

**MacNab Street Presbyterian Church**  
**December 20, 2015 – Advent 4**

**WELCOME TO MACNAB!**

Thank you for taking the time to worship this morning at MacNab. If you are a first time visitor, please plan to join us following the service for coffee in Johnston Hall - when you exit the sanctuary, turn left and follow the aroma!

If you have children, they are invited to join Steve at the front part way through our service for our "children's time;" a short object lesson before making their way to our church school in the parlor. If your child is shy and wants you to accompany them to get settled, please tag along to help them make the transition. If your child wants to remain in the service this morning, no problem as well (coloring kits are available in the Narthex/ foyer). Following church school, children will rejoin their parents in the sanctuary during the last hymn. Other than church school in the parlor, we ask that you keep your child in your care (never wandering unsupervised), including accompanying them to the washroom if the need arises. Infants are most welcome to remain with parents throughout the service - and fussing babies are music to our ears and a sign of a healthy growing church! Change tables are located in both the ladies' and men's washrooms adjacent to Johnston Hall. Ushers can direct you.

If you are looking for a church, you are invited to consider making MacNab your church home. There are visitor cards in the pew rack - if you wish to fill one out, simply drop it on the offering plate later in the service.

We also have 2 more special Christmas events. You are invited back this evening for our "Carols by Candlelight" event at 7 p.m. with a reception to follow. You are also invited for Christmas Eve Service at 7pm.

Thanks again for coming!

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*



## GATHERING

\*Those who are able, please stand

### PRELUDE

**Please use this time to quietly prepare yourself for worship.**

\*ENTRY OF THE WORD & PRAISE Herald! Sound the note of judgement  
Hymn #117

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Duty Elder Alex Abraham

**See Insert "Fourth Sunday in Advent: "LOVE"**

PRAYER OF APPROACH and PRAYER OF CONFESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

**Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*GLORIA

**Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit, God almighty, Three-in-one!  
Glory, glory, glory, glory, while eternal ages run**

\*THE PEACE

Minister: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

With one another: **The Peace of Christ.**

\*PRAISE Creator of the stars of night

Hymn #111

## Fourth Sunday in Advent: Love



*Written by The Reverend Dianne Ollershaw  
Produced by Presbyterian World Service & Development*

L: The days are coming, says the Lord,  
when I will fulfill the promise I made to the houses of Israel and Judah.

P: **The labour is beginning.**

L: Mary has shared her joys and struggles with Elizabeth.  
They have supported one another in their faith journeys.

P: **All the earth is waiting.**

L: Elizabeth blesses Mary and the One who is "the fruit of her womb."

P: **The wonder of love is being revealed.**

L: Mary is full of gratitude and responds with thanksgiving.  
Her song reaches back into the past, proclaims God's mercy in the present  
and promises that all future generations will be blessed.

P: **Glory to God in the highest.**

L: Jesus' birth turns the world upside down.  
He reaches out to the hungry and poor,  
to the lowly and outcast, to the person of  
influence and the ordinary. He invites us  
to share love wherever we abide.

P: **Here I am Lord; let it be with me  
according to your word.**

L: We light the fourth candle of Advent,  
the candle of love. Let us pray.

Unison: **Come Lord Jesus, come!  
We can hardly wait any longer.  
Prepare us, O God, to welcome  
Emmanuel into our hearts  
that we may be a people full of love.  
Amen.**



 Presbyterian  
World Service  
& Development

WeRespond.ca  
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1-800-619-7301 • pwsd@presbyterian.ca

**WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

CHILDREN'S TIME

PSALTER Psalm 96 Refrain #1 Abrielle Teeuwesen

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 9:2-7 (p.206 OT)

ANTHEM The Angel Gabriel (Trad. Arr. J. Leavitt)

SERMON "All I NEED for Christmas is..." Steve Baldry

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

\*PRAISE Hail to the Lord's Anointed Hymn #115

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

\*DOXOLOGY

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CONGREGATION Alex Abraham

\*PRAISE Hark the glad sound Hymn #118

\*BENEDICTION & THREE-FOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE

Hearing assistance is also available. Ushers will be happy to assist with any questions.



