

*Margaret Rodger Memorial Presbyterian Church*

*Lachute, Quebec*

Minister: Rev. Dr. Douglas Robinson (450-562-3006)

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Organist: Ian Vessie

Website: <http://pccweb.ca/mrmpc/>

January 1, 2012

First Sunday after Christmas

Organ Prelude

Call to Worship

But you, Israel, my servant,  
Jacob, whom I have chosen,  
the offspring of Abraham, my friend...

**do not fear, for I am with you,  
do not be afraid, for I am your God;  
I will strengthen you, I will help you,  
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.**

Prayer of Approach

Hymn: "The first nowell".....#136

Children's Time and Prayer

**Prayer of Confession**

**We confess to being anxious about the future, O God, as a new year begins. We have not always recognized how You have already guided and blessed us. We have clung to old ways, rather than being open to the new thing You wish from us and by which You would help us. We confess that we have not always shown Your faithfulness in our attitudes and actions towards others. Nor have we shown leadership among others in accomplishing Your work in the world. Forgive us our sins, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn: "I wonder as I wander" #142

**The Word of God**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 148 Pew Bible pg.582  
Large Print Bible Pg.594

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:10-62:3.....Pg.692

Solo: "Simeon" Marsha Beaudoin

Epistle Reading: Galatians 4:4-7.....Pg.189

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40.....Pg. 59

Hymn: "As with gladness men of old" #172

Sermon Title: "The Lord says: "Do not fear, I will help you.""

**Our Response to God**

Offertory, Doxology, Offertory Prayer

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession and Lord's Prayer

Hymn: "Great is thy faithfulness" #324

Charge and Benediction

Choral Amen

Organ Postlude

**Announcement**

Good Morning! Welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning. If you are a guest, please sign our guest book.

**Today's Greeter: John Perkins**

*Next Week's: Davis & Carol MacVicar*

**Today's Reader: Louise Porter-Pollock**

*Next Week's: Marsha Beaudoin*

Coffee Hour: Everyone is welcome to join us.

## *Prayer Partnership*

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 1**

*New Year's Day*

On this first day of the year, pray for discernment, wisdom and courage to begin something good.

### **MONDAY, JANUARY 2**

Pray for the refugees and new Canadians who arrive in the deep cold and snow of winter. May they find warmth and friends to assist them.

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 3**

Thank God for church treasurers who work hard to keep the financial books in order.

### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4**

Pray that theological students who are beginning their studies at our three seminaries across Canada will be enriched and challenged by their studies.

### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 5**

Pray and give thanks for members of the International Ministries Advisory Committee, especially those who travel some distance to attend the January meeting.

### **FRIDAY, JANUARY 6**

*Epiphany*

Pray that the light of God's love will illuminate the Church in a way that will redeem the brokenness of the world.

### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 7**

Pray for Todd, Annika, Sophia and Mio Statham as they serve the Blantyre Synod of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian in Zomba, Malawi.

## *Stewardship Moment*

Give to God what's right—not what's left.

*Anonymous*

## *Mission Capsule: GUATEMALA Mission Trip:*

### **Building relationships**

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* help people support long-term mission partners through short-term mission visits. Wendy Renault learned a lot about mission when she went to Guatemala. She shares, “The remarkable women that we met taught me to celebrate our differences, to remember one another in our prayers and to remember that we must always act to promote social justice in our own communities and in the world. They taught me that mission is about building relationships and empowering each other.” Let us pray for participants in short-term mission, as they support our partners in mission.



**Prayer List** - Please write on the sheet provided the names of persons you wish included in the prayer of Intercession.

**Presbyterian Carpet Bowling Club** will resume in January.

**Choir practice and Bible Study** resume Tuesday, January 10.

The after-school Music and Drama group meets again on Wednesday,  
Jan. 18, 3:15-5:00 p.m.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** service on Sunday January 29, 2:00pm at Margaret Rodger Memorial Presbyterian Church, with guest speaker, Jennifer de Combe, Executive Director of Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre.

**Non-perishable food** items are being collected for our local food banks (Lachute, Brownsburg and Grenville) and for Citad'elle each month. The items are distributed through the Lachute Princess St. location. A collection bin for this purpose is located at the front entrance.

You are urged to support the **Breakfast/ Snowsuit/ Christmas Basket fund of Laurentian Elementary School**, which includes a Literacy Breakfast Programme for Kindergarten and Cycle 1 students. (An offering of money can be made in the can provided at the front entrance of the church; the money is collected each week.)

## *Catechism for Today*

Question 74: Why then does the church have ministers?

While all believers have the same status before God and the same task to share the gospel, not all have the same office or function. Christ has given his church ministers of word and sacraments to equip it for its ministry in the world and to build up his body. Eph 4:11-12, 2 Cor 4:4 2 Cor 5:18-19

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.