



For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called **WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD,
EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE.**

Isaiah 9: 6



Welcome: We welcome you on this third Sunday of Advent, the season of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Welcome to all who are joining us. If you are visiting please join us downstairs for fellowship and coffee after the morning service. This evening is the Christmas Program at 7:00pm. A separate order of worship will be handed out.

WORSHIP SERVICE ~ 10:00 AM

Third Sunday in Advent - Everlasting Father

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Song: *Holy Emmanuel*

Advent Reading – Andy and Claire Roest

He was born in a village, the son of poor parents, but loved by them.

He was compassionate to those who had no status.

He blessed the children.

He touched the leper.

He sat down to eat with the outcasts of society.

He welcomed those who were despised.

But he himself was rejected by those who should have welcomed him.

He was hated by those who should have loved him.

He was killed by those who should have protected him.

Yet, he had compassion on them as well.

In the depths of the pain of his execution, the execution they had caused, he prayed for their forgiveness.

He gave his life for the very ones who had turned against him.

He cared for them as parents care for their children, and he was willing to give his life for those who hated him.

Lighting of the Candle

We light this candle, the candle of joy, for we know the compassion of Jesus Christ.

He gave his life for us so that we could live. And this fills us with unspeakable joy.

* Song: *Born in Bethlehem*

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:18-20



Prayer of Confession
 Song: *Immanuel*
 Memory Verse – Isaiah 9:6-7
 Children's Time
 Congregation: The Lord be with you.
 Children: And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination
 Scripture Reading: Matthew 9:27-38
 Message: Everlasting Father
 Prayer of Application

* Song: *Christmas Offering*
 Prayer for God's People and World
 Offertory Prayer
 Offering: (1) Church
 (2) World Renew
 * Profession of Faith – Apostles' Creed
 * Song: *Bethlehem*
 * Benediction
 * Song: *Shout for Joy*

The 3yr olds – gr 1 age children will be leaving after the children's message for Sunday School. (exit at the FRONT of the sanctuary)

Visitors: please go with your children so teachers can get information about your child.

Parents/guardians please pick up your children after the service.

The rest of the Sunday School children and teachers will leave during the parting hymn.

EVENING Sunday School Christmas Program 7:00 P.M.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Today: Pastor Gary Van Leeuwen will be leading us in the am service. **The evening service is the Christmas program led by the Sunday School children at 7:00 pm.**

** Please note the change of time for the Sunday School program.**

Next Sunday: Pastor Gary Van Leeuwen will be leading us in the am service.
 There is no evening service

Upcoming Services:

Christmas Tuesday, Dec 25 – Christmas service 10:00 am

Sunday, Dec 30 – 10:00 am service
 led by Guest minister Mr. Bart Eisen.
 There is no evening service.

Monday, Dec 31 – 7:30pm, New Year's Eve Service

Tuesday, Jan 1, 2019 – 10:00 am fellowship, 10:30 service



OFFERING SCHEDULE

Today: (1) Church (2) World Renew

Today, we bring our offerings and trust that God, the Author of all our stories, will use them through the work of World Renew to equip people around the world to change their stories for the better. To learn more about how your gifts will be used or to find additional ways to be involved, visit worldrenew.net. Vision: World Renew envisions a world where people experience and extend Christ's compassion and live together in hope as God's community. Mission: Compelled by God's deep passion for justice & mercy, we join communities around the world to renew hope, reconcile lives, and restore creation.

Next Week: (1) Church (2) Huron Christian School

Dec 25 – Food Banks Wingham

Dec 30 – Mission to Haiti

Dec 31 – Nehemiah Center

Jan 1 – Campus Ministries

Jan 6 - Voice of the Martyrs



KEEP IN PRAYER

- ◆ Congratulations to all those celebrating birthdays this week:

- ◆ We remember those who are separated from their friends and families during the Christmas season. Many people work abroad, either by choice or because work options for them are few in their home countries. Much of what they do has direct benefit to us (seafarers, oil workers, miners, company leaders), and we should be grateful for the sacrifices they make on our behalf.



