

Yes! Let It Be

First Sunday of Advent; December 3, 2017

PRELUDE Kristen Burk, Karin Redekopp Edwards
Christmas Medley (Isaac)

GATHERING
Lighting the Advent Candle

Call to Worship Shawn Rodriguez

Leader: Awake! The invitation to carry light
comes from the God of trembling mountains
and shaking foundations.

**People: O God, your expectations terrify us.
How can our small selves
hold your blazing presence?**

Silence

Leader: Quiet our questioning souls.

All: Lead us beyond our resistance. Let it be.

Opening Prayer

PRAISING Pam Eiten, Songleader
O Sing to the Lord Green #12
My Soul Is Filled with Joy Green #13
Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice Purple #8

Offering Kristen Burk, Karin Redekopp Edwards
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Prichard)

Children's Time Evan Richards

HEARING THE WORD
Scripture Reading Oliver Bulley

Leader: Hear the Word of the Lord.
People: Our ears are open.

Isaiah 64: 1-9 (p. 606); Mark 13: 24-37 (p. 826)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Don Rheinheimer
"Born Out of the Darkness"

Music for Meditation Kristen Burk, Karin Redekopp Edwards
Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring (J. S. Bach)

Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Leader: Lord, in your mercy/goodness,

People: hear our prayer.

Congregational Announcements

Theme Hymn: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Blue #178
Benediction

This Week's Activities

Today	Nursery: Caroline Steelberg, Laura Yoder	10:00 AM
	Bart Miller, Oliver Bulley	11:15 AM
	Adult Classes	11:30 AM
	• <i>Social Justice Discussion with René Padilla (Sanctuary)</i>	
	• <i>Ephesians: Building a Community in Christ (Conference Room)</i>	12:15 PM
	Potluck	1:00 PM
	Congregational Meeting	
Tue	Lunch Bunch at Maxfields	12:00 PM
Wed	WOW Bible Study	9:30 AM
Thu	Chicago Pastor Peer Meeting	10:00 AM
	Ministry Team	7:00 PM
Sat	Venture Club Lock In	7:00 PM

Individuals may share song suggestions, worship resources, and wise counsel at surveymonkey.com/r/CongregationalInput.

Announcements

- **Throughout Advent, our visuals** will involve boxes—not the bright, gift-wrapped boxes under our trees, but plain cardboard packing boxes. These boxes highlight the baggage we bring to Christmas and the boxes we are often so eager to place on Christ, who cannot be contained. The Advent candles span the color spectrum, evoking the promise God made to Noah and the promise God keeps at Christmas. God brings not only light to a dark world but color to monochromatic, hopeless lives. The Christ candle is purple, the color of Advent and also the culminating color in the rainbow.—Pastor Hillary, for the Worship Commission
- In our continuing conversation on peace and social justice, join special guest **René Padilla in the sanctuary** during Sunday school this morning for a conversation on social activism, mission, and the Christian faith. Born in Ecuador and currently residing in Argentina, Padilla is a well-known activist, author, and theologian who has resisted popular Christianity’s tendency to separate social action and evangelism by arguing persuasively for the restoration of these two streams of ministry as represented in Jesus and the New Testament church.
- All are welcome at today’s potluck after Sunday school (even if you weren’t able to bring any food). **A congregational meeting** will follow the meal; childcare will be provided.
- Next Sunday after the worship service, **Ten Thousand Villages** will hold an offsite sale in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great chance to do some Christmas shopping while supporting fair trade.
- Camp **Menno Haven’s January retreats** for young adults, high school, and middle school participants are fast approaching. A flyer and registration forms are available on the bulletin board downstairs. See Lyle Bohnert for further information.
- If you were not present during the annual **Covenant Renewal** Sunday and would like to sign the common document, you may stop by the office at any time to do so. Also, please fill out a covenant membership sheet available in the office.
- MennoMedia is conducting a **Heart Song Survey** and is looking for individuals to share the songs and hymns that are most meaningful to them. The purpose of the survey is to “study the intersection of congregational singing with faith formation, and to reveal essential songs that contribute to a *living canon* within community life.”