

# ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

## ***THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP***

Minister: The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

Music Director: Naomi Piggott-Suchan

Organist: Paul Suchan

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

*As we gather, we are mindful of the fact that we meet on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Treaty Six First Nations and the traditional home of the Métis.*

*We are grateful for the hospitality we have received as settlers in this place and recommit ourselves to the work of reconciliation and building good relations with the First Peoples of this land.*



Prelude: Carols for Quiet Stops, arr. J. Fischer

Preparation for Worship:

As the Christ Candle is lit, we invite you to observe a time of quiet reflection prior to our service.

Welcome and Announcements

- The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

### **WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

Lighting the Candle of Joy  
(See PWS&D insert)

- The Drover Family

Prayer of Adoration

**Praise:**

***"Hope is a star"***

**#119**

Prayer of Confession: (Unison)

**God of peace and promise,  
you are the giver of life, the potter who created us.  
You love us as we come to you with all our flaws.  
When we wander away your Holy Spirit calls us back.  
The journey to the manger is long,  
you are the one who supplies all things for the journey.  
Refresh us in this time of worship,  
and reignite our desire to serve you each and every day.  
Glory, honour and praise be yours now and always,  
one God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier.**

**Merciful God, in your gracious presence  
we confess our sins and the sins of this world.**

Assurance of Pardon

*Introduction Martha Fergusson*

***“Stirring up the Animals” Children’s Presentation***

***O Little Town of Bethlehem #165 - entrance of the Holy Family***

***Stirring up the Animals.***

***Friendly Beasts sung by representatives of the Church School and a parent.***

***Donkey- Drivers***

***Cow- Suchans***

***Dove- Blessings Nditoh & Michelle Mbamubad***

***Sheep- Lamb Family***

***Away in the Manger - Choir***

***Children remain with their families in the Sanctuary for the service***

**WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 12: 2-6

Luke 3: 7-18

Psalm 16: 5-11 Refrain 1

Peter 4: 8-11

-Vikki Drover

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Sermon: “Hospitality Without Grumbling”

- Martha Fergusson

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

Doxology (#830) and Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below: praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

**Praise:**

***"Go, tell it on the mountain"***

**#133**

Benediction

**A-men, a-men, a- - - men**

Postlude: Stille Nacht - Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863)

Greeters & Collectors: Kirk Ready & Heather Shouse, Charles & Laura Roy

Coffee Hosts: Baby Shower



YOU ARE INVITED to the lower hall following the worship service for refreshments and conversation

A SPECIAL WELCOME is extended to our visitors this morning. Please sign the guest book in the entranceway, or fill out a visitor's envelope found in the pews. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you will consider St.

Andrew's.

CHILDCARE: There is a nursery available in the lower hall.

LARGE PRINT Bibles, bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers.

CONTACT US: Phone 306-242-0525, Email [office@standrews-saskatoon.com](mailto:office@standrews-saskatoon.com), Website: [www.standrews-saskatoon.com](http://www.standrews-saskatoon.com)

NORMAL OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Thursday, 9:00AM-2:00 PM

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## *Announcements*

### **Christmas Presentation**

The challenges of weather and illness are always part of this time of year.

Thank you, to the parents who sang with their children at home in preparation. The commitment to partnering and growing our children's voice is from Naomi. Her cheerful manner makes the children respond with eagerness and her talent leads to a beautiful experience. Thank you Naomi and we are all eager for our Easter selection.

Thanks to Roberto who lets the children shine and be themselves today and each Sunday. These relationships help our children's faith and sense of belonging in community.

### **Children during the Holidays**

Church School continues Dec 22 and Dec 29 they remain upstairs to worship as a family. Christmas Eve families sit together. There will be a worship enhancing bags for the children that match the scriptures and themes of each service that they stay upstairs. The nursery is available for parents to use as needed.

Martha will be off on Dec 29 only.

### **Financial Update**

Hello St. Andrews People. We have so much for which to be thankful. Our building fund has received some generous donations to assist with current renovations. Events like our very successful Charlie Brown Christmas concert are going to support celebratory functions of the church anniversary, and donations to the church operations are going according to forecast.

