

## WILMOT MENNONITE CHURCH

2995 Bleams Rd.

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### November 30, 2025 Advent 1 Dare to Dream: Vigilant Hope (Isaiah)

Prelude Sara Roth

Call to Worship Glyn Jones

We gather together in this place:  
prophets and dreamers, singers and poets,  
**we who dare to imagine a world renewed;**  
**we who dare to dream God's dream.**

We proclaim expectation with Isaiah!  
God's redemption is near!  
**Through tears and through trials,**  
**we hold fast to our hope.**  
Do not fear, for God is faithful.  
Our redemption rises with the dawn.

Come and worship, all you who dream and wait.  
**We have come to wonder and praise.**

Opening Prayer

Song Come Thou Long Expected Jesus VT 218

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Hope

## Affirmation of Hope

Let us affirm God's gift of strong and sturdy hope together.  
**We believe in a strong and sturdy hope—a hope which fully sees the world's pain, while refusing to accept life must be this way.**

**We name false stories and lament shallow optimism, idealism, or wishful thinking.**

**With the Spirit's compassion and imagination, we believe things can and will get better, committing all we have and all we are into making a new reality—God's dream—come true.**

**We give our creativity and courage, our prayers and perseverance, remembering that “hope is what we do.”<sup>1</sup>**  
**What we practice, we will become.**

1. Quote attributed to Rev. Mitri Raheb of Evangelical Lutheran Christmas Church in Bethlehem

Song Longing for Light VT 715

Scripture

Character Narrative - Isaiah

Sermon Susan Allison Jones

Song of Response We Dream of a Turning VT 209

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Carols O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem VT 275  
Silent Night VT 244

Call to Advocacy

Sending

Go out in the world embracing the will to dream,  
and may hope fill you and fuel you for the days ahead

Postlude

## Advent Worship: The Will To Dream

Advent 1 Nov 30 Vigilant Hope (Isaiah)  
Isaiah 2:1-5 Susan Allison-Jones  
Advent 2 Dec 7 Prophetic Peace (Zechariah)  
Luke 1:57-80 & Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 Susan-Allison-Jones  
Advent 3 Dec 14 Unexpected Joy (Elizabeth)  
Luke 1:57-80 & Psalm 89:1-4, 8-11 Danielle Rimbault  
Advent 4 Dec 21 Merciful Love (Joseph)  
Matthew 2:1-15 & Exodus 1:8-2:10 Susan Allison-Jones  
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service (4 pm)  
Dec 28 Christmas Carol Service  
at Mannheim Mennonite Church  
Epiphany Jan 7 Generational Praise (Anna)  
Luke 2:22-40 & Psalm 148 Susan Allison-Jones

## Upcoming Events

Dec 7 Annual Meeting after Worship  
Dec 10 Christmas Dinner at Schmidtsville at noon  
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service 4 pm  
Dec 28 Wilmot Ignited Worship Service 9:45 am  
at Mannheim Mennonite Church

## Birthdays

December 6 Susan Allison Jones

## Prayer Requests

Pray for Ed, Mandy (Kyle), Megan and Stephanie (Jesse) Wagler and their children as they grieve the loss of Susan. Susan died last Sunday at Groves Memorial Hospital in Fergus with her family by her side. The memorial service will be held on January 3rd here at Wilmot Mennonite Church.

Susan Allison Jones celebrates the milestone birthday of 65 on Saturday. Pray for God's continued guidance and blessings upon her life and as she provides pastoral leadership.

Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations**. This week we are praying for [Zion Mennonite Fellowship](#). Donna Kerfoot provides pastoral leadership for this community. Pray for this community in their mission of being a Christ-like presence to people who live in the downtown core of Elmira and elsewhere.

## Congregational Notes

**Worship in Advent** Advent is a time when we pause and consider the story of the birth of the Christ child. This year, through characters in the Christmas story we will explore what it means to dream for a better world in a world that seems to be falling apart. Hearts are weary, and souls unsettled, and people of all perspectives are searching—not just for answers, but for understanding, healing, and hope. This ache is not weakness; it is a holy longing—a sacred desire for a world made whole. From this longing comes the will to dream—a persistent courage to imagine, resist, and rebuild a better world. The resources for this series come from Illustrated Ministry.

**Christmas Dinner** Please give your payment for the Christmas Dinner to Lorraine Ramer. Make cheques payable to Schmidtsville Restaurant. \$32 per person. Feel free to invite friends to join us.

**Christmas Tree Offerings** The winter months are hard for people who are not properly housed or on limited incomes. Warm socks, coats, mittens, scarves, and hats are essential during these cold months. During the Advent season we will be collecting these necessary items. Designated financial donations will be designated for the purchase of such items. Place your donations (including food) under the Christmas tree beginning next Sunday.

## **Beyond the Congregation**

**Three Choirs at Christmas** Sunday, Nov 30, 2025, 7pm. Ring in the Advent season with choral favourites, readings, and carols, sung by Menno Singers, Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir and Menno Youth Ensemble. Trillium Lutheran Church (22 Willow St, Waterloo). Adults \$30, Students \$5. Tickets at the door or online at [www.mennosingers.com](http://www.mennosingers.com) <<http://www.mennosingers.com>>

**This Reconciliation Quilt Project** is a collaborative effort that will bring together community members who are both indigenous and allies to create quilt squares that reflect our shared journey toward reconciliation and healing. The completed quilt will be assembled and displayed as a lasting symbol of community connection, learning, and commitment to this ongoing work. It will then be auctioned off to raise funds toward Crow Shield Lodges work. ( <https://www.crowshieldlodge.com>).

**The Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir** is excited to present: Come, Let Us Adore Him! on Sunday **December 7, 2025 at 3:00 pm** at St. Jacobs Mennonite Church. Tickets are \$12 for Adults and \$5 for children ages 5-16 and are available from a chorister or at the door. We are also accepting new singers for January 2026. Our rehearsals take place on Tuesday evenings at W-K United Mennonite Church for children in grades 1 and up Please go to our website: [www.mennosingers.com/imcc](http://www.mennosingers.com/imcc) under "Join us" for more information or contact: [conductor@imcchoir.org](mailto:conductor@imcchoir.org) Registration deadline is December 15, 2025.

**Christmas Concert Rockway's Music** Department invites you to attend their annual Christmas Concert on **Tuesday, December 9 @ 7 pm at Rockway**. Visit [rockway.ca/events](http://rockway.ca/events) for more information.

**Silver Lake Mennonite Camp |Rental Availability:** SLMC has select weekends available for group rentals in 2026. Feb 20-22, Feb 27-Mar 1, Mar 6-8, Mar 13-22 (flexible dates during March Break), Mar 27-29, May 8-10, Nov 20-22, Nov 27-29. For pricing and details, go to [slmc.ca/retreats/group-rentals](http://slmc.ca/retreats/group-rentals)

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**Ministry Team Leaders** Ross Shantz (chair), Fern Good,  
Florence Scheerer

**Finance** - Lia and Michael Fewkes

**Worship** - Bonnie Lee Bowman

**Facilities** - John Good

**Pastor:** Susan Allison-Jones; [wilmotpastor@gmail.com](mailto:wilmotpastor@gmail.com)  
226-808-4353

**Office Hours:** Tuesday afternoon & Thursday morning  
To Book the Church call the Church Office @ 519-634-5030