

CHARLESWOOD MENNONITE CHURCH

December 14, 2025

Sunday School 9:45 am ~ Worship Service 10:45 am

Song Leader: Alisa Wiebe

Ushers: Iliana & Tim Friesen

Visuals: Bruno & Caroline Klassen, Lynette Wiebe

Pianist: Verna Wiebe

Technician: Josh Fast

Second Advent ~ Be Amazed: Joy in the snowstorm

Sunday School Program

WE GATHER

Song: Gather Round (Sunday School kids)

Welcoming Prayer (based on Isaiah 55)

Hear, everyone who thirsts;

Come, gather round, to the waters;

and you who have no money,

come, gather round, buy and eat!

Seek the Lord while he may be found;

call upon him while he is near;

For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven

and do not return there until they have watered the earth . . .

so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose

and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy

and be led back in peace;

the mountains and the hills before you

shall burst into song,

and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Welcome and Introductions

Call to Worship (based on Isaiah 55)

One: Come, gather round, all who hunger and thirst for more —
God calls us to the feast!

**Many: We are weary exiles, longing for home,
caught in a world that drains our hope.**

One: “Listen, so that you may live!
My covenant is everlasting, my promise sure.”

Many: Can joy reach us here, in this place of waiting?

One: God’s vision is higher than the heavens,
stretching beyond what we can see.

**Many: The invitation is for all people,
from the farthest reaches of the earth.**

One: The word of the Lord does not return empty —
it brings forth life!

**Many: The mountains and the hills will burst into song,
the trees of the field will clap their hands!**

One: You are the source of true joy, O God.
You expand our vision,
lifting our eyes beyond the moment,
beyond despair, into amazement.

**Many: We stand before you, ready to enter your story
and be amazed.**

Candlelighting Litany

One: We have been wandering in the dark, cold desert snowstorm of
grief and despair,
and we feel heavy, dry and lifeless.

Many: Come, Joy of the world. Come amaze us.

**All: May your joy water our thirsty souls,
that we may become your fountains of joy,
freely sharing your joy with the world.**

WE HEAR THE WORD

Children’s Story

Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-5

Christmas Play: “An Unexpected Christmas”

by Nancy Neufeld, adapted by Laura Thiessen

Songs within the play:

VT 252 *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

(children begin with chorus, then congregation joins in)

VT 215 *Oh How Shall I Receive Thee*

VT 241 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

VT 257 *Away in a Manger* (children v 1, cong. vv 2 & 3)

VT 240 *Joy to the World*

WE OFFER OURSELVES

Offering

Prayers of the People

WE GO OUT WITH JOY!

Announcements

Benediction

Song: VT 847 *You Shall Go Out with Joy*