So that is the good news. Now for the not so good news. Welcome to winter! I say this because clearing of the church parking lot is one of the expenses most difficult to forecast! As of today, it is looking very much like our operational expense prediction of last year will be accurate. I have just updated our budget forecasts. My best estimate means that we will have a year end deficit of about \$6,500. This is so much Better than the \$20,000 deficit we predicted last year. Thanks for your continued support. Additionally, donations to all of the church missions are down considerably at about 75% of 2023 levels. We all realize that many people are struggling financially. We appreciate any and all gifts. We thank you for your generosity to date and ask that you prayerfully consider, what additional gift, if any, God may be calling you to make before year end and into 2025. We have a growing church - what a wonderful blessing. God Bless each of you. Do not hesitate to contact me with any question you may have. Orlanda Drebit [orlandadrebit@hotmail.com](mailto:orlandadrebit@hotmail.com)

Poinsettias! Poinsettias! Poinsettias! The sanctuary looks beautiful graced in the splendor of red and white poinsettias. Thank you to everyone who purchased a poinsettia for the sanctuary, your home, and for family and friends. The Anniversary Committee really appreciates all of your support. Thank you very much. Merry Christmas!!



Heads up! Zion & St. A's Youth Group, **TODAY** Sunday December 15th, 5:30-8:30 pm  
Escape to Bethlehem with Alicia Monson VST student leading. Come enjoy interactive journey to Bethlehem. Confirm with Martha 306 270 2378

### Mini Christmas Bake Sales

At this time of year, most of us look forward to Christmas baking favourites. Some people cannot or no longer bake, while some of us love to bake and have a few extras.

Starting December 1 and going until December 22, some bake sale items may be available for purchase. Stock will vary each week, so grab your favourites when you see them; they may not be back.

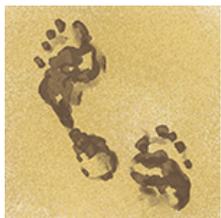
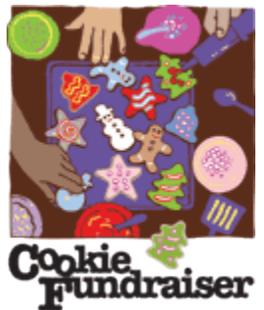
For those donating their time and talent:

- Keep volumes small.
- Price your own items (or ask for help), keeping in mind that ingredients have gone up in cost over this past year. Place them in the entranceway.
- Label with any common allergens (wheat/gluten, eggs, nuts, dairy, MSG, cinnamon, mustard, artificial colouring).

For those who may consider purchasing items:

- Bring small bills and coins of various denominations, as there may not be change available. Alternately, we will have the 'tap and go' machine available.
- Items that arrive will be in the entranceway before the service and moved to the lower hall after.

This year, the proceeds will go to Presbyterians Sharing



Dear Friends, let's **walk to Bethlehem** together during Advent and ponder on the scripture readings each day as we walk or exercise in some form. Keep track and email me at [pastoralcarenurse@standrews-saskatoon.ca](mailto:pastoralcarenurse@standrews-saskatoon.ca) OR text/ phone me at 306-229-7846 with weekly mileage or steps. Can we collectively get to Bethlehem in time to celebrate the Christ Child? Let's do it!! There are paper handouts in the Narthex as well as the Advent Walk as attached.



**OPERATION SANDWICHES:** The Outreach Committee cannot provide sandwiches to SNCM without your assistance, whether it is helping us make the sandwiches at our Sandwich Making Parties on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month, or simply providing the funds needed to purchase ingredients (~\$150/session). Both are equally important.

In the past (pre-Covid), we were able to do this twice a month, which is something that we would like to be able to afford to do once again. If you would like to help via donation, you can do so through the church website, by e-transfer, or by your regular offering envelope. To make sure that the donation goes to the right place, please make sure that 'Operation Sandwiches' shows up somewhere in the text. Or, join on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday.



