

A Time Called ... ADVENT

When children say, "I can't wait for Christmas," they convey what it means to live in Advent. With joy they are waiting for an event that is good, that has been promised, and is now hidden from sight. Children do manage to wait. One way they do this is by sharing in the many preparations for Christmas. Waiting and preparing are the themes of Advent for adults as well. But when did Advent begin? And what can it mean in your life?

Historical Roots of Advent

The *calendar year* may begin on January 1, but for Christians the Christian year begins with Advent – four weeks before Christmas. Advent is the beginning of a cycle of time that celebrates the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

The church has observed an Advent season for over 15 centuries. It may originally have been a time of instruction for people who were preparing to be baptized on January 6, on Epiphany. History reveals Advent traditions of varying lengths, but our waiting time is now the four Sundays before Christmas.

Finding Meaning in the Tradition

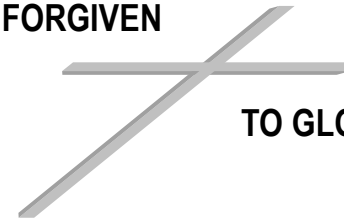
Advent is the time when Christians prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. We recall those who waited and prepared for a promised Christ child: the prophet Isaiah, Mary, his mother, and John the Baptist. We also think about God's promises that are yet to be revealed under the reign of Christ, in "the age to come" or "the day of the Lord." Advent is oriented in both the past and the future.

As we get ready for the birth of Jesus and for the promise that Christ will come again, we use gifts of spiritual preparation: worship, prayer, singing, Bible study, fellowship (Christmas parties!), and service to others.

Questions for Personal Meditation

What am I waiting for? Who am I waiting for? How am I preparing? What gives me joy in this season? What might I discover from that?

FORGIVEN



TO GLORIFY, WITNESS & SERVE



KITCHENER EAST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10 Zeller Drive, Kitchener, ON N2A 4A8

Telephone: 519-748-9786

kepc@golden.net

revmsr@golden.net

pccweb.ca/kitchenereast

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/521222015471767/>

<https://www.instagram.com/kepc10/>

Established 03rd May 1987

Minister:

Minister in Association:

Music Director:

Rev. Dr. Mark S. Richardson

Rev. Jeff Smith

Sarah Pottier

Advent 2, Sunday 07th December 2025 10:30 am
The Church of Jesus the Saviour
Celebrates the Good News of God's Love for the World
Made Manifest in Jesus His Son
as we learn to share Christ's Love with everyone!!!

Celebrating the Truth of the Presence of God – Alleluia!

Call to Worship:

Praise: “Hope is a star” vs 2 **NBP #119**

Welcome, and announcements:

Advent Candle lighting liturgy: **on screen**

Celebrating the Truth of Forgiveness – We Receive New Life!

Praise: “On Jordan’s bank” **BP #115**

Prayer, and the Lord’s Prayer:

Celebrating the Truth of God’s Word! - We are Listening!

Scripture: St. Luke 1:57-66, 80; St. Luke 3:1-20 **NLT**

Message: “John the Baptist, child of promise”

Celebrating the Truth of God’s gifts to us – We Are Accountable

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings:

+ Offertory

Doxology: “**God my Father loving me**” vs 3, 4 **BP #359**

Prayer of Dedication

Praise: “Lord speak to me that I may speak” **BP #477**

Celebrating the Truth of our Going Forth – We Leave for Ministry

Benediction:

Interpersonal Benediction: “Lord be glorified” vs 1, 3 **SB #60**

We welcome Rev. Dr. Herb Gale this morning as he helps lead us in worshipping God together!

Worship & Sacraments Team: Prayer Requests

Bernice Baum – at home

Gladys Brown – at home

Frank De Vries – at home

Ann Gray – Trinity Village

Doug Greenwood – River Gardens Retirement Home

Frank Ingold – at home

Bob Kenzie – Sunnyside Home

Mary Master – A. R. Goudie LTC

Dolly McCormack – Court at Laurelwood Retirement Home

Marg & Terry McCorrison – Freeport Hospital, & at home

Curt Ryan – AgeCare West Williams LTC

Shirley Steinberg – Winston Park LTC

Dirk Vanderheide – at home

Lloyd Weeks – at home

Emergency Pastoral Care: While Pastor Mark is away if you need any pastoral care, please feel free to contact Rev. Jen Sokolowsky at 647-235-6525 or at jensokolowsky@gmail.com

Bible Study: This fall we are looking at the Old Testament minor prophets Jonah, Joel, and Amos. The Zoom study times together will be on Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 am and the in-person study group is on Wednesdays 9:30 – 11:30 am. Both end the first week of December.