**PSALM 96 – REFRAIN #1**

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come.**

O sing to the Lord a new song;  
**sing to the Lord all the earth.**

Sing to the Lord, bless God's name;  
**proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

Declare the Lord's glory among the nations,  
**the Lord's marvelous works among all the peoples.**

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
**to be revered above all gods.**

For all the gods of the peoples are idols,  
**but the Lord made the heavens.**

Honor and majesty are in God's presence,  
**strength and beauty are in God's sanctuary. R**

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name;  
bring an offering, and come into the courts of the Lord.**

Worship the Lord in holy splendour;  
**tremble before the Lord, all the earth.**

Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!  
**The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.  
The Lord will judge the peoples with equity." R**

Let the heavens be glad,  
And let the earth rejoice;  
**let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
let the field exult, and everything in it.**

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy  
before the Lord;  
who is coming, who is coming to judge the earth.  
**The Lord will judge the world with righteousness,  
And the peoples with truth. R**



### ASSISTING US TODAY

Church School: Dee Lynch  
Greeters: Hank Wondergem, Vicki Innes  
Ushers: Mary Kerr, Kim Freeman, Anne Hunter, Merle Jones  
Reader: Abrielle Teeuwesen  
Coffee Servers: Grace Maynard, Jean Hartman, Gerda Wolf, Lynda Milmine  
Duty Elder: Alex Abraham

### ASSISTING US NEXT WEEK:

Church School: Children worship with their families  
Greeters: Jean Hartman, Grace Maynard, Gerda Wolf  
Ushers: Ken & Diane Hopkins, Don & Sheila Campbell  
Coffee Servers: Kathy Shields, Jim & Fiona Myers  
Duty Elder: Kevin Russell

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- ❖ Alex & Jeanette Cree facing health difficulties
- ❖ Jessie Bigelow recovering from surgery
- ❖ Victims of violence and terror in Paris and around the world
- ❖ Ken Greer who is experiencing deteriorating health
- ❖ Don & Carole MacVicar's Inner City Ministry
- ❖ All who are grieving, facing health uncertainties, lonely or jobless

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** please note the (purple cover) notebook in the narthex where prayer concerns can be entered before the service. The minister will extract the page just before 10:30 and include concerns in the Prayers that day. If you wish your concern to be passed on to the Prayer Group, please add an \* beside your concern. It is sometimes good to put your own name beside the concern (so the minister or Prayer Group can follow up).

### THIS WEEK AT MACNAB



<b>TONIGHT!</b>	7:00pm	<b>Carols by Candlelight</b>	
<b>Mon</b>	<b>Dec 21</b>	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>Out of the Cold-Johnston Hall</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>Dec 24</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Dec 25</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS TO ONE AND ALL!</b>	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>Dec 27</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>First Sunday after Christmas</b>

### OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 8:30am-12:30pm  
For pastoral care needs be sure to call Steve at 905 536-0640  
Steve's email is: [steve.baldry@cogeco.ca](mailto:steve.baldry@cogeco.ca)

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**SCENTS & SENSITIVITY:** *We respectfully ask for sensitivity to those in our midst who suffer with scent allergies. Your thoughtful consideration is appreciated.*

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[www.macnabpresbyterian.ca](http://www.macnabpresbyterian.ca)

### **GIFTS THAT REALLY DO KEEP ON GIVING!**



Your special Christmas Offering gifts will be used throughout the coming year by our Mission and Service Committee to respond to the needs of our community, and to spread God's love in tangible ways throughout the

city of Hamilton, across Canada, and around the world.

Thank you in advance for your generosity to those who need it most.

**Please use the Christmas Offering Envelope included in today's bulletin** or return your offering no later than Dec 27<sup>th</sup> to be sure of receiving credit in your 2015 income tax receipt.

