

# Preston Mennonite Church

*Being transformed by and extending God's love  
through worship, hospitality and service*

[www.prestonmennonite.com](http://www.prestonmennonite.com)

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Pastor: Claire Osinkosky

Song Leader: Muriel Bechtel    Accompanist: Dianne Winkler

Quartet: Margaret Martin, Muriel Bechtel, Laverne Martin, Robert Witmer

## Christmas Eve morning: God's Peaceable Kingdom is LOVE!

### **PRELUDE**

### **GATHERING TO WORSHIP**

Welcome

Hymn: HWB 201

"Hark! The herald angels sing"

Call to worship

*(responsive--see back page)*

Opening prayer

Psalm 98

"God moments"

Hymn: HWB 172

"Glorious Tidings" *(words  
written by Laverne Martin; to  
the tune—"Joyful, joyful")*

Lighting the Advent Candle of Love

Hymn: STS 15

"Hope is a candle," all verses

**WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO ME?**

Epistle reading: Hebrews 1:1-4

Young people's time

Confession (see back page)

Words of assurance (see back page)

Hymn: HWB 215 "What child is this"

Gospel reading: John 1:1-14

The voice of the healer: Isaiah 55:1-3

Message: "Open your heart to the Mystery!"

Carol: "Sing We Now of Christmas" (see insert)

Isaiah 52:7-10

**WHAT AM I GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?**

Theme: STS 124 "My soul cries out," verses 1 &  
4

Giving our all to God and God's Peaceable  
Kingdom

Offering prayer

Sharing time and prayer requests

Prayers of the people

**SENDING**

Announcements

- Tonight—Carols & Candlelight at 6:30 pm, note: this service will not be broadcast at Fairview
- Next Sunday—Potluck finger food breakfast for Preston & Wanner at 8:30 am
- Morning Worship at 9:45 am

Hymn: HWB 318 "Joy to the world"

Christmas blessing

**POSTLUDE**

CREDITS: Lighting the Advent Candle of Love, Christmas blessing—*Seasons of the Spirit Advent-Christmas 2017*; CCLI Licence #11122880.



*Welcome to our visitors!* We hope our time of worship has been an encouragement to you. Please sign our guest book in the front foyer! God bless you and we hope to see you again!

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP IN THE FOYER—ALL WELCOME!**

**Adult Discussion Class:** will resume on Sunday January 7, 2018. Please bring your suggestions/ideas for materials or issues you would like to focus on during the winter season. (note: no class on Sun Jan 14)



**Christmas Thanks**—So many of the special Christmas activities at church require many people sharing from their hearts! Sincere thanks **to you** for the part you played in this season of giving with love. Thanks to:

- **Each one of you** for working together to spread the message of God's Peaceable Kingdom!
- **Worship Commission** for decorating and planning the services, and to our worship leaders
- **Fidelias** for their Christmas Banquet and Brenda Burnett Stathakos for her presentation on Guatemala
- **Stroke Recovery** for a lovely Christmas Banquet
- **Fellowship Commission** for our delicious Christmas Banquet and the entertainment
- **Christian Education** for decorating the Christmas tree in the foyer, and for our December Youth event, for our Children's Christmas Pageant and Children's Christmas Party
- **Joel & Janine** for their help setting up and lighting the tree, hanging the quilts, and all the extra clean-up that Christmas brings
- **Dave Rorke** for getting the tree angel in place
- **Mission Commission** for gathering our donations to the Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank, to Bridges, and for our Mitten Tree
- **Cindy Snyder** for keeping everything running smoothly in a busy season.

### **WIDER CHURCH & COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**Dennis Wikerd Retirement Celebration:** Sun Jan 14, receiving line 2pm-3pm, program 3pm-4pm, more receiving line a 4pm-5pm at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. Join in the celebration of Dennis' contribution over almost 40 years of teaching at Rockway. Refreshments served throughout.

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