

ERB STREET MENNONITE CHURCH
Sunday, December 10, 2023
2nd Advent

Prelude

Gathering Hymn *My Soul Proclaims with Wonder* **VT 222**

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Do not ignore this one fact, beloved,
that with God one day is like a thousand years,
and a thousand years are like one day.

High voices: God's time is not our time.

Low voices: God's ways are not our ways...

People: We long for the problems of the world to be solved. We yearn for resolution.

Leader: Maybe it will not come in the way we have
imagined...

People: Help us, O God, to have hope amidst the uncertainty...

(pause)

All: Give us strength.

Opening Prayer

Hymn *Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee* **VT 215**

Story Circle

Coin Offering *As I Went Down to the River to Pray* **VT 453**
Chosen by Imogen Blair

Worship Music *O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem*
Chosen by Irene Erb for her 100th birthday

Silent Prayer of Attention

Scripture Readings *Isaiah 40:9-11, 2 Peter 3:8-15*

Sung Scripture Response *Longing for Light (v.2)* **VT 715**

Sermon Hope? For the Earth?

Christmas Music *Banyamulenge Singing Group*

Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Hymn of Sending *Prepare the Way! the Prophet Called* **VT 220**

Candle Lighting & Benediction

Leader: Together we long for light in the darkness.

Candle lighter: The light has come into the world and the darkness will never extinguish it...

Leader: Go, beloved, in search of the light that is
already present. Do justice, love kindness,
and walk humbly.

Postlude

Coffee and visiting in the Fellowship Hall

PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leader: Margaret Nally
Accompanist: Karin Bileski
Worship Music: Brass Ensemble
Mike & Diana Erb
Esperance and Friends
Story Circle: Brenda Jewitt
Scripture Reader:
Sermon: Scott Brubaker-Zehr
Congregational Prayer: Margaret Nally
Candle Lighter: Mark Stafford
Sound: Geoff Vanderkooy
Tech Host: Akio Saito
Ushers: Krista Steinmann, Lena Santomero
Greeters: Judy Dyck, Mary Brubaker-Zehr, Marg Martin