**We are Expecting!** - Four new babies at St. Andrew's in our anniversary year! We plan to honor them with a Baby Shower after Church during our regular Coffee Hour on December 15, 2024. You may donate (cash, debit, or credit) at the Shower to support the purchase of a new baby play pen and rocking chair for our nursery, and some individual baby gifts. Please save a moment on that day to take a peek at the renovated nursery. For further information, contact Heather

Shouse, 705 493-2724 (call or text).

Could you give us 2 Sundays per year? The Board of Managers needs help in opening and closing the church. During the last couple of years, this responsibility has fallen on the shoulders of a very small group of people. All it involves is arriving a bit early and leaving a bit late! Please contact Sharon Wiseman (306) 242-4779 if you are willing to help.



### **WARM CLOTHING AND BLANKET DRIVE**

Outreach and Pastoral Care are gathering and distributing donations of new and gently used blankets, winter jackets, sweaters, boots, socks, mitts, scarves and toques for Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry. New underwear and stockings would also be greatly appreciated. If you have anything that you wish to donate, please drop it off in the barrel at the back of the church. The bin will be available all this fall and winter.



Thank you for your support!



**2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available on the entranceway table. In each box there is a designated envelope that enables you to help offset the cost of the offering envelopes, which is \$12.29. If you would like to have your own box of envelopes, fill out the information on a Visitor's Envelope located in the pews and place it on the offering plate, or contact the church office. ***If you would prefer to make pre-authorized remittances, please fill out a blue PAR authorization form (found on the entranceway table), attach a void cheque, and place it in the offering plate.***

The church offices will be closed December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, inclusive

Any donations that you wish to have included on your 2024 charitable donation receipt **MUST** be received no later than January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and be dated 2024.

Please submit all invoices for payment in 2024 to the church office asap.

Prayer Requests: Email Margaret Wilson at: [ma.wilson@shaw.ca](mailto:ma.wilson@shaw.ca) More information on Pastoral Care Bulletin Board.

Advent is right around the corner and with it, the **Outreach Committee's Advent Appeal**.

We have tried to set up the appeal so that it is as easy as possible to take part, both for those who worship with us in person and for those who worship with us online.

For anyone worshipping with us online, you will find a list of items needed by the various downtown agencies, along with a suggested value that each item might cost, in this week's on-line bulletin. Simply select the agency that you would like to support, find an item that you would like to provide to that agency, and make your donation, either by e-transfer, or by using the church's website. Please indicate that the donation is part of the Advent Appeal, and note which agency you are supporting. Our bookkeeper will then make sure that your donation gets to where it needs to go. For every \$10 donated, we will add an ornament to our Advent Tree.

For those worshipping in person, there are three steps. The first step is selecting an ornament. These can be found in the entryway of the church.

As always, you can choose the ornament by color, shape, or size, but the best way might be to just read what is on the tags. You then take the ornament home and complete whatever is on the tag. Once it is complete, peel the backing off of the tag and place it on the gift that you have purchased or donated, OR, if it a gift of talent, (like mine), place it on the ornament. The final step is to bring the gift AND the ornament back to the church, place the gift under the tree, and the ornament on the tree. All of the returned ornaments will provide a visual progress report of this year's Appeal.

We will officially start receiving gifts next week and the appeal will proceed until December 15 after which we will distribute the gifts to the agencies. If you would like to help us with this, please let us know. It really is an amazing experience.

In closing, I would just like to say that the agencies in our appeal have been on the frontline when it comes to providing care and support for the homeless, the hungry, and the vulnerable here in Saskatoon. We feel that our appeal provides an opportunity to do what we can to share the love of God through our support of their programs. Thank you very much, and we hope that you have fun with the appeal. We are: Al Ireland, Donna Fenton, Linda Dietz, and Rachel Giesbrecht.