Live Streaming: Please note that our services are live streamed. You can find it in You Tube by typing the keywords "Blyth Christian Reformed Church" in the search bar or on the 'Watch' icon of the [The Bridge App](#).

	TODAY DEC 16 3RD ADVENT	NEXT WEEK DEC 23 4TH ADVENT	TWO WEEKS DEC 30
Greeters North			
Greeters South			
Greeters Back			
Greeters Side			
Ushers			
Scripture Reading			
Music- am Offertory Pm			
PA Projector			
Nursery AM			
3yr old-JK			
SK - gr 1			
Cross Carriers			
Coffee Servers			

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monthly Food Drive: There are those in our communities who struggle to put food on the table and we are called as believers, by our Lord, to provide for and serve these individuals and families as well. The deacons invite you to become involved in our monthly food drive for the North Huron Food Bank on Jan 6, 2019.

Christmas Movie Night with the Family!

Join us at the Vanastra Community Christian Reformed Church (50 Fifth Ave, Vanastra) on Friday, December 21 at 7 pm in the gym. We will be watching the movie "The Star." Bring your favourite Christmas treats to share and a cozy blanket. Drinks will be provided.



Celebration of Learning & Christmas Concert at London Christian High – We invite the entire community, and your friends and families, to our Celebration of Learning & Christmas concert evening on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 from 7-9pm. This open house event presents an opportunity to talk with students about their learning experiences this semester, see beautiful projects, hear about how students are developing a sense of God's purpose in their lives, and celebrate Jesus' birth together. For more information, please see www.londonchristianhigh.ca or contact the school at 519-455-4360. Food & refreshments will be available.

Dessert Information Evening at London Christian High – If you are considering London Christian High for your child's secondary education, we invite you to join us Wednesday, January 16 at 7pm at London Christian High. Tour the school, meet the teachers and learn more about our program of learning. Parents and students in grades 5-12 are welcome! To register for the evening, or for more information, email Gabriella at ghoogstra@lchonline.ca.

YOUNG PEOPLE/ADULT'S NEWS

Youth Group 7:30 pm on Tuesdays

Tuesday December 18 – Christmas night – no youth till January.

Young Adults Group

If you are between the age of about 18 and 30, please prayerfully consider coming out to Bible Study, usually held at the home of Luke Siertsema or another young adult. The group meets every Thursday night, alternating between Bible Study and casual get togethers. It is a great way to meet new friends and see old ones, and learn and discuss more about the Bible and other topics. If you have any questions at all, please contact Luke Siertsema at 519-955-5579. We also have a facebook page!

OTHER NEWS

Prayer Time: all welcome to come. Meet in the photocopy room 9:25-9:45 a.m. Sunday mornings. Praying for the upcoming worship time and concerns/needs/joys/direction of the congregation and the community. Prayer concerns/joys can be submitted to council.

FAMILY FIRE - Family Fire is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

THE COVENANT FULFILLED - Christmas is the culmination and fulfillment of God's promise. Join Groundwork as we explore the whispers of Christmas in Ezekiel 16:59-60, Luke 22:19-20, and Hebrews 8:7-10 to grasp the magnitude of God's grace in Christ's birth and the importance of remembering God's covenant at Christmas. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

WRECK THE HALLS - Live animals on stage? 75 elementary school kids flying like angels in the air? It's up to Lucille and Olivia to bring Liz's Christmas drama back to earth. And Grandpa has a story that might do just that! Subscribe for free at getkidscorner.com. Free Giveaway: Kids Corner's "Know Your Bible Activity Book, Part 4!" Can you figure out all Kids Corner Christmas puzzles? www.kidscorner.net.

Israel & Jordan Study Tour (Oct 10-22, 2019) - Travel to sites connected with Jesus' life and the early church: Bethlehem, Nazareth, Caesarea, Capernaum, Bethsaida, Sea of Galilee, Caesarea Philippi, the major biblical places in Jerusalem, Masada and much more. This tour also uniquely involves key biblical sites in Jordan, including the amazing city of Petra. Contact Dr. Jeff Weima at wemje@calvinseminary.edu or 616-328-3110.