### **SYRIAN REFUGEE DONATIONS ARE STILL BEING ACCEPTED**

\$759 has been received by individual donors to date.

The Mission Committee has donated \$300 on behalf of the Congregation.

The Federal Government will match any funds received by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

If you would like to make a personal donation, please mark on your envelope "Syrian Fund". Presbyterian World Service & Development Fund envelopes are available in the Narthex.

### **OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2016 ARE NOW AVAILABLE**

**in the Narthex** If you do not have a set and would like one, please let the duty elder know, place a note on the offering plate, or contact the church office 905 529-6896 [macnabsec@cogeco.ca](mailto:macnabsec@cogeco.ca)



### **SOUND UPDATE**

**We continue to attempt to improve sound in the Sanctuary and have confirmed a new sound system which will be installed in the upcoming weeks. In the meantime, thanks for your patience!**



# Love on the Road to Recovery in Nepal

Samjhana Rawat spent two years battling a mysterious illness that left her tired, sore and unable to care for her young daughter.

Desperate for a cure, Samjhana sold her livestock in exchange for medicine from the village healer. But her efforts were in vain. As Samjhana became weaker, she felt more and more hopeless and afraid.

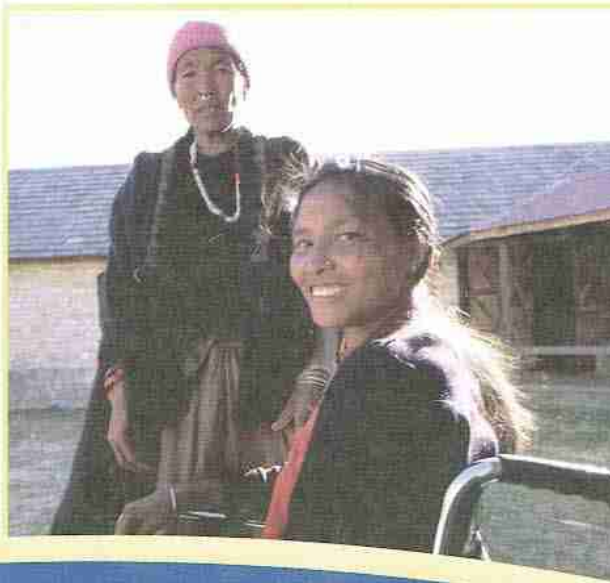
Samjhana visited the district hospital where she was diagnosed with tuberculosis. When her condition persisted, she was admitted to the Presbyterian World Service & Development-supported Jumla Clinic in Nepal.

For Samjhana, it was the love and encouragement she received at the clinic that helped her rise above her illness. She was given medicine, nutritious food and the chance to learn more about the disease, enabling her to take control of her well-being.

"I would like to thank the doctors and all the staff at Jumla for their effort and care," she shares.

This Advent season, help serve those in need with love. Through support for PWS&D, we empower those who are vulnerable to be healthy and hopeful.

[WeRespond.ca](http://WeRespond.ca)



Presbyterian  
World Service  
& Development

The development and relief agency  
of The Presbyterian Church in Canada

*PWS&D responds to God's call to serve people in need.*

## Child of Bethlehem, as your birth draws near,

may we draw near to you. May we kneel with  
the shepherds in the humble stable and give thanks.

Child of Mary, born in us today, make us mindful  
of your presence through the holiday season.  
Help us to remember that it is your birth that we  
celebrate and it is for your life that we give you praise.

Child of us all, we give thanks today that you  
were born to us. In the darkness of long ago  
you came to bring food to the hungry, justice to  
the oppressed and a home to the homeless. You  
are with us still, bringing to fulfillment your  
order of love, peace and justice. May we do likewise.

May we praise your birth in all we do.

Amen.

The Rev. Jean Armstrong

Photo by Kristine O'Brien, Trafalgar Presbyterian Church, Oakville, ON



The Presbyterian  
Church in Canada  
[presbyterian.ca/worship](http://presbyterian.ca/worship)