

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

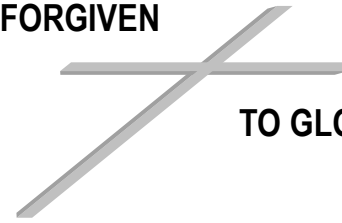
Advent is the time when Christians prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. We recall those who waited and prepared for a promised Christ child: the prophet Isaiah, Mary, his mother, and John the Baptist. We also think about God's promises that are yet to be revealed under the reign of Christ, in "the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



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Established 03rd May 1987

Minister:

Rev. Dr. Mark S. Richardson

Minister in Association:

Rev. Jeff Smith

Music Director:

Sarah Pottier

Advent 3, Sunday 14th 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 3 **NBP #119**

Welcome, and announcements:

Advent Candle lighting liturgy: **on screen**

Celebrating the Truth of Forgiveness – We Receive New Life!

Praise: “Hail to the Lord's Anointed” **BP #113**

Prayer, and the Lord's Prayer:

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

Scripture: St. Matthew 11:1-11 **NLT**

Message: “Succession”

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

The Ordination/Induction of Elders Elect: **insert**

Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings:

+ Offertory

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

Prayer of Dedication

Praise: “Child in the manger” **BP #136**

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

Benediction:

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

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

Larry Mason – WRHS Midtown

Mary Master – A. R. Goudie LTC

Dolly McCormack – Court at Laurelwood Retirement Home

Marg & Terry McCorriston – Freeport Hospital, & at home

Curt Ryan – AgeCare West Williams LTC

Shirley Steinberg – Winston Park LTC

Dirk Vanderheide – at home

Sunday School 2025 – 2026:

Our regular bi-weekly Sunday School resumes in January 2026.

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

The Flowers in the sanctuary today are in remembrance of Mrs. Ruth Anne Smith.

Events This Week: 14th – 21st December 2025

Sunday: 10:30 am – 3rd Sunday in Advent Worship Service with ordination & induction of elders elect.

Monday: 7 pm – Elders' meeting in the Gray Hall

Tuesday: 12 – 5:45 pm – Music Therapy

Wednesday: 6:30 – 9 pm – Scouts in the Gray Hall

Thursday: 9 – 11 am – Sonshine Corner this week

Friday: 12 – 3:30 pm – Music Therapy

Saturday: 10 am – 12 noon – WOW in the sanctuary

Sunday: 10:30 am – 4th Sunday in Advent Worship Service

Wednesday: 7 pm – Christmas Eve worship service

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.

November financial update:

There was a little over \$1600 surplus for the month which makes the YTD shortfall a little over \$11,000.

We'll look to achieve our financial goal of break even by the end of December. Thanks for your support of KEPC.

Finance & Stewardship Team

KEPC's WOW, **Women of Worship**, is meeting next on Saturday 20th December 10 am to 12 pm. Our very own Music Director Sarah will be leading our WOW choir in a Christmas song that we will be sharing with the congregation on Sunday 21st December. You do not need to be a good singer to join us for this! All our voices, joined together, will make a Joyful Noise!! As always, all ladies from KEPC are invited. Coffee, tea and goodies will be provided. Hope to see you all there. Any questions, please reach out to Jo Anne Aitken at aitkenj09@gmail.com or 519-886-6559.

KEPC Sunday 14th December 2025
Liturgy for the Ordination & Induction of Elders:

Gib McIlwrath, Rose Ziegler, Dave Gimbel, Julie Aikin

There are varieties of gifts,
but the same Spirit;
There are varieties of services,
but the same Lord;
There are varieties of activities,
but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.
To each one is given a gift by the Spirit,
to use it for the common good.
Together we are the body of Christ,
and individually members of it.
Though we have different gifts,
together we are called to be the church
with a ministry in the world which is led by the risen Christ.

Let us confess our faith together in the words of The Apostles' Creed:
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
born of the virgin Mary.
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty,
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

(After the elders make their vows):

The congregation shall stand, and the minister shall say:

The ordination of elders in a congregation, if their leadership and ministry are to be fruitful, involves responsibilities for both the elders and the people of the church. These questions therefore I direct to you, the members and adherents of this congregation, so that you may renew your commitment to this shared ministry.

1. Do you confess your faith in God as creator and ruler of the world, in Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord, and in the Holy Spirit as your inspiration and strength?
We do.
2. Do you receive Gib McIlwrath, Rose Ziegler, Dave Gimbel, & Julie Aikin, as elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead you in the way of Christ?
We do.
3. Do you agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions as they guide you, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is head of the church?
We do.

May the Lord bless you and give you grace to keep these promises. **Amen.**

(After their ordination/induction prayer):

The congregation shall say the following prayer, in unison:

**God of all grace, who baptized us into a common ministry as ambassadors of Christ;
who called us to be a priesthood of all believers;
who entrusted to us the message of reconciliation;
we pray for courage and discipline to follow where your elders rightly lead us, that together we may declare your mighty acts and show your love to the world; through Jesus Christ who is ruler of all. Amen.**