

ERB STREET MENNONITE CHURCH
Sunday, December 3, 2023
1st Advent

Prelude *Music by Handel*

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Call to Worship

Leader: O God, in times past, the people hoped you would tear open the heavens and come down...

High voices: Today we're not so sure what to hope for...

Low voices: Some things get better, some things get worse.

People: We confess that we do not understand your intervention or action in the world...

Leader: We long for an end to war and suffering..

People: How will this come to be?
(pause)

All: Give us hope O God...

Leader: May we hear you speak to us this morning and always and everywhere.

Opening Prayer

Gathering Hymn *O Come, O Come Immanuel* **VT 210**

Story Circle

Children's Coin Offering & Prayer *Hope is a Candle* **VT 211**

Hymn *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* **VT 218**

Silent Prayer of Attention

Scripture Readings *Isaiah 64:1-4, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

Sung Scripture Response *Longing for Light (v.1)* **VT 715**

Sermon Yearning to Yove

Worship Music *Wachet auf* by J.S. Bach

Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Hymn of Sending *We Come* **VT 225**

Candle Lighting & Benediction

Leader: Together we lament violence and suffering.

Candle lighter: How long must it go on?

Leader: No one knows how it will end...

Have mercy O God, and give us hope...

Postlude *He Shall Feed His Flock* by Handel

Youth caramel popcorn fundraiser in the Fellowship Hall followed by singing in the Sanctuary

PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leader: Margaret Nally

Accompanist: Stillwater Trio: Bruce Skelton; violin, Cathy Anderson, cello; Joanne Bender, piano

Worship Music: Stillwater Trio

Song Leader: Elaine Ranney

Story Circle: Brenda Jewitt

Scripture Reader: Scott Brubaker-Zehr

Sermon: Matthew Bailey-Dick

Congregational Prayer: Scott Brubaker-Zehr

Candle Lighter: Lena Santomero

Sound: Andrew Scheifele

Tech Host: Geoff Vanderkooy

Ushers: Bruce Fretz, Judy Dyck

Greeters: Mabel & Merrill Hunsberger, Jim & Sue Hallman