## **ADVENT WISH LISTS**

### **Friendship Inn**

If you are going to donate food items, and want us to deliver them, please bring the items in on the last Sunday (Dec 15<sup>th</sup>) so that they can be delivered as soon as possible

- Eggs
- Potatoes
- Bread and buns
- Coffee (ground or beans)
- oatmeal
- fresh fruit and vegetables
- Vanilla
- Dried seasonings: Bay leaf, Garlic Plus, pepper, parsley, lemon pepper, dill, thyme, rosemary, sage, cumin and garam masala
- Non-stick cooking spray, or canola oil

### **Personal Items**

- |                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| • Diapers, Pull-ups and wipes | \$20-\$40 |
| • Baby formula                | \$20-\$60 |
| • Socks                       | \$5-\$20  |
| • Tooth brushes & paste       | \$5-\$25  |
| • Shampoo & conditioner       | \$5-\$10  |

- Deodorant \$2-\$10
- Razors \$2-\$10

## **Egadz**

### Hygiene

- Toothbrushes & Toothpaste \$5-\$25
- Shampoo, Conditioner \$5-\$10
- Deodorant, Disposable Razors \$2-\$10

### School Supplies

- Pens, Pencils and Erasers, Pencil Cases \$2-\$10
- Looseleaf \$10-\$20
- Calculators, Geometry Sets, Rulers, etc. \$5-\$50
- Markers, Pencil Crayons, etc. \$5-\$15

### Bed and Bath

- Quilts and Duvets >\$50
- Sheets and Pillows >\$30
- Towels \$10-\$30
- Sleeping Bags \$25-\$60
- Alarm Clocks \$5-\$25

### Babies and Children

- Baby and Toddler Clothing \$5-\$30
- Strollers \$60-\$200
- New Car Seats \$70-\$200
- Baby Formula and Bottles (unused and unopened) \$20-\$60
- Disposable Diapers \$20-\$40
- Toys and Games \$5-\$50
- Quilts and Blankets \$5-\$30

### Clothing

- Youth- and Teen-appropriate Clothing (jeans, t-shirts, hoodies, etc.) >\$20
- Winter Jackets, Ski-Pants >\$20
- Gloves, Mitts, and Headbands \$5-\$30
- Socks \$5-\$15
- Shoes, and Boots \$20-\$40
- New Underwear \$10-\$20

### Sport/Recreation/Crafts

- Beads and Beading Supplies \$5-\$15
- Sleeping Bags \$30-\$60
- Youth- and Child-appropriate DVD Movies \$5-\$15
- Paint and Paint Accessories \$1-\$10

## **Interval House**

### ALL ITEMS BELOW SHOULD BE NEW OR VERY GENTLY USED ITEMS

- Socks and underwear \$5-\$20
- Nail files/Clippers \$5
- Winter Boots \$20-\$50
- Hats/Toques/Mitts/Gloves \$5-\$10
- Cell phone chargers \$5-\$20
- House Coats \$15-\$30
- Children's clothing (all sizes, boys and girls) \$5-\$50
- Tupperware containers \$5-\$30

- Pencil crayons/markers \$5-\$15
- Paints/brushes/general art supplies \$5-\$10
- Women's sweatpants (all sizes) \$5-\$20
- Shampoo/Conditioner/Bodywash \$5-\$10
- Pajamas for women and children \$10-\$20
- Lip balm \$3-\$5
- Large drinking glasses \$5
- Nightlights \$3-\$10
- Large bath towels \$15-\$50
- Bathroom loofahs \$5-\$10
- Movie passes \$10-\$50
- Women's and children's socks (all sizes) \$5-\$15
- Slippers (women and children's) \$5-\$30
- Gift Cards (Wal-Mart, Superstore, Co-op, Gas Cards) \$10-\$100
- Inside and outside play toys (no aggressive toys) \$5-\$50
- New books (all ages) \$5-\$30
- Assorted women's running shoes (size 5-10, most commonly 7, 8, 9) \$20-\$100

### **Haven Family Connections**

#### Gift Cards

- Grocery store gift cards \$20-\$100
- Gift cards/certificates for children's outings and events.
  - Bowling, minigolf, swimming, movies and kid's play villages \$20-\$50
- Co-op \$20-\$100
- McDonald's \$10-\$50
- Tim Horton's \$20-\$50
- Canadian Tire \$20-\$50
- Home Sense \$20-\$50
- Fuddruckers/RUCKERS \$20-\$50

#### Clothing items

- New or gently used children's clothing from birth to 12 years) \$10-\$100

### **Elizabeth Fry Society**

Elizabeth Fry is hoping to provide small Christmas gifts to women and gender diverse people who are incarcerated. Some ideas for gifts are in the following list, but don't feel limited by them. If there is some small item that you feel is appropriate, please go ahead.

- Fuzzy socks \$5-\$15
- Lip balm \$5-\$10
- Calendar (no coils) \$15-\$20
- Notebook (no coils) \$5-\$10
- Chocolate bars (peanut free) \$5-\$10
- Candy canes \$5-\$10
- Granola bars (peanut free) \$5-\$10
- Hot chocolate (individual packets) \$5-\$10
- Housecoats \$15-\$30
- Feminine Hygiene Products

\*If you would like to do something on a continuing basis, Elizabeth Fry is constantly in need of feminine hygiene products. You can donate these items during Advent, but if you feel that you can supply them at other times of the year please contact someone on the Outreach committee and we will either drop them



off for you, or will put you in touch with someone at Elizabeth Fry who would be more than happy to take them off your hands.

### **YWCA Crisis Center**

- Towels and face cloths \$10-\$30
- New Shampoo/Conditioner/Bodywash \$5-\$10
- Feminine Hygiene Products \$10-\$30
- Pajamas (new) for women and children \$10-\$20
- New socks for women and children \$5-\$15
- Disposable diapers (sizes 4-6) \$10-\$40
- new swim suits for women and children \$10-\$40
- Combs and brushes \$5-\$10
- Disposable razors \$2-\$10
- Small toys for children \$5-\$20
- Baby blankets \$5-\$10

### **SNCM**

NEW Long underwear (all sizes) \$5-\$20

NEW Tights for women (all sizes) \$5-\$15

Warm clothing

- Parkas, sweaters, boots, snowpants, shoes etc. \$0-\$50
- Shirts, pants \$0-\$30

Gloves, Mitts. \$0-\$30

*If you are donating mitts or gloves, please drop them off at the church before December 11, so that they can be handed out as part of their Christmas celebrations)*

### **Carter House**

Carter House is a newly established agency that provides a holistic approach to supporting families dealing with trauma and substance abuse. It provides a safe healing environment where families and individual can work towards recovery. While donations are greatly appreciated, tax receipts cannot be provided as they are privately run. For more information, please talk to Martha Fergusson.

- Gift Cards for hygiene products (Walmart, Dollarama) \$10-\$50
- Movie Tickets (Cineplex) \$10-\$50
- Museum Admission (WDM, WonderHub) \$10-\$50
- Amazon or McNally Gift Cards \$10-\$100
- Books for our collection (new or gently used) \$0-\$50
- New books to gift at graduation \$10-\$50
- Board Games (for all ages, from children to adults) \$10-\$60
- Toys and Building Kits (Lego, Duplo) \$30-\$100

Group Contributions (e.g., book clubs, community groups):

- Create 15 homemade infinity scarves (neutral colors blue, beige, grey))
- Create 15 adult-sized crochet scarves ( neutral colours blue, beige, grey)
- Create square blankets
- 15 boxes of chocolates (such as Purdy's)
- Craft sets (for kids' activities)

### **The Amazing Stuff**

- Set the table during Lent Priceless!
- Make your bed without (too much) complaining ""
- Be especially nice to your sister/brother ""

- Shovel the walk after it snows OR sweep the walk if it doesn't " "
- Keep your room tidy (my wife's personal favourite) " "
- Do you know someone who is isolated? Give them a call! " "
- Invite someone to take part in Kidz Klub " "
- Invite someone to participate in our on-line service " "
- Surprise your mom and clean up her room. " "
- Be especially nice to everyone around you during Advent. " "
- Rake the leaves in your yard?? (Before it snows works best)

