

**POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP**

Web site: [www.pgimf.org](http://www.pgimf.org)

E-mail [info@pgimf.org](mailto:info@pgimf.org)

December 16, 2018

**Laura Eriksson - *Holy, Humble Radiance***

*Advent III*

**Worship Leader:** Veronica Dyck  
**Accompanist:** Rosemary Bell

**Music Worship:** Michael Despotovic  
**Usher:** Diane Ehling

**Last Sunday** We held our annual Sing-along Messiah featuring arias by four soloists – Thomas Bergen, Nadine He, Ann Marie Mossman, and Jane Pulkingham – and a violin solo by Angela Ruthven. The congregation and many guests enthusiastically comprised the chorus that filled our chapel. Our grateful thanks to Ruth Enns who provided the orchestra from the piano, and to J. Evan Kreider who created and led the program. [AP] *NOTE: no audio recording is available.*

**Potluck Breakfast**  
Please be invited to our annual Christmas Potluck Breakfast at PGIMF next week at 9:00am. Bring a favourite dish to share and a friend to share it with, and come prepared to sing!

**Two Sundays ago** On the first Sunday of Advent, Rosie Perera shared from her personal experience of struggling to wait and watch for God’s answer to prayer. The promises we find in the Bible often have multiple progressive fulfillments over many generations. Our modern culture of instant gratification is frenetic and fills us with anxiety. We would be better off following the example of Rosie’s dearly departed dog: attentively scanning the horizon for the Master’s leading, trusting even when things take longer than we expect. [KH]

The message can be heard in your favourite browser at <https://pgimf.org/service/watching-and-waiting/>

**PGIMF News - Upcoming Services**

December 23	Songs, prayers and scriptures for Advent	Advent IV
December 30	No service	–
January 6	John Klassen	66 books / Membership Sunday
January 13	Henry Klippenstein	Adam 1 & 2, Part II

**Membership Sunday** Those of you who have attended for some time and demonstrate your commitment to the fellowship in a variety of ways each Sunday but are not yet members, are encouraged to seriously consider membership with any member of the PGIMF church board. Our service on January 6<sup>th</sup> will include an invitation that you may consider seriously at that time as John Klassen reviews all 66 books of the bible in one sermon.

**Donations** Since there will be no worship service on December 30<sup>th</sup>, next Sunday will be your last chance to donate to PGIMF in person. You may donate by mail or on-line at [pgimf.org/support-us](http://pgimf.org/support-us) as well right until December 31<sup>st</sup>. You may also wish to consider giving to the Refugee Food Bank at Sherbrooke Church through PGIMF - mark your cheque to PGIMF with the direction “Refugee Food Bank” at the bottom of your cheque.

The refugee food bank is running low on clothing. Any clothes that you have to donate can be given to Janice or Hannelore. Over 50 children both from the food bank and relatives of people at Sherbrooke have registered for Santa's visit to Sherbrooke on December 22. They will each receive a gift and have the opportunity to have their photo taken with Santa.

**RECORDING THE SERVICE**

Please note that we record the response time after the sermon. You are encouraged to share your thoughts as fully as you feel led with the proviso that no privacy can be guaranteed. The response time will not be posted to the website. You are encouraged to bring forth private issues during the time of sharing and prayer, which will not be recorded.

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*Music*—Ruth Enns (604-987-7430); *At Large*—Travis Martin (604-603-7843); Chan Yang (778-681-1475);  
*Finance* — Doug Medley (604-328-2980); *Congregational Co-ordinator* — Janice Kreider (604-228-1217)

## Wider Church

**Vancouver Cantata Singers** You are invited to share the Christmas season with Vancouver Cantata Singers in an hour of reflection and song in a beautiful church setting. The 2:00 pm concert at Holy Rosary Cathedral is sold out, but you can still get tickets for the New Westminster concert December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 pm at Queens Ave. United Church (529 Queens Ave, New Westminster). Tickets \$10-35 at [www.vancouvercantatasingers.com](http://www.vancouvercantatasingers.com)

### Call to worship

Leader: Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for God-with-us is coming to set things right!

**People: The proud will be scattered and the humble lifted up.**

Leader: The hungry will be filled and the prisoners set free.

**People: He will guide us in the way of peace and proclaim salvation.**

**All: Let us rejoice, for our God comes to bring wholeness and new life to the world.**

### Reading for Lighting the Candle of Peace

Leader: In a world where so many experience violence,  
God lights a candle of peace in our hearts.  
We wait together for a Saviour,  
who will be Immanuel, Christ the Lord.  
Hear the word of the Lord:

**Congregation: By the tender mercy of our God,  
the dawn from on high will break upon us,  
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.'** *Luke 1: 78, 79*

- Carol Penner: *Leading in Joy* (November 24, 2015)

## HOW TO DRAW NATIVITY SCENE FROM THE WORD "XMAS"



**DrawingHowToDraw.com** shows you how to sketch a cute cartoon nativity scene with Joseph, Mary, a sheep, and Jesus in a crib in the manger ... all from the word "Xmas". This is a fun drawing tutorial for kids around Christmas time! <https://youtu.be/1l2-E6c78aE>

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## Isaiah 12

<sup>1</sup>You will say on that day:

I will give thanks to you, O LORD,  
for though you were angry with me,  
your anger turned away,  
and you comforted me.

<sup>2</sup> Surely God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.

## Philippians 4:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

<sup>2</sup>I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.<sup>3</sup>Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>3</sup> With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you will say on that day:

Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name;  
make known his deeds among the nations;  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup> Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

<sup>10</sup>I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me, but had no opportunity to show it. <sup>11</sup>Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. <sup>12</sup>I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. <sup>13</sup>I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

## Luke 2:8-20

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

## Luke 3:7-18

<sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup> Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup> Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

<sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' <sup>11</sup> In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' <sup>12</sup> Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' <sup>13</sup> He said to them, 'Collect

no more than the amount prescribed for you.' <sup>14</sup> Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

<sup>18</sup> So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.