

*Margaret Rodger Memorial Presbyterian  
Church*

*Lachute, Quebec*

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

Clerk of Session: Edna Forrester (450-562-4703)

Church Office: 450-562-6797

Organist: Ian Vessie

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

December 4, 2011

Second Sunday of Advent

Organ Prelude

Lighting of the Candle of Peace (Please see insert)  
Marsha, Emma, Kayla, Louis

Hymn: "Hope is a star" .....(v.2).....#119

Children's Time and Prayer

Hymn: "People in darkness".....(v.3).....#124

**Prayer of Confession**

**We have had difficulty receiving Your comfort, O God. We hold on to grief, anger and guilt rather than receiving Your pardon of our iniquities through Jesus Christ, Your Son. We have ended up lost in desolate places rather than finding Your way for us in the baptism of Your Holy Spirit. We attend to and focus on what is merely passing rather than heeding Your Word that lasts forever. We have been slow in announcing to the world Your coming to us in the person of Jesus Christ our Lord. Forgive us our sins, we pray, in his name. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn: "On Jordan's bank" .....#126

**The Word of God**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 Pew Bible Pg. 5  
Large Print Bible Pg. 552

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11 Pg.667

Solo: "He shall feed his flock" Marsha Beaudoin

Epistle Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a Pg.238

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8 Pg. 34

Hymn: "There's a voice in the wilderness crying" .....#128

Sermon Title: **"Comfort, comfort my people, says your God"**

**Our Response to God**

Offering, Doxology, Offertory Prayer

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession and Lord's Prayer

Hymn: "Unto us a child is born" .....#160

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 & Edna Young**

**Next Week's: Bob & Marion Duncan**

**Today's Reader: Brent Ball**

**Next Week's: Carol MacVicar**

Coffee Hour: Everyone is welcome to join us.

## Prayer Partnership

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

2nd Sunday in Advent Thank God for blessings of hope, peace, joy and love during this Advent season.

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

Pray for world leaders meeting in Durban, South Africa, under the auspices of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to negotiate an international agreement addressing climate change following the conclusion of the Kyoto Protocol in 2012.

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Give thanks for The Rev. Ed Wiley who recently retired from the Canadian Forces Chaplain Branch. May he and his wife find peace and joy as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Pray for Dr. Rick Allen as he travels back to Kenya after a three-month furlough in Canada.

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

Pray for people struggling with financial and emotional concerns during this Advent season.

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Pray for church schools as they prepare Christmas pageants telling the story of Jesus' birth.

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

*Human Rights Day*

Pray for Presbyterian World Service & Development and our program partners as they continue to defend human rights, uphold the dignity of all people and work for a world without poverty.

**Sales and fellowship** were abounding last Saturday at our **Christmas Bazaar**. Grand Total for the day was \$4,770.51 and donations still arriving. A big Thank you to everyone.

The **poinsettia** at the front of the sanctuary is in memory of Scott Watson from the Watson family.

## Stewardship Moment

God is the ultimate model for giving; the most generous of all givers. God's grace has blessed us with goods, skills, and opportunities to generate what we need in our lives and a rich and wonderful world in which to live out His calling. *Generousgiving.org*

## Mission Capsule: TAIWAN: Serving our partner church

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support Louise Gamble as she teaches at Tam Kang High School in Taipei, Taiwan. In addition to teaching English and Biblical classes, Louise is working to transcribe the official documents of George Leslie MacKay, the first missionary to Taiwan. She writes, "The MacKay missionary story is an intriguing one. In some ways he was a man of his own times, but in other ways he was truly exceptional." Let us pray for Louise as she faithfully serves our partner church, The Presbyterian Church in Taiwan.



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

Our **web address** is now newly posted on our outdoor sign, in an enlarged format.

Presbyterian **Carpet Bowling Club** December 5, 12, 19 at 7:15 pm

**Choir practice** Tuesday, December 13, 20 at 6:15-7:45 pm the choir will be practicing Christmas music. However practice will be on Thursday this week, instead of on Tuesday. We will practice from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

**2012 Presbyterian calendars** are available from Clarice Muir at a cost of \$4.00

**Prelude to Christmas** concert, Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in the United Church.

**Communion Sunday** December 11<sup>th</sup>

**White Gift & Mitten Tree** Sunday December 11<sup>th</sup>. We will collect gifts of Hats, Scarves, Mitten, and gifts for children of various ages marked. Thank you for your generosity towards those who are in need at this time of year.

Last of the **Country Gospel Hymn Sing** evenings Sunday December 11 at 7:00pm

Presentation by the **Music and Drama Group** of *Chimes in the Night* (a musical) and *Road to Bethlehem*, and *Nativity on the Square*, Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

**Christmas Eve Service** Saturday, December 24 at 7:30 pm

Sunday Service December 25 at 10:30am

Sunday Service January 1 at 10:30am

No regular **Session meeting** during December, next meeting of the Session Thursday, January 12, 2012.

**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.

If you would like to contribute to this year's **Poinsettia Fund** you may place your donation inside an envelope marked Poinsettia Fund and place it on the collection plate. Can be given directly to Marjorie Crooks as well. (450-562-4532)

Donations to the **Stocking Fund** would be appreciated as this is a way to help the Church cover the insurance. Place in an envelope marked Stocking Fund and put on the collection plate.

**Non-perishable food** items are being collected for our local food banks (Lachute, Brownsburg and Grenville) and for La Citadelle, each month. The items are distributed through the Lachute Princess Street 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 70: How is the church related to the "people of God" of the Old Testament? The biblical image of the "people of God" connects the community of the Old Testament with the community of the New Testament. The church continues and renews the ancient covenant people through Christ's fulfillment of a new covenant prophesied by Jeremiah. All believers are the people of God. Jer 31:31, 33; 1 Cor 11:25

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah . But this is the covenant that I will make says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Heb 8:8-13, 10:16; Lk 22:20; 2 Cor 3:6; Rom 9:4, 11:27; 1 Pet 2:4-10.

*PWS&D Bulletin Bit* A Chance for Children in Afghanistan

It's not easy being a teacher in Afghanistan, a country with a youth literacy rate of only 34%. Since PWS&D's partner began working in the area, head teacher Mohammad has seen a substantial increase in the number of children attending his school. Students receive textbooks and supplies to reduce the costs for families, teachers receive training and program staff raise awareness in the community of the importance of education. Mohammad is thrilled to see how the school has been a positive influence on the lives of so many. This Advent season, you can help children around the world build brighter and more peaceful futures through support of PWS&D.