

Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church

252 6th St., Box 1207, Winkler, MB R6W 4B2

Phone: 325-9563

Worship Service

Sunday, December 23, 2018

9:20 am

Sermon Series: The Greatest Story Ever Told

Prelude - Lori Klassen

Call to Worship and Prayer - Pastor Victor Engbrecht

Music Ministry - Choir

Advent Reading/Candle Lighting, Video - Henry & Irene Neufeld

Worship in Song – Worship Team

MH #127 Angels We Have Heard On High vs. 1, 2, 4

MH #132 O Come, All Ye Faithful vs. 1, 2, 3

MH #133 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Prayers for the Church - Pastor Victor Engbrecht

Offering/Offertory - Choir

Scripture Reading - Wayne Klassen

Luke 1:57 - 80

Message - Pastor Dean Huber

“The Birth of John the Baptist”

Closing Song - Worship Team

Go Tell it on The Mountain

Benediction (Before the last verse)

“Loving God, Loving Each Other, and Loving Our Community”

Sound: Edwin Siemens Computer: Brad Funk

Video: Bill Braun

Sunday, December 30, 2018

9:20 am Worship Service: Pastor Victor Engbrecht

THIS WEEK AT WINKLER BERGTHALER

Friday 10:00 am Prayer Meeting

CHURCH FAMILY - PRAISES AND CONCERNS

BTHC

Russ Friesen

Church Prayer & Praise

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Sunday School Christmas program a success last Sunday. There were so many people who helped with the planning, organizing, set up, clean up, decorating, serving, baking, encouraging and praying. I appreciated all of your help!

Gisela Froese, Sunday School Superintendent

Mission Prayer & Praise

Thank God that the schools, in our school division, can present the true Christmas message at their Christmas concerts.

Missionaries of the Week

Don & Char Epp

Expression of Sympathy

Mary Dyck passed away Thursday, December 13th. Her funeral was held on Wednesday, December 19th. She was the wife to John H. Dyck.

Sue Buhlin passed away Saturday, December 15th.
Her funeral was held on Thursday, December 20th.

Change of Addresses

John W. & Tina Giesbrecht reside at Tabor Home, Morden
(John - Elm 509, Tina - Elm 508)

Eva Fehr has moved to Room M236 in the Salem Home.

Christmas Worship Service

will begin at 10:00 am on Christmas Day.

Adult Sunday School

class has concluded for the year. The class will resume
on Sunday, January 6th at 10:45 am.

Church Pictorials

are available for purchase at a cost of \$20 each.
Pictorials are available in the church office during the week.

Folding Bulletins

We are looking for persons who would be willing to fold bulletins in a once a month rotation or for substitute. Please contact Susan, in the office, if interested.

ACTIVITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF OUR CHURCH

Committee Annual Reports

In preparation for our annual membership meeting in early 2019, all committee chairpersons are asked to submit a report of their committee happenings for our annual report book. Please prepare and submit (email if possible) your report to Susan in the office by January 14, 2019.

Kevin and Julia Garratt

were missionaries in China for about 30 years before they were arrested in August, 2014, wrongfully accused of being spies. Both were imprisoned in China; Julia was held in jail for 6 months, Kevin for two years. Come hear them share their story of God's faithfulness on Wednesday, January 16th, 7:00 pm in our church.

Baptism and Membership Classes

Are you interested in exploring the Christian faith? Would you like to learn more about our confession of faith in a Mennonite perspective? Do you have questions about baptism and church membership? Then the WBMC Christian Faith classes are for you! If you are interested or have any questions please call Pastor Dean or Pastor Victor (325-9563).
Classes will begin in the New Year.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER EVENTS

Grieving The Loss of Someone Close to You?

Find comfort and support at Grief Share and begin your journey from mourning to joy. The group will meet Thursdays, January 10 - February 21, 2019 from 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm at the Winkler Mennonite Church. For more information please call 325-5411 or email: pastorglen@wmchurch.ca.

HANDS (Hope for All Nations Developments and Sustainability)

Coffee and faspa fundraiser January 13th, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm at Redekop Family Center 1 mile west of Plum Coulee on Hwy #14. Enjoy an evening of music by D'Friesen & Family. Proceeds go to fund projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Birthdays This Week

	Day		Day
Ray Wiebe	23	Tina Wieler	25
Jim Braun	23	Pete (Eva) Penner	26
Nathaniel Froese	25	Henry Siemens	28
Gordon Peters	25		

**If we have missed your birthday or anniversary,
please notify the church office.**

Scripture for This Week:

- Titus 2:1 – 15
- Titus 3:1 – 15
- Luke 2:1 – 20
- Acts 6:1 – 15
- John 21:15 – 25
- Colossians 3:1 – 17
- Psalm 148:1 - 14

Coming Events

January 13

Commissioning Service
for Harold Espinosa

January 16

Kevin and Julia Garratt
Sharing about mission in China

Quotes of the Week

Now, there is a practical application of the crucified life and its demands from day to day. **John the Baptist** realized it long ago when he said, "He (Jesus) must increase but I must decrease!"

