

# Willowdale

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



# Welcome to Willowdale Christian Reformed Church

December 15, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

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*In worship, God speaks to us through his Word,  
and we respond with praise and prayer.*

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## **About the service:**

Worship spaces: In the church Sanctuary and on ZOOM

Worship leader: Pastor Greg Sinclair

Preacher: Rev. Brenda Kronemeijer Heyink

Elder of service: Dan Carter

Song leader: John Meiboom

Reader: Arianna

Simultaneous Translation: Sylvie Charliekaram

Worship musician: Hye-jin Im (piano, organ)

Sound/Slides operators: Elisa P., Kuroosh R.

Zoom host: Alana Yoneyama

Slides prepared by: Leanne Grauds

Greeters: Batac Family

\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

## **After the service:**

We invite you to join us for coffee and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to meet with Pastor Greg, please send an email to [pastorgreg@willowdalecrc.com](mailto:pastorgreg@willowdalecrc.com) or call: 289-925-4390.

## Reflection

"How will God deliver from arrogance, war, oppression, and coercion? By being more arrogant, more warlike, more oppressive, and more coercive? Surely, the book of Isaiah indicates frequently that God was powerful enough to destroy his enemies in an instant, yet again and again, when the prophet comes to the heart of the means of deliverance, a childlike face peers out at us. God is strong enough to overcome his enemies by becoming vulnerable, transparent, and humble."

John Oswalt, *The Book of Isaiah 1-39* (page 245)

## Prelude

**\*Welcome and introduction** — Pastor Greg Sinclair

**\*Call to worship** — from *Our World Belongs to God: #23*  
— Pastor Greg Sinclair

Leader: Remembering the promise  
to reconcile the world to himself,  
God joined our humanity in Jesus Christ—  
the eternal Word made flesh.  
He is the long-awaited Messiah,  
one with us  
and one with God,  
fully human and fully divine,  
conceived by the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
Come, let us worship God our LORD, the Father, the Son,  
the Holy Spirit

**\*Song of praise** — LUYH 78 — *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

1. Of the Father's love begotten  
ere the worlds began to be,  
he is Alpha and Omega—  
he the source, the ending he,  
of the things that are, that have been,  
and that future years shall see  
evermore and evermore.

2. O that birth forever blessed,  
when a virgin, blest with grace,  
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
bore the Saviour of our race;  
and the babe, the world's Redeemer,  
first revealed his sacred face,  
evermore and evermore.
3. This is he whom seers in old time  
chanted of with one accord,  
whom the voices of the prophets  
promised in their faithful word;  
now he shines, the long-expected;  
let creation praise its Lord  
evermore and evermore.
4. Let the heights of heaven adore him;  
angel hosts, his praises sing:  
powers, dominions, bow before him  
and extol our God and King;  
let no tongue on earth be silent,  
every voice in concert ring  
evermore and evermore.
5. Christ, to you, with God the Father  
and the Spirit, there shall be  
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving  
and the shout of jubilee:  
honour, glory, and dominion  
and eternal victory  
evermore and evermore. Amen.

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-413); tr. Composite, P.D

**\*Prayer of praise** — Pastor Greg Sinclair

**\*God's Greeting** — Pastor Greg Sinclair

## **Christmas story** — Nativity play — Sunday School children

### **Songs in the Nativity play**

LUYH 76 — *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

LUYH 88 — *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, v. 1

LUYH 86 — *Away in a Manger*, v. 1

LUYH 80 — *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

LUYH 81 — *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*, v. 3

LUYH 92 — *Joy to the World*, v. 1

## **Psalm 103:17-18** (International Children's Bible) — Arianna

But the Lord's love for those who fear Him continues forever and ever.  
And His goodness continues to their grandchildren  
and to those who keep His agreement  
and remember to obey His orders.

## **Lighting of the third Advent candle** — Arianna, Lyn, Shahpour

### **\*Song** — *His Name is Wonderful* — Miss Betty

His name is wonderful! His name is wonderful!

His name is wonderful, Jesus my Lord!

He is the mighty King, Master of everything;

His name is wonderful, Jesus my Lord.

He's the Great Shepherd... The Rock of all ages... Almighty God is He.

Bow down before Him, love and adore Him;

His name is wonderful, Jesus my Lord.

Audrey Mieir © 1959 Audrey Mieir. Renewed 1987 Manna Music, Inc.

## **Sunday School teachers' appreciation**

### **Sunday School Dismissal**

All children ages 3-12 are invited to join us for Bible stories, crafts  
and games (completed registration required).

