



***Welcome! We are glad you are here today!***

**Our Vision:** A growing community of disciples of Jesus, expressing Christ's redeeming love and reconciliation.

Volume 70      **November 30, 2025**      Number 48

Prelude by Isabelle Ney (friend of Janessa Eshleman)

Opening Song led by Brian Snader

    "Praise to God" (Blue Hymnal #91)

Welcome and Call to Worship by Lisa Zimmerman

Offering for Church Facilities

Affirmation ballot for floor covering

Advent song led by Lisa Zimmerman and Jen Eshleman

Children and Youth Time led by Pastor Krista Snader

Lighting the First Candle of Advent: Hope

    Written by Doug Hoover

Worship songs led by Brian

    "Blessed be the God of Israel" (Blue Hymnal #174)

    "Come Thou Long Expected" (Blue Hymnal #178)

Scripture Reading: Philippians 4: 4-9; Psalms 24:7

Sermon by Pastor Tom Eshleman

    "Open Wide Your Gates"

Closing Song

    "Jesus Shall Reign" (Blue Hymnal #319)

Sharing Time and Prayer

Benediction



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

- Angela Hahn:** Monday, December 1
- Miriam Auker:** Wednesday, December 3
- Faythe Roberts:** Sunday, December 7
- Lexi Kreiner:** Monday, December 8
- Joyce Shenk:** Monday, December 8



***Advent begins today***

Our theme this year comes from Psalm 24: 7 (NIRV)  
*Open wide, you gates.  
 Open up, you ancient doors.  
 Then the King of glory will come in.*

God calls each of us to open wide the gates of our hearts to the transforming renewal of Jesus.

God calls us to open wide our gates to a world that needs to experience the love and compassion of Jesus.

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Emma Arnold, Director of Finance and Operations at Conestoga Valley Christian Community Services (CVCCS) greatly appreciated the 32 large bags of food and clothing donated from our congregation. Emma is the granddaughter of Menno and Lydia Riehl, who attended Groffdale years ago; they both passed away in 2022.

***Bring to the Lord in prayer:***

Pray for our congregation as we make decisions about our building/facility and floor coverings.

Pray for Jeff and Connie Martin as Jeff anticipates surgery on December 15.

Pray for Steve Lindsey as he brings our message next Sunday December 7.

Give thanks to God for a meaningful time last Sunday afternoon with our youth and the EMM Advance team participants.

Pray for peace in Ukraine.

Pray for our college students during this Thanksgiving break as they anticipate the challenging weeks at the end of the semester. (Caeley Zimmerman at Lebanon Valley, Tanner Eshleman and Janessa Eshleman at Messiah and Timothy Wenger at Cedarville.)

Pray for healing and restored health for Roy Reiff.

Give thanks to God for the steady healing and recovery for Faythe Roberts.

Pray for our congregation during this season of Advent as we reflect on the amazing truth of "God with us" through Jesus Christ.

Pray for Robert and Anna Nolt at Fairmount.

Pray for healing for Curvin Buchen.

***Important happenings***

**On Wednesday December 10**, Pastor Krista Snader will be meeting with the LMC Credentialing Commission for her interview leading up to ordination. We invite your prayers for Krista as she anticipates this important event in her life and ministry.

**On Thursday, December 11** Welsh Mountain Home will be hosting a Christmas Open House from 1pm –8pm. See more details on the brochures on the front and back tables.

***Save the Date: Bishop Installation***

The Groffdale District bishop installation service for Ryan Bomgardner and Tom Eshleman will be held on **Sunday afternoon January 18, 2026 at 3:00 pm** at Metzler Mennonite Church. All are welcome to attend.

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To encourage our college students you are invited to write a card and put it in the box on the back table by December 7th. Our college students are Tim Wenger at Cedarville College, Caeley Zimmerman at Lebanon Valley College, and Tanner and Janessa Eshleman at Messiah University.

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Help yourself to the Winter Sunday School quarterlies on the front and back tables.

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You will find a paper in your mailboxes today with a list of new library books for all ages. A book of special interest is “My Life Memories” written by one of our own - Ada Burkhart.

**Morning Prayer Group** meets every Wednesday at 8:30am in the Conference Room. Everyone is invited to join this group for a meaningful time of prayer and fellowship.

**Sewing Circle will meet on Tuesday, December 2 at 9am.** We will be packing cookie plates for shut-ins and friends. Please bring 4 dozen cookies. Sandwiches will be provided for lunch; please bring a finger food to share.



As a way to share worship music between the generations, the Groffdale youth invite you to listen to the song "The Blessing" by Elevation Worship.

***Thank you to those serving in our worship service today!***

Ushers: Delores Tennis and Mary Jane Assis

Projectionist: Diane Weaver

Sound Tech: Jeff Martin

Live Stream: Jim Evans

Camera Operator: Jose Gabilondo

***Serving next Sunday, December 7***

Prelude: Joe Jaskolka  
Hymns Leader: Rick Umble  
Worship Leader: Becki Day  
Sermon: Steve Lindsey  
Sound: Jeff Martin

Projectionist : Diane Weaver  
Livestream: Chris Martin  
Camera: Mim Auker  
Ushers: Glen and Joyce Shenk  
Offering: Groffdale Missionaries  
& EMM (20% Groffdale Sewing  
Circle)

## OFFERING

Listed below are the totals for last week's offerings and deposits. Thank you for your giving!

Leadership Support	\$4,582.00
Program Fund	\$1,355.00
Church Facilities	\$1,005.00
Missions	\$ 455.00



### ***WELCOME GUESTS AND VISITORS!***

*We are so glad you are joining us for worship this morning and we hope you come again. We invite you to fill out one of the guest cards found on the back of the church benches and place the completed card in the offering basket.*

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717-466-8930

**Treasurer:** Mark Wenger, [pastormarkwenger@gmail.com](mailto:pastormarkwenger@gmail.com)

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