

## **NORTH STAR MENNONITE CHURCH**

204 Francis Street, Drake, SK S0K 1H0

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Pastor: Dan Graber Phone: (306) 363-0011

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Pastor's office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon

December 12, 2021

Advent 3 Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Dare to imagine God's Song!

### **Gathering in the Spirit...**

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Scripture: Philippians 4:4-7

*My soul cries out* STS #124

Call to Worship (adapted from Zephaniah 3:14-20; Philippians 4:4-7)

**Leader:** Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say: Rejoice!

**People: Shout for joy, rejoice with all your heart!**

**Leader:** God sings over you. Fear not, for God is in your midst.

**People: Shout for joy, rejoice with all your heart!**

**Leader:** Sing praises to God—shout aloud and sing for joy.

**People: God is in our midst.**

**Leader:** We listen.

**People: We strain to grasp the sound of God's song.**

*He came down* STJ #31

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Confession and Assurance

Even our wildest imaginations cannot grasp the immense beauty of God. This is a true confession. We are small, God is bigger. We will never fully know, but we are fully known. We catch glimpses of God's magnificence, and we accept that it is only that, a glimpse. God invites us to accept our smallness—while we join the awesome song of God's joy. Today, instead of the usual words of confession, we invite the church to be immersed and "covered" in song. Over our heads there is music. As we await the birth of Jesus, we do well to joyfully give ourselves to the One who imagines the divine in the form of a child. Dare to imagine!

*Over My Head* STJ #18

### **Sharing the Good News...**

Announcements

*Let the children come to Me (while children leave for Sunday School)*

Offering Prayer (Offering will go for the De Jong support unless otherwise designated. Please make cheques payable to North Star)

*The Lord is my light* STJ #97

Scripture: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Message: "Dare to Imagine God's Song!"

### **Responding with our Whole Hearts...**

North Star Praise and Prayers

### **A Prayer for Reimagining**

Jesus, your life tells perfectly the story of God's love--planted, taking root, growing up, and bearing fruit that satisfies the hunger of every heart and heals every injury and wrong.

Please, O Beloved of God, make our congregation reflect your image evermore clearly.

Take our programs and structures, habits, hurts, fears, and hopes, and use them to tell again the story of your love. Amen.

### **Going out to Serve...**

*You shall go out with joy* HWB #427

Benediction

Meditation – Werner & Joanne De Jong

Song Leaders – Jim & Eileen Ewert

Sound – Ivan Bartel

Ushers – Ben & Jacob Martens Bartel

Worship Leader – Donna Friesen

Pianist – Esther Laskowski

Visuals – Steven Lehr

### **LAST SUNDAY**

Offering – \$2170.00 Attendance – 47

### **NEXT SUNDAY (Fourth Advent Sunday)**

Meditation – Dan Graber Worship Leader – Irene Bartel

**TODAY:** Piano recital for students of Amy Ewert. Attendance limited to invitees only due to COVID regulations.

### **THIS WEEK AT NORTH STAR:**

Wednesday, December 15

8:00 p.m. – The Reimagining Team and the Council of Boards meet in the church basement.

### **COMING EVENTS AT NORTH STAR:**

Friday, December 24

7:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve service.

Sunday, December 26

We plan to have a joint carol sing with PLCF – at our normal worship time.

Monday, January 17

7:30 p.m. – Council of Boards meeting.

Monday, January 24

7:30 p.m. – North Star Annual meeting. Please have reports handed in or emailed to the office **by January 9**. There are a number of positions on Boards open so please consider volunteering your time to serve on these positions as well as for sound, visuals, camera, worship leader, song leader, accompanist, etc. We need to have more volunteers trained for these positions. Contact Pastor Dan or the office if you want more information.