

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
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Organist: **Margaret McNutt-Reichelt**  
Clerk of Session: **Raymond Reichelt**

We acknowledge that we are in Treaty 1 territory, and that the land is the traditional lands of the Anishinabe and Dakota Nations, and the homeland of the Métis Nation

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS SHEET**

### **CHRIST-THE-KING SUNDAY THE FINAL SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**22 November 2020**

Due to current pandemic restrictions, our in-person Sunday services are **suspended** until the status of our Health Region returns to Orange. An abbreviated service will continue to be available on YouTube each Sunday, however. John will send out the link as soon as the service has been uploaded each week, hopefully in time for our usual 10:30 service time. Along with the link, he will continue sending out a full script of the service.

**Charlie Clifford** is preaching the sermon today, and also leading the Prayers of the People. We thank him for his contribution to today's service!

**Scripture Readings** - The readings for today's service are

- Ezekiel 34.11-24 - "Shepherd" and "sheep"
- Psalm 100 - "Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth!"
- Ephesians 1.15-23 - "Head over everything"
- Matthew 25.31-46 - The judgement of the nations

The readings for next Sunday will be

- Isaiah 64.1-9 - "Tear open the heavens and come down!"
- Psalm 80 - "Shepherd of Israel, hear us"
- 1 Corinthians 1.3-9 - "Blameless on the day of our Lord"
- Mark 13.24-37 - Jesus' second coming: "Watch!"

### **This Week in First Church:**

- Today (the 22nd) - Deadline for submissions for the December newsletter
- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible study, by Zoom
- Thursday 7:00 p.m. - Session meeting, by Zoom

### **Coming Up:**

- Sunday, 29 November - The First Sunday of Advent

**SK Re-opening** - The Soup Kitchen *was* going to re-open this past Tuesday, the 17th, and operate three days per week, initially: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. However, because of the increased pandemic restrictions that came into force on the 12th, the re-opening has been postponed, at least until our health region's status returns to Orange.

**Newsletter** - If you have something to contribute to the December issue of the Newsletter, please give or e-mail it to Lisa Sneesby ([bsneesby@mymts.net](mailto:bsneesby@mymts.net)) today (the 22nd). We hope to have the Newsletter ready for distribution in time for next Sunday, the 29th.

**“New Beginnings” News** - John recently received Mark Lewis' **Assessment Report**, which completes **Phase 3** of the New Beginnings process. However, he has been asked not to distribute it until the training session for our Small Group leaders is provided, and we are ready to proceed with the Small Group meetings. John has also been notified that we have been assigned a Coach to guide us through the rest of the New Beginnings process. He is **Peter Coutts**, the minister of Varsity Acres Presbyterian Church in Calgary. **Phase 4** of the process will be an “Introduction to Transformational Ministry” weekend, which will be led by Peter Coutts, and will include the training session for the Small Group leaders. It remains to be seen how this will be done under the current pandemic conditions! In **Phase 5**, Small Group meetings will be held to discuss the Assessment Report. We currently have two people who have volunteered to be Small Group leaders, and **we still need one or two more**. If you are interested or have questions, please speak to John.

**The Christian Year** - Today is **Christ-the-King Sunday**, the final Sunday of the **Season after Pentecost**, and the final Sunday of the Christian Year. A new Christian Year begins next week, with the First Sunday of Advent.

Christ-the-King Sunday affirms and celebrates Jesus' kingship over the world and over the church, as well as over the lives of individual Christians. It looks back to Jesus' ascension, recognizing that he currently reigns in heaven, along with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Also, it looks ahead to his coming in glory, anticipating the time when he will assert his royal authority over all creation. Christ-the-King Sunday reminds us that Jesus is not just a person of the past, but also of the present and the future.

The symbolic color for Christ-the-King Sunday is **white**, symbolizing joy and celebration.

**Presbyterians Sharing** - Good news: Givings to *Presbyterians Sharing* totaled **\$3,175** as of the end of October, which is just \$25 short of the allocation of \$3,200 that we accepted at our Annual Meeting back in February! Givings to *Presbyterians Sharing* from congregations across the country are the main source of funding for the work of our national church, the Presbyterian Church in Canada — including mission work in Canada and overseas, national and regional staff, our three theological colleges, the committees and agencies of the General Assembly, and various special projects and initiatives, including New Beginnings. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to *Presbyterians Sharing* so far this year!

**Advent and Christmas** - The current pandemic restrictions are having an impact on our worship plans for Advent and Christmas. At this point, it's uncertain whether we'll be able to have our annual **Hanging-of-the-Greens** service, which was originally scheduled for Sunday, 6 December. If we are able to resume in-person services by then, we will proceed with the service as planned, although in a scaled-down manner, since pandemic restrictions require us to maintain physical distancing, and to keep movement in the sanctuary to a minimum. If we are not able to resume in-person services until the 13th or the 20th, we will try to have our Hanging-of-the-Greens service on one of those two Sundays. Otherwise, we'll have to forego it altogether this year, since it doesn't lend itself to the recorded service format. Similarly, it's pretty much certain at this point that we will not be able to have a **Communion** service on Sunday, 13 December. That will be the fourth time in a row that we will have had to skip a Communion service. As for **Christmas Eve**, if we are still not able to resume in-person services by then, a recorded Christmas Eve service will be offered via YouTube, as we do for our Sunday services.

### **Mission Moment**

#### **Stable Housing. Stronger Communities. Healthier Lives.**

Winnipeg Inner City Missions (WICM), a recognized Indigenous ministry in The Presbyterian Church in Canada, has long understood the connection between stable housing and social well-being. When a person is safely and adequately housed, it becomes easier to find employment, develop healthy relationships and break habits of addiction. WICM operates a transitional housing complex coupled with an employment program to help give people in Winnipeg's North End and inner city a place from which to heal, grow and become who God has made them to be.