

Woodslee United Church
Sunday, January 5, 2025
Minister: The Rev. Carl Emke
Musician for Today: Anita Leschied



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP – PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE:

We light the Christ candle to remind us that we want the light of Christ to shine on our time of worship; and that the words that the Pastor shares would point us to that light. This is the understanding of the symbolism of the lighted candle in front of the pulpit.

Jesus said in John 8:12, **“I am the Light of the World: the one who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”**

We have begun a new year, and it is full of promise, plans and possibilities. We look forward to God’s guidance in the coming days and months. The light from the Lord, symbolized by the Christ candle, is the light that we are following. The Christ candle reminds us that God’s light is before us.

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP: We Have Come into His House

We have come into His house and gathered in His name
to worship Him.

We have come into His house and gathered in His name

to worship Him.

We have come into His house and gathered in His name to
worship Christ the Lord.

Worship Him, Christ the Lord.

Let's forget about ourselves and magnify His name
and worship Him.

Let's forget about ourselves and magnify His name
and worship Him.

Let's forget about ourselves and magnify His name
and worship Christ the Lord.

Worship Him, Christ the Lord.

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (Unison)

Heavenly Father, as we begin a new year, we come to You with hearts that are grateful for all that You have done for us in the past. We are relying on You to guide us in this new year. Help us to remember this desire as we face struggles and challenges. Remind us to keep on looking to You when things seem to be going well and we are tempted not to think about You. In all of our lives, You are with us. We rest in You as we worship You today. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

HYMN: "Another Year is Dawning" (Words are by Frances R. Havergal; music is by J. Michael Hayden, and is in the public domain.)

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 2:13-15; 19-23 (Reader: Tom Ruston)
(p.783 in the Bible in the pew.)

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – A NEW CREED:

We are not alone, we live in God’s world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

PREPARATION FOR PRAYER: Please remain seated as the pianist plays # 400 “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” (sung twice)

PASTORAL PRAYER

MINISTRY OF MUSIC Musical Selection by Anita Leschied

HYMN: 894 “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

SERMON: “The Ultimate Travel Advisor!”

OUR GIFTS IN SUPPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH:

The Bible tells us: “Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits.”

We read in Deuteronomy, “No one shall come into the presence of the Lord empty-handed. Each of you shall bring such a gift as he can in proportion to the blessing which the Lord your God has given you.” The ushers will now receive the offering.

HYMN OF DEDICATION: MV #191 “What Can I Do?” (2 X)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN: # 238 “How Great Thou Art”

COMMISSIONING

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION: “Go Now In Peace” (Words and music are by Don Besig and Nancy Price. Copyrighted in 1988 by Harold Flammer Music. Used by permission)

POSTLUDE

Woodslee Pastoral Charge CCLI # 465534

Right after the service, please stay for a time of coffee, tea and refreshments in the Hall. You can enjoy friendship and fellowship as you share this casual time with each other. The friendships are a blessing, and the time together is a treat. **TREAT YOURSELF!!!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember in prayer all those listed on our Church family prayer list. May they experience the peace of God as they look to Him for strength.

THE ANTLER RIVER PRAYER CYCLE is not available this year, as no one has been found to continue this endeavour. You are encouraged to pray for other church as God prompts you.

A reminder, there is no Sunday School today, but will resume next Sunday, January 12th.

Normal part-time weekday working hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. When involved in visiting, counseling, funeral, course, or taping, you may leave a message at the church (519-975-2252) or home (226-275-2118). Hours may change for meetings or appointments to a later time or another day. ~ Rev. Carl.

WORD TO THE WISE: The new year is upon us. Have you been thinking about the Annual Report? Are you responsible to prepare a report? **DON'T LEAVE IT TO THE LAST MINUTE** – the clock has already begun ticking!!!

CAN YOU SMELL THE COFFEE?? Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m., the coffee is brewing and **YOU** are invited to join in as we munch, mingle and mindfully mull over whatever topics the conversation will unearth as we share in friendship. **During the coffee time, the only agenda is to appreciate one another's company.** We'd love to have you join us!!!

Thought for the Day:

God wants full custody – NOT JUST weekend visits!!!

Sermon Notes

Please use this space to take notes

WOODSLEE PASTORAL CHARGE

Woodslee United Church

2616 Belle River Road, P. O. Box 35,
Woodslee NOR 1V0

Telephone: 519-975-2252 (Office) 519-975-2550 (Kitchen)

Service Time: 10:00 am

Church E-Mail Address: woodsleeuc@gmail.com

Website: www.woodsleeunitedchurch.com

Minister: The Rev. Carl Emke

Phone: 226-275-2118 **Email:** revemke@gmail.com