Advent Family Faith Formation Tip - On this third Sunday in Advent, spend some time talking about the many ways God shows that he loves us, including sending his own Son. List as many ways as you can. Then talk about how your family can show that you love each other and how you can show love to your friends and neighbors. (Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

Join the Global Prayer Safari! - In Swahili the word "safari" means "journey." Join a team of North Americans who appreciate the power of prayer as you journey hand-in-hand with teams from Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda. You'll learn about prayer from other Christian traditions as you visit schools, hospitals, jails, government buildings, markets, and more. Dates: January 31 - February 11, 2019. For more information, visit www.resonateglobalmission.org/safari.

Jesus is Abundant Life - Celebrate God's power made visible in His son, Jesus Christ, who was born to bring us salvation. Give the powerful gift of Uzima, "fullness of life," (Jn. 10:10) to someone experiencing poverty, hunger, and injustice this Christmas – a goat, a plow, or farm starter kit. Find these life-changing gifts in World Renew's 2018-2019 Gift Catalogue at worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-730-3490 to order.

Trinity Anglican will be having a Community Blue Christmas Service on Wednesday Dec 19th at 7 p.m. -- and no, Elvis is not coming! Blue Christmas is a service for those feeling 'blue' at Christmas. As you are aware, Christmas can be difficult for those who are mourning or who are depressed, and this service offers an opportunity to bring that to Jesus, and ask for healing. It's a contemplative and quiet service of reflection and music, for anyone, it's non-denominational.

We are looking for a volunteer to assist at a local Dining Program. The volunteer would support the cook in the kitchen with food preparation for a group of seniors that gather the first Friday of the month in Blyth. If you are interested and would like more information please call One Care at 519-482-9264 and ask for Grace.

Scrubbies: Get your Scrubbies from Marion VanWyk, 519-612-1179. Christmas is coming soon so why not start shopping now. They make great stocking stuffer gifts. All proceeds go to the Canada Food Grains Bank. \$2.50/piece or 5/\$10.

The Jesse Tree: A Family Devotional and Craft for Advent – Enjoy a fun and informative Advent activity to go along with December’s Today devotional. You can download the devotional and Christmas ornaments at backtgod.net/downloads. Copies of the ornaments are under the mailslots.



THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sunday

Prayer Time 9:25- 9:45 am
 Sunday School (3yr old –gr 1) after the children’s time
 Sunday School / Faith Instruction Classes (gr 2 – gr. 8).....after am service
 Sunday Services 10:00 am
 Sunday School Program 7:00 pm

Monday

Elders meeting 7:30 pm

Tuesday

Youth Group Christmas night..... 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Wednesday

Thursday

Bulletin Deadline NOON
 Evening Coffee Break 7:30 – 9:00 pm
 Young Adults (*contact Luke Siertsema for location*) 7:30 pm

Friday

Saturday

Tykes Hockey at the Blyth Arena 7:00 pm

Minister: Pastor Gary van Leeuwen email: garyvl68@gmail.com .

Church: 519-523-4743

Recording Clerk Mr. Fred Vander Sterre

e-mail: blythcrcclerk@tcc.on.ca

Stated Clerk Mr. Rick Steele e-mail: rjmail15@gmail.com

Blyth CRC Web Site: www.blythcrc.ca

Bulletin Announcements: call Anita or e-mail info@blythcrc.ca before noon on Thursday.

Please note that our services are live streamed



Conference: The Prodigal Love of God - Join us April 4-6, 2019, at Dordt College for The Prodigal Love of God Conference: Reencountering Dort at 400 and Beyond. Through invited plenaries and panel discussions, this conference will feature conversations about the historical legacy and the future of Protestantism as well as the opportunities facing the global church in the decades ahead. Confirmed speakers include Marilynne Robinson, Richard Mouw, James K.A. Smith, Timothy George, Paul Lim, Suzanne McDonald, Jemar Tisby, and Tish Harrison Warren. For info go to www.dordt.edu/plg. Register at prodigalloveofgodregistration.eventbrite.com/

Journey Through Egypt - Join Resonate Global Mission on an Egypt Vision Tour. History comes alive as you learn how scripture is connected to ancient Egyptian monuments. Dates: April 2-10, 2019. For more information visit www.resonateglobalmission.org/Egypt.