**Prayer** — Rev. Brenda Kronemeijer Heyink

**Scripture reading** — Isaiah 9:6-7; Psalm 68:4-6 (NIV)  
— Rev. Brenda Kronemeijer Heyink

**Isaiah 9** <sup>6</sup>For to us a Child is born,  
to us a Son is given,  
and the government will be on His shoulders.  
And He will be called  
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
<sup>7</sup>Of the greatness of his government and peace  
there will be no end.  
He will reign on David's throne  
and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.  
The zeal of the Lord Almighty  
will accomplish this.

**Psalm 68** <sup>4</sup>Sing to God, sing in praise of his name,  
extol him who rides on the clouds;  
rejoice before him—his name is the Lord.  
<sup>5</sup>A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows,  
is God in his holy dwelling.  
<sup>6</sup>God sets the lonely in families,  
he leads out the prisoners with singing;  
but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Sermon** — *The Child called Father* — Rev. Brenda Kronemeijer Heyink

**\*Song of response** — LUYH 72 — *Imagine*

1. Who hears?  
Who hears the voice of the hungry, the thirsty?  
Who sees?  
Who sees the tears of the suffering ones?

*Refrain*

Imagine a King who would come through the darkness  
and walk, where I walk, full of greatness,  
and call me to his side,  
just like a father and child.

2. Who knows?  
Who knows the hopes that lie hidden, forgotten?  
Who comes?  
Who comes to lead all the children home?

*Refrain*

Words: Keith and Kristyn Getty © 2003 Thankyou Music (PRS), admin. worldwide at EMICMGPublishing.com excluding Europe which is admin. by Kingswaysongs

**Offering Plate**

1<sup>st</sup> Offering, Church Ministries, by cheque to the church or by online banking at any one of the 5 big banks, DUCA and Tangerine, and now on [CanadaHelps](#) (click on the link or scan QR code on the back page).

2<sup>nd</sup> Offering, the Diaconate, by cheque to the church.

**Prayers of God's people** — Dan Carter

**\*Celebration of Lord's supper — Rev. Brenda Kronemeijer Heyink**

**Apostles' Creed — in English and Farsi**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended to 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.

\*catholic means universal

اعتقادنامه مسیحی

من ایمان دارم به خدای پدر قادر مطلق، خالق آسمان و زمین، و به پسر یگانه او خداوند ما عیسی مسیح که به واسطه روح القدس در رحم قرار گرفت و از مریم باکره متولد شد و در حکومت پنطیوس پیلاتس الم کشید و مصلوب شده بمرد و مدفون گردید، و به عالم ارواح نزول کرد و در روز سوم از مردگان برخاست، به آسمان صعود نموده و به دست راست خدای پدر قادر مطلق نشسته است و از آنجا خواهد آمد و زندگان و مردگان را داوری نماید و من ایمان دارم به روح القدس و به کلیسای مقدس جامع و به شرکت مقدسین و به آمرزش گناهان و به قیامت ابدان و به حیات جاودان.



Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give Him our thanks and praise.

All: Christ has died, Christ has risen,  
Christ will come again.

*You are invited to come forward to receive the elements.  
Bread wrapped in plastic is gluten free.*

**Song during communion** — LUYH 96 — *What Feast of Love*

1. What feast of love is offered here,  
what banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life,  
what gracious gift is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the bread come down from heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna given!
2. What light of truth is offered here,  
what covenant from heaven?  
What hope of everlasting life,  
what wondrous word is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the sun come down from heaven.  
Oh, see and hear and sing!  
The Word of God is given!

3. What wine of love is offered here,  
what crimson drink from heaven?  
What stream of everlasting life,  
what precious blood is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the sweetest wine of heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
The Son of God is given!

Words: Delores Dufner, OSB (b. 1939) © 1993 Delores Dufner, admin. OCP  
Publications

**\*Benediction** — Rev. Brenda Kronemeijer Heyink

**\*Doxology** — LUYH 83 — *Gloria, Gloria/Glory to God*

*sing twice*: 1<sup>st</sup> in English unison; 2<sup>nd</sup> in Latin 2-part canon

Glory to God, glory to God,  
in the highest heaven!  
Peace be on earth, peace be on earth,  
alleluia, alleluia!

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

Words: Luke 2:14

**Postlude**

## Prayer Requests:

Please pray for **Lou Kuipers and family**, as Lou is in the hospital.

Please pray for our **newly baptized church members**, baptism stories were sent out via email on Saturday, November 30.

Please pray for our **1<sup>st</sup> offering** for our **church ministries and expenses**, faithful giving is a blessing to our whole church family.