A.W. Tozer

Scripture records that when **John the Baptist** began his ministry, "The people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not" (Luke 3:15 NKJV).

As a matter of fact, several of the disciples first encountered Christ for the very reason that they were watching expectantly for Him to appear, and they came to **John the Baptist**, who pointed the way to Christ (John 1:27–37).

J. F. MacArthur

Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church
The Greatest Story Ever Told (Series)

December 23, 2018

The Birth of John The Baptist Pt. 3

Luke 1:57-80

By Pastor Dean G. Huber

I. His _____ (vs. 57-66)

According to the law, Zachariah and Elizabeth took their son to be circumcised on the _____ day. Obviously, the neighbors and relatives all desired that this new baby would be named after his father according to Jewish _____.

Picture in your mind the events of the special day. Elizabeth has just given birth to her son and all her _____ and relatives are fussing over what to name the baby. They're all going down the names of the family line to help Elizabeth and Zachariah to name the child. Then, out of the blue, _____ says that his name should be John.

Since, Zachariah is still deaf and dumb they hand him a writing _____ which was probably a flat piece of wood covered with film of wax which was easy to write on. Notice, he does not say, "you must call him John", or "we have _____ to call him John", but rather, "his name is John".

Zachariah was being _____ to the command of the angel. He did not want something to happen to him like last time. Since, he was obedient, in a twinkle of an eye his hearing and speech are recovered. Can you imagine how he must have been feeling at this moment. Not only to get a son who was going to be the forerunner of the Messiah, but his speech and hearing had _____.

The scriptures make it clear that there is much in a _____. God called himself, "I am what I am". Abrams's name was changed to Abraham and Jacob's name was changed to _____.

Zachariah's name meant "God remembered his covenant". Elizabeth's name means, "God is the absolute *faithful* one". John names means, God is _____.

II. His _____ (vs. 67-75)

As Zachariah brings forth this hymn of praise, he not only talks about his son, but also, he is speaking about the _____. This is Zachariah's ultimate _____. In verse 69, he speaks about the "raising up of a horn of salvation."

So, what does the "raising up of a horn of salvation" mean? Since, all of the _____ of an animal was concentrated in an animal's horn, it means God's redeeming power would be embodied in one individual, who would be the Messiah. Thus, God's redemption would be able to flow to every person who ever lived because of this _____. One.

III. His _____ (Vs. 76-80)

One of the most _____ things for Zachariah, was not only that he was blessed with a son in his old age, but this son would be the forerunner of the Messiah. John would go before him and preach _____ and turn people to the Lord.

Verse 79 tells us the reason why Christ would be coming. "...to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace." (NIV) The main thought in this verse, refers to a party of travelers who before they reach their destination, they are engulfed by total _____. Now they can easily fall prey to wild beasts and their enemies. Thus, they need a _____ to guide them and protect them.

When John the Baptist came into this world, he came to _____ people to the light. He was not the light, but rather he was the reflector of the light. As I mention before, his name meant "God is _____." Thus, he pointed people to the one, who could give true mercy, and that was Jesus Christ. Thus, our _____ is to do the same. What an awesome and wonderful responsibility we have in _____ people toward the light where they will find guidance and direction in turbulent waters.

So, right now let's think of those we _____ who do not know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Write their names on a piece of paper and begin praying for them that God would use you to reflect the light of Jesus to them. Like John the Baptist, you and I are not the light, but if we have willing hearts, we can point others to Jesus and _____ His Light.

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Chorus

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
Our Jesus Christ is born

Verse 2

He made me a watchman
Upon a city wall
And if I am a Christian
I am the least of all

Verse 1

When I was a seeker
I sought both night and day
I asked the Lord to help me
And he showed me the way

Financial Update - December 17, 2018

Annual Budget Income	\$783,780.00 - 100%
Year to December 17 th Income	\$662,966.28 - 84.6%
Amount short of Annual Budget	\$120,813.72

There are two more Sundays in 2018

***Any donations that you wish to make to count towards 2018 totals need to be handed in by the end of the day; Monday, December 31st.
Donations will be received December 31st until noon at the Church office or dropped off directly with Kenny Hildebrand.***

Pastoral Staff: Dean Huber, Victor Engbrecht, Harold Espinosa
Administrative Secretary: Susan Klassen

Custodians: Edwin Siemens, Hank Klassen, Carol Klassen

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 am - Noon; 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm