

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION:

- **MCC low on emergency resources** - because of humanitarian crises in places including Iraq, Syria, Ukraine, Gaza and South Sudan, MCC has more than doubled its distribution of emergency resources this year from the previous year. There is now a critical shortage of funds for emergency assistance and of material resources including kits and blankets. Call [\(204\)261-6381](tel:(204)261-6381) or visit <http://donate.mcccanada.ca/relief> to help MCC continue to provide critical assistance to thousands in these areas.

Aberdeen Evangelical Mennonite Church
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Office Hours:

Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Wed. 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Mo Klippenstein, Secretary

204 - 221-3000 (office)

Office Hours:

Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 28, 2014

Your beauty is revealed

Seeing the child, we respond and join with all creation in adoration and praise.

Inviting the Mystery

Welcome

Congregational Singing HWB 318 Joy to the world
 HWB 201 Hark! the herald angels sing
 HWB 209 Oh, how joyfully

Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Congregational Singing STS 15 Hope is a candle
 HWB 193 Silent night, holy night

Engaging the Mystery

Confession of Faith

Passing the Peace

Poem - Shirley Here it Begins

Silence

Congregational Singing HWB 191 Oh little town of Bethlehem
 HWB 212 Oh come, all ye faithful

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Celebrating the Mystery

New Testament Reading Luke 2:22-40

Message Sunnie

Congregational Singing STS 26 Helpless and hungry

Offeratory Marcia and Ron

Announcements

Congregational Singing STS 32 Oh beautiful star

Sending We have seen the Christ child today!

Worship Leaders: Ron and Shirley

Pianist: Marcia

Song Leader: Ron

Accompanist: Deb

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- **Aberdeen Food Bank** - Next meets on Jan. 10 and Jan 24.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- "We would like to thank the Aberdeen Church family for all your prayers, well wishes, cards and attendance at the service for my mother. We are truly grateful for your love and support."
Ruth and Ron

Christmas Services:

Today Christmas 1 *Beauty*
Jan. 4 Epiphany *Mystery*



PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Continue to pray for Garry. Give him patience as he waits for appointments - his latest was rescheduled for the new year.



Coffee for next week Jan. 4 – Mo and Rudy
Upcoming coffee for Jan 11 – Mak and Sokong

Sending:

We have seen the Christ child today!
We have held him in our hearts!
We have felt his love for us!
We can go now, and every day, in peace!

Call to Worship (adapted from Luke 2 and Psalm 148)

Leader: Come let us worship in faith the God who is here and desires our worship (pause).
Incarnate God, work in our hearts, that our worship would be filled with the joy that comes from remembering your beauty.

All: *In a little child, God is revealed to us.*

Leader: This is God's plan of freedom, held up for the nations to see.

People: *A revealing light to all peoples, the glory of God's kingdom people.*

Leader: We rejoice in our rescue and celebrate creation's redemption.

People: *The hills and the mountains praise the Lord.*

Leader: The animals, wild and tame, all kings and peoples of the earth, lightning and hail, snow and fog, women and men, old and young,

All: *all praise the Lord together. Our Messiah has come. Alleluia!*

Confession of Faith

Leader: O Lord, we confess our joy in you. We cannot keep silent.

People: *You came to live among us and have brought us salvation.*

Leader: Your salvation is for all peoples, all cultures, all religious communities, all humanity.

People: *Because you gave us a new name, and have declared us beautiful, we cannot keep silent.*

Leader: When the time was right, God sent us his Son.

People: *Let us praise the Lord for drawing near to us, for coming among us.*

Leader: Come, young and old, male and female, all God's people. Let us praise God together.

All: *Our hearts are brimming with the Spirit of God. God's salvation is for all peoples. We will not keep silent!*

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.