welcome following the worship attendance schedule.

## Tuesday Worship Services

During Advent we will be having Option A format (all may attend with capacity limit) mid week worship on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. It will be a time of music, litany, prayer and sharing. Due to restrictions, only 25 people will be able to be in attendance so we ask that you RSVP to [office@gracesteinbach.ca](mailto:office@gracesteinbach.ca) or call 204 326 3707 before Tuesday noon if you would like to be in attendance.

December 14 - Worship in the sanctuary

December 21 - Longest Night in the sanctuary and will also be livestreamed.

## We Pray Together

Pray for **Tina Rempel** who is in the hospital.

### We Pray for our International Workers:

- **John & Karen Friesen** (Middle East)
- **Daniel & Damaris Loewen Rudgers** (Kenya)
- **Emma Martens** (Rwanda)

**Prayer for the week:** God, give me eyes to see you in the face of the Christ child.

Our condolences to **Tina Rempel** on the passing of her son-in-law, **Brian Patrick**, on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Brian** was also a nephew to **Eva Unger**. The memorial service was held this past Saturday. Pray for the family as they begin life without his presence among them.

**4<sup>th</sup> Advent, December 19<sup>th</sup>** – Plan on sticking around a bit after the service so that we can wrap books for the kids in Pauingassi! More info next week.

## This Week at Grace ❖ December 13 - 17

<b>Monday</b>	Soup's On Lunch Program, 9:00 am
<b>Tuesday</b>	Soup's On Take Out only, 4:30 pm <b>Worship Service</b> , 7:00 pm RSVP to <a href="mailto:office@gracesteinbach.ca">office@gracesteinbach.ca</a> or 204 326 3707
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Stories with Seniors</b> , 10:00 am – ZOOM <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8984736540">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8984736540</a>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Sanctuary is unavailable from 9 am – 1 pm.</b> Soup's On Take Out only, 4:30 pm

**Children's Church for ages 3 to Grade 8** will be held during the worship service in the traditional classrooms on alternating Sundays. You may pick up your children following the worship service in the upper level - classrooms 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14. **The next date for children's church is December 19th.**

**Canadian Mennonite** is a periodical that connects us as a church across the country providing channels for sharing accurate and fair information, faith profiles, inspirational/educational materials, church news, opinion columns, and analysis of issues. Subscriptions are available in print and digital formats and are paid for collectively by *Mennonite Church Manitoba*. Under the *Canadian Mennonite* Every Home Plan, everyone who attends our church is eligible to subscribe. If you are not currently getting the *Canadian Mennonite* and would like to receive it, please contact the Grace office at [cathy@gracesteinbach.ca](mailto:cathy@gracesteinbach.ca) to add your name to the subscription list.

### **Financial update:**

Budgeted giving for 2021 - \$452,560

Actual giving to Dec.7/21 - \$352,038

If you wish your **building pledges** to be receipted for the 2021 year please give them to the church treasurer by December 31, 2021.

**Annual Reports** for the AGM Report Book are due into the office by Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

**The church office will be closed December 27-29.** Please see the church directory for pastoral contact information in case of an emergency. We will be open December 30 & 31.

Pastor: **Mel Letkeman**

Associate Pastor: **Kyle Penner**

Administrative Office

Administrative Assistant: **Cathy Barkman**

[mel@gracesteinbach.ca](mailto:mel@gracesteinbach.ca)

[kyle@gracesteinbach.ca](mailto:kyle@gracesteinbach.ca)

[office@gracesteinbach.ca](mailto:office@gracesteinbach.ca)

[cathy@gracesteinbach.ca](mailto:cathy@gracesteinbach.ca)

**Office Hours:** Tuesday – Friday ❖ 9:00 am – 1:00 pm



## Kenosis (Self Emptying)

*Luci Shaw*

In sleep his infant mouth works in and out.  
He is so new, his silk skin has not yet  
been roughed by plane and wooden beam  
Nor, so far, has he had to deal with human doubt

He is in a dream of nipple found,  
Of blue-white milk, of curving skin and,  
Pulsing in his ear, the inner throb  
Of a warm heart's repeated sound

His only memories float from fluid space,  
So new he has not pounded nails, hung a door,  
Broken bread, felt rebuff, bent to the lash,  
Wept for the sad heart of the human race.

# We gather to Worship in the hope of... 'Emmanuel ... God With Us'

## Sundays in the Sanctuary

Option B attendance – Sunday Services will also be livestreamed.

December 12

Third Advent - Joy

December 19

Fourth Advent - Love

December 26

Emmanuel...God With Us



## Tuesdays

Sanctuary Services are Option A attendance. Please RSVP

December 14

Worship in the Sanctuary

December 21

Longest Night Worship in the Sanctuary  
and will also be livestreamed



## Christmas Eve Service

December 24 – 7:00 pm

The in-person sanctuary service will be following attendance option B which is for fully immunized people and those under 12 who are not eligible to be fully vaccinated. Proof of vaccination will be required at the door. Please also have a government issued identification with you.

We will be choosing a capacity limit of approximately 200 people. RSVP is required to [office@gracesteinbach.ca](mailto:office@gracesteinbach.ca) or 204 326 3707 by Thursday, December 23 at 1:00 pm. We are taking RSVPs for other services as well so please mention that you are RSVPing for the December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Service. This service will also be livestreamed. Please go to the YouTube website and search for Grace Mennonite Steinbach channel.

Whether you are able to join us in person or via livestream, we look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ with you.

