

Worship Planner for Sunday, December 21, 2025

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

- Monday, December 22 & 29- Kings Pizza gives \$2/meat lovers' pizza sold to support 2026 Messy Church Camp
- Today is the WMS Soup and Sandwich after church. Donations to go to WMS missions.
- Today, donations to North Huron Community Foodshare are due.
- This evening at 7:00pm, there is a Candlelight Service at the Christian Reformed Church.
- Wednesday, December 24th at 6:30 p.m. Joint Christmas Eve Service at LPC.
- Thursday, December 25th from 1-4 p.m. WMS hosting Christmas Drop-in. Everyone is welcome.
- Sunday, December 28th at 10:00a.m. Joint Service at South Kinloss PC.
- Rev. Royal's Office Hours at Lucknow PC. Tuesday to Friday- 8:30am to noon.
(519) 441-1724 royalmail@hurontel.ca

Advent Liturgy- LOVE

Hymn #119 'Hope is a star'

Love is a flame that burns in our heart.
 Jesus has come and will never depart.
 When God is a child there's joy in our song.
 The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
 and none shall be afraid.

Opening Hymn #146 'Angels from the realms of glory'

Prayer of Approach and Lord's Prayer

Now hear our Unison Prayer of Confession.

Lord of love; We confess we sometimes find your love daunting.

You called Joseph to honour his love for Mary,
 even when custom called him to break his engagement.

We confess custom has a hold on us, too,
 and challenging expectations for love's sake makes us nervous.

You call us to love our neighbour,
 but we resist your call if our neighbour does not please us.

You call us to love our enemies, too,
 but that seems impossible in these contentious times.

Forgive us for loving only in the safest situations.

Dare us to love as Jesus loved, so he will be born joyfully in us
 as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us to pray saying,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts,

as we forgive our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Music Ministry

Family Focus

Hymn #122 'Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel'

Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures

Responsive Psalm 80: 1–7; 17-19

¹ Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,

you who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth

² before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.

Stir up your might,

and come to save us!

³ Restore us, O God;

let your face shine, that we may be saved.

⁴ O Lord God of hosts,

how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears

and given them tears to drink in full measure.

⁶ You make us the scorn^[a] of our neighbors;

our enemies laugh among themselves.

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine, that we may be saved.

¹⁷ But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,

the one whom you made strong for yourself.

¹⁸ Then we will never turn back from you;

give us life, and we will call on your name.

¹⁹ Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;

let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah^[a] took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of

the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son,^[b] and he named him Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Gift of Christmas

Hymn #136 'The first nowell'

Invitation to the Offering

Doxology sung to Hymn Tune #661

Words by M. Raynard.

The gifts we bring this day
Come from our hearts with praise,
We give them graciously, O God,
Through all our Advent days.

Prayer of Dedication

Mission Moment

Prayers of the People

Closing Hymn #153 'Joy to the world'

Benediction

Advent Benediction Song #775 'Sent forth by your blessing' (1 verse)

Sent forth by your blessing, our true faith confessing,
Your people, O God, from this dwelling take leave.
This worship is ended to now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of your teaching, our hungry souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for all humankind.
Your grace shall incite us, Your love shall unite us
To work for your kingdom, Your purpose to find.

Musical Postlude