Sunday School 2025 – 2026:

The dates this term for our regular bi-weekly Sunday School are: November 09, 23; December 7, 21.

We are looking for more Sunday School teachers, helpers, or back-ups to join the team. If interested, please contact Cathrine (gcejtaylor@gmail.com), Nicolene (nclemens7@yahoo.ca).

We are thrilled to share and grow with the children this year.

Peace and Joy, Cathrine and Nicolene

Events This Week: 07th – 14th December 2025

- Sunday:** 10:30 am – 2nd Sunday in Advent Worship Service with Rev. Dr. Herb Gale; Sunday School; Confirmation group; coffee and conversation in the Gray Hall
- Monday:** 7:30 – 9:30 pm – GRIPS in the Gray Hall
- Tuesday:** 9:30 – 11:30 am – Bible Study via Zoom
9:45 – 11:15 – Chair Yoga in the Gray Hall
12 – 5:45 pm – Music Therapy
- Wednesday:** 9:30 – 11:30 am – Bible study in Fireside room
12 – 2:30 pm – Seniors group in the Gray Hall
6:30 – 9 pm – Scouts in the Gray Hall
- Thursday:** 9 – 11 am – Sonshine Corner this week
- Friday:** 12 – 3:30 pm – Music Therapy
- Sunday:** 10:30 am – 3rd Sunday in Advent Worship Service with Induction of elders elect

Leading With Care: KEPC has been a Leading with Care congregation since its inception in 2004. However, we need to renew our understanding of this national church policy and our implementation of it in our congregation here in 2025/2026. Rob Gloin & Kerry Weir are spearheading this within our congregation.

Offering Envelopes: If you are interested in having assigned envelopes for 2026 and are not on PAR, please reach out to Chris at clemensc78@yahoo.ca. For anyone that has changed addresses, please let Chris and Mark know so that we can check our records and update them as required.

Grocery Cards:

We are participating in the grocery gift card program in our Region. If you would like to purchase grocery gift cards for the PC group of stores, and/or the Metro group of stores, please speak with Barb Cook, Rob Gloin, or Emmie Richardson. They are available every week. For each card we sell we receive a small amount back from the Community Charity Services.

From the Finance Team: options for financial giving to KEPC:

- 1) **Canada Post:** send your offering envelope in an envelope addressed to the Church: 10 Zeller Dr, Kitchener, ON, N2A 4A8
- 2) **E – transfer:** This involves using your online banking application using the e-transfer option & sending the transaction to the Church email: kepc@golden.net
- 3) **PAR: pre-authorized remittance.** This is set up once and an amount is withdrawn from your bank account monthly until you choose to stop it or change the amount. Contact Chris Clemens clemensc78@yahoo.ca and he can set you up.
- 4) **Tithe.ly** on our website, (click on the menu “Donate Now”) and donations can be through your Visa, Mastercard, or Debit.
- 5) The locked, **black box** on the wall of the sanctuary by the main doors for your offerings.

Thank-you for your ongoing and prayerful support of the mission and ministry of KEPC.

“Chair Yoga with Linda” classes continue on Dec 9th. The class will run from 9:45 - 11:15 am. Please wear comfortable clothing and running shoes. For safety purposes, please bring a yoga mat for the chair to stand on. The Chair Yoga class is being taught by Linda Collins, who became a yoga teacher and personal trainer when she was already a senior. She loves the increased mobility, better balance, and strength she has gained and is passionate about working with older adults to help them make similar improvements to their wellness. The Chair Yoga classes will involve exercises done while sitting on a chair and standing, sometimes using the chair for support, but there will be no kneeling or getting down on the mat. You will work at your own pace on stretches and exercises to improve the ability of soft tissues, allowing them to better support your joints so that you can move with more strength and more ease. Classes are open to all members of KEPC. Cost is \$10/person/class. Any questions, please contact Jo Anne at 519-886-6559 or aitkenj09@gmail.com.