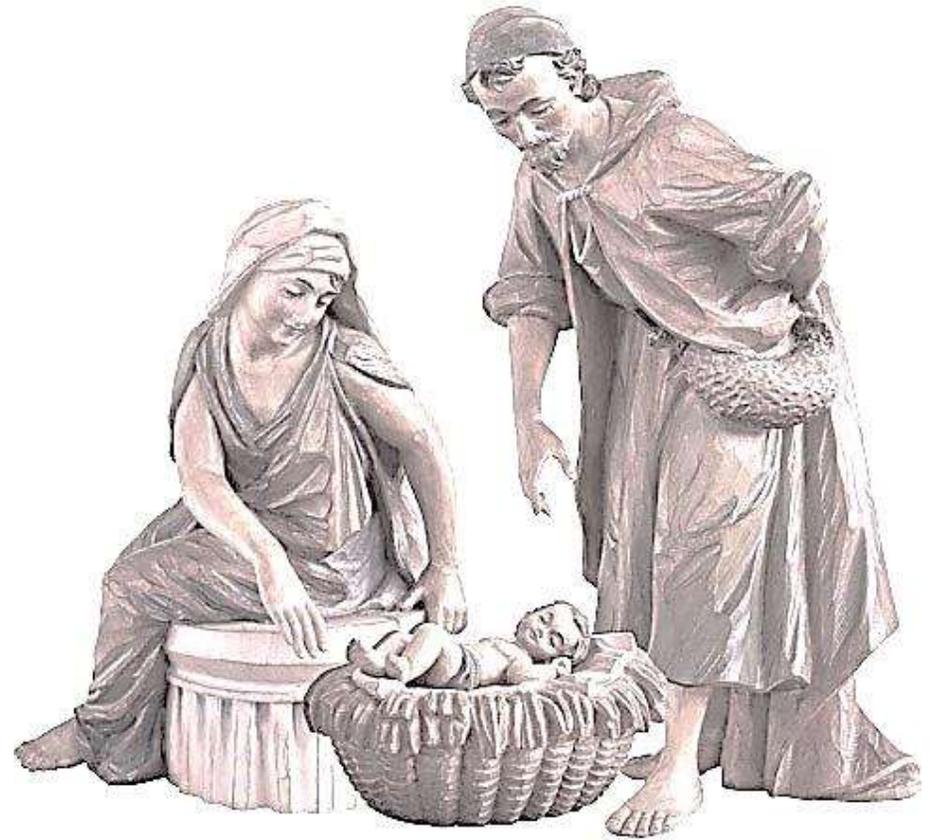


At Waterloo North Mennonite Church we welcome all people to participate fully in our Christian community of faith with all its expectations, responsibilities, and opportunities regardless of personal characteristics such as race, ethnic background, age, gender and gender identity, sexual orientation, income, or education.



YES! LET IT BE!

Waterloo North Mennonite Church
Sunday, December 3, 2017
Advent 1
LET IT BE

GATHERING CAROLS

Hymn: #195 HWB (Blue) *It came upon a midnight clear*
Hymn: #202 HWB (Blue) *The virgin Mary had a baby boy*
Welcome and Announcements

PRAISING

Silence

Call to Worship

One: Awake! The invitation to carry light comes from God of trembling mountains and shaking foundations.

**All: O God, your expectations terrify us.
How can our small selves hold your blazing presence?**

Silence

One: Quiet our questioning souls.

All: Lead us beyond our resistance. Let it be.

Invocation

Hymn #1 STS (Purple) *Praise the One*
Children's time

CONFESSING and RESPONDING

Confession in unison:

O God of power and might, we want you to tear open the heavens and come down, yet we tremble and quake at the thought.

We confess that even though we know your light, we do not like the dark, empty void where your Spirit hovers over the waters.

We shake like leaves in the wind, fearful of what you might ask, afraid to trust you completely. Caught up in the swirling of our world we struggle to "let it be."

Forgive us, O God.

Lighting Advent Candle

Words of assurance in unison

O God, Emmanuel,
in Jesus, the Christ, you have come among us.
You have given us life, and we are restored.

Hymn: #49 STS (Purple) *I will come to you in the silence*
Offering*

LISTENING

Scripture readings: Isaiah 64:1-9; I Corinthians 1:3-9 (see insert)
Sermon "Words of Wisdom in Times of Trouble"

Hymn: #172 HWB (Blue) *O come, O come, Immanuel vs. 1-4*
Congregational Prayer

SENDING

Hymn: #175 HWB (Blue) *O Saviour, rend the heavens*
Drama
Benediction

Focus statement: We awaken to God's purpose, which begins in darkness—whether seed in the ground, child in the womb, or new self in the soul. We are shaking, fearful, and resistant, yet we call upon God to tear open the heavens and be present with us in our uncertainty.

*During the offering, donated mittens, hats and socks can be hung on the tree.

With gratitude and respect, we recognize that we are worshipping on the traditional land that once belonged to the Haudenosaunee and Anishnaabe peoples. We regret the lack of respect given to the Indigenous people in the past, and pledge to work for justice and reconciliation.