**AVAILABLE ON THE ENTRANCEWAY TABLE:**

- \* Copies of the fall issue of the Presbyterian Connection
- \* Contact Information Forms
- \* The latest edition of "*Saints Alive!*", the newsletter
- \* Annual Report & Financial Statements

**Missed out on a worship service?**

If you are looking for a service you missed, or want to see information in a previous bulletin, simply follow these steps:

- 1) Visit [standrews-saskatoon.com](http://standrews-saskatoon.com)
- 2) Scroll down just below this week's video until you see the date of the service you are looking for and click on it
- 3) You can now click the video box to watch the service and the "(date)\_bulletin" to see the bulletin



## Third Sunday in Advent

# Joy

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**One:** As we prepare for Christ's coming, we remember your calling to be filled with joy.

**All:** We come knowing that our actions can help alleviate the burdens of others.

**One:** We light the third candle of Advent, a symbol of joy that uplifts the spirit.

*(Light the candle of joy)*

**One:** May the warmth and brightness of this candle encourage us to act with compassion and courage.

**All:** Holy One, strengthen us by your Spirit to commit ourselves to being people of joy and justice. Fill us with all joy and peace as we trust in you, so that we may overflow with hope. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



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# Advocating for Gender Justice

In India, Indral Kumar and Golu Kumar regularly attend group meetings and awareness-raising sessions on gender issues conducted by PWS&D's local partner in their villages.



The boys, who are 13 and 14 years old, come from families that believe housework is to be done only by women and that men who do such work are "low status."

The classes teach about gender roles and stereotypes, as well as how to bring about gender equality at home. When Indral and Golu attended the class, their eyes were opened to how they had been contributing to gender inequality in their own families.

The boys took the first step to reduce gender inequality at home. They started helping their mother and sister with household work, washing their clothes and dishes, and serving food for themselves.

Golu and Indral's mothers came to meet the project trainers and celebrated the positive changes they had seen in their sons.

**This Advent season faithfully respond to Christ's call to advocate for gender justice.**



Presbyterian World Service  
& Development

**WeRespond.ca**

50 Wynford Drive, Toronto, ON M3C 1J7  
1-800-619-7301 | [pwsd@presbyterian.ca](mailto:pwsd@presbyterian.ca)

2409123303

# MISSION MOMENT **Sunday, December 15**

Supported by Presbyterians Sharing, Edmonton Urban Native Ministry serves the needs of the local Eastwood community with compassion and care. Their comprehensive services include a daily hot meal program, distribution of clothing and essential supplies, a bi-weekly food bank, as well as spiritual and emotional support initiatives, such as Sunday worship and counseling sessions. The Rev. Tim Sungill Choi, the ministry's Executive Director, describes their role as a humble well, providing life-giving water to thirsty travelers. By extending a helping hand, offering essential resources, and standing in solidarity as allies, they help to empower Indigenous individuals and communities to navigate their paths, even amidst uncertainty.



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## DAILY PRAYERS

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**Sunday, December 15 (3rd Sunday of Advent)** We give thanks for the programs of Edmonton Urban Native Ministry that provide a sense of belonging, care and inclusion for people of all nations while upholding Indigenous cultural practices.

**Monday, December 16** We pray for the housing, facilities and chaplaincy team at St. Andrew's Hall as they provide hospitality, programming and Christian witness for over 250 residents on the University of British Columbia campus.

**Tuesday, December 17** We pray for the Church Doctrine Committee as they advise the church on how best to respond to issues from a wounded world.

**Wednesday, December 18 (International Migrants Day)** For Christ, there was no room in the inn; we pray for ministries like Action Réfugiés Montréal who welcome and provide support to families seeking refuge and shelter.

**Thursday, December 19** We give thanks for the alumni of The Presbyterian College, Montreal, and pray for wisdom and strength for each one in their respective place of ministry.

**Friday, December 20** During the Christmas season, may we recognize the value of "enough" while surrounded by expectations of extravagance and consumerism.

**Saturday, December 21** We pray for Women's Missionary Society members and groups as they support local organizations helping people in need this Christmas. May their service bring honour to God as well as respite to those who receive their loving care.