Please pray for our **2<sup>nd</sup> offering**; the Diaconate - Our deacons use these funds to help those within and outside the congregation who are temporarily encountering difficulties for basic needs. The deacons also host some social functions for those who are elderly and alone. These funds are also used to sponsor the CAP (Congregational Assistance Plan), a program for any member of Willowdale needing professional counselling for any reason from Shalem Mental Health Network, see [www.shalemnetwork.org](http://www.shalemnetwork.org)

## The Giving Tree:

During the Advent season we will be collecting items for the Crisis Pregnancy Center in Markham, On.

See below a short introduction:

Hi, my name is Julie and I am the Client Services Director at RISE Support Centre. As we approach Christmas our centre gets busier and busier to make sure that our Mamas and their little ones have what they need for the Holiday season, and we are currently serving almost 100 clients and their children. Right now our food cupboard is very low on supplies, here is a list of the items we need to keep it well stocked.

- Baby food jars or pouches
- Infant cereal, NO rice cereal
- Baby Mum Mum Rice Rusks
- Arrowroot cookies
- Plain Cheerios
- Formula, stage 1 and stage 2, liquid or powder

## Cheltenham Nursing Home Today:

Today we plan to have our monthly worship service at 2:45 p.m. If you are able to join us to help with the singing, please contact Hye-Jin or Nell D.

## From The Lighthouse:

**There is still time to support The Lighthouse in 2024:** It is still easy to give despite the mail strike. You can go to The Lighthouse's website [www.lighthousecentre.ca](http://www.lighthousecentre.ca) and click on the donate button. You can also send an E-Transfer to [info@lighthousecentre.ca](mailto:info@lighthousecentre.ca) or call The Lighthouse at 416-535-6262 to make a donation with your credit card. If you like a copy of our recent newsletter, send an email to Nicolette at [nicolette@lighthousecentre.ca](mailto:nicolette@lighthousecentre.ca). The Lighthouse thanks you for your continued support.

## The Banner:

Dear *Banner* reader,

The Canada Post strike has delayed the delivery of your *Banner*. Thank you for your patience in this matter! In the meantime, you can **read the full issue in PDF form online here**. And just for your information, from this link you can read the past issues going back to 2005. You can also check back each month, as new issues are posted to this page as well. We hope this serves as a helpful option as we wait for the strike to be resolved.

Also, please note the January and February issues will be combined. This will be similar to the way our July/August issue works, where it will come a bit later in the month. The issue to follow will be the March issue.

Happy (online) reading! And for those wanting a little Advent smile, check out **this short video** on the postage strike from the CRCNA staff in Burlington.

Shiao Chong  
Editor in Chief, *The Banner*

## **Birthdays:**

December 18 — Kourosh M. E.

December 20 — Adam G.

## **Advent & Christmas Schedule – Mark Your Calendars!**

**Saturday, December 21 – Christmas Party** hosted by our **Farsi Fellowship**, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Willowdale Christian School, 60 Hilda Ave. All are welcome!

**Sunday, December 22 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**, worship service starts at 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday, December 22 – Lessons & Carols Service**, join us at 7:30 p.m. for this special service of reflection on our Saviour’s birth.

**Wednesday, December 25 – Christmas Day Service**, come and rejoice, the service starts at **10:30 a.m.!**

### **ZOOM Host Schedule:**

December 22 – Peter

December 25 – Alana

December 29 – Alana

### **Greeters Schedule:**

December 22 – Rob D.

December 25 – Gerard D.

December 29 – Ferdinand & Nathan C.

### **Coffee & Tea Serving Schedule:**

December 15 – Zohre, Joyce, Audrey

December 22 – Zohre, Cici, Lyn

December 29 – Alana, Zohre





# Sermon notes

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## **Willowdale Christian Reformed Church**

**We are on The Bridge App!** Visit the **Apple Store** or **Google Play** on your mobile device and search for THE BRIDGE APP to download it. Please note that information shared on the app for Willowdale CRC are visible only to verified Willowdale CRC users only. **Enjoy the App!**

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Phone: 416-221-7829, Email: [office@willowdalecrc.com](mailto:office@willowdalecrc.com)  
Website: [www.willowdalecrc.com](http://www.willowdalecrc.com)

Bulletin announcements: [office@willowdalecrc.com](mailto:office@willowdalecrc.com)

Items for the Willowdale Weekly are due on Thursdays at noon.

Pastor Greg Sinclair: [pastorgreg@willowdalecrc.com](mailto:pastorgreg@willowdalecrc.com)

Elders: [consistory@willowdalecrc.com](mailto:consistory@willowdalecrc.com)

Deacons: [deacons@willowdalecrc.com](mailto:deacons@willowdalecrc.com)



## **Song and service credits**

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LUYH (*Lift Up Your Hearts*) is a new volume of psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs produced by the Christian Reformed Church in North America and the Reformed Church in America

December 15, 2024