



**CALVIN  
PRESBYTERIAN  
C H U R C H**

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**December 17, 2023 | 10:00am**

Second Sunday in Advent

**God Gathers Us**

**Prelude**

Valley Brass Quintet

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

The Rev. Thomas Kim

**Blaak Arts String Ensemble**

*Good King Wenceslas*

*Jesu, joy of man's desiring*

**Advent liturgy**

Third Sunday in Advent: Joy

**Advent song (seated)**

*Hope is a star (v.3)*

**String ensemble**

*Christmas concerto*

*God rest ye merry gentleman /*

*Carol of the bells*

**Prayers of Confession & Assurance of God's grace**

**\*Advent hymn**

*Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel*

*(vv. 1, 5, 6)*

#122

**God's Word Transforms Us**

**Responsive reading**

Psalm 126 (NRSV) – Don Blaak

**Old Testament reading**

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11 – George Milne

**\*Carol**

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming (vv.1-3)*

#151

**New Testament reading**

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

– Jim Happer

**Brass quintet**

*Carol of the bells*

**Gospel reading**

John 1: 6-8, 19-28 – Michele Martin

**Message**

**Advent III: JOY**

The Rev. Thomas Kim

**Presentation**

The Joy of Sacrificial Giving

– Rod Thomson

**Carol (seated)**

*Joy to the world (vv. 1, 3, 4)*

#153



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**We respond, God hears our Prayers**

**Offering / Offertory** Brass quintet – *Pachelbel canon*

**\*Doxology / Prayer** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow*

#830

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

*followed by the Lord's Prayer (in unison) [sins/sin against us]*

**God Sends Us**

**\*Hymn** *Oh come, all ye faithful (vv. 1-4)* #159

**\*Benediction** *Amen* #780

**Postlude** Valley Brass Quintet

\*Please stand in body or in spirit

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***Today at Calvin – Sunday, Dec 17<sup>th</sup>***

- **Kid Connect** – come with us upstairs following Story Time.
- **Youth Connect** (grade 7 and up **ONLY!**) – You are welcome to hang out in the *Youth Zone* after worship. **Remember** to tidy up after yourselves!

***Thank You to our Volunteers this week!***

**Greeter:** Joyce Tiessen

**Coffee Hosts:** Margaret Houtby & Bobby-Anne McFee



The Flowers in the sanctuary have been placed by Michele Martin in loving memory of Dr. Shelley Anne Martin.

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<b><i>This week at Calvin – Dec 17<sup>th</sup> to Dec 23<sup>rd</sup></i></b>	
Tuesday	Ladies Bible Study at the home of Margaret Allan @ 10:00am
Wednesday	Friends & Coffee Social in the Fireside Room @ 10:00am <i>Final social for 2023!</i>
Thursday	Bible Study in the Gathering Space @ 11:00am <i>Join anytime!</i>
Friday	The Living Table
<b><i>Dates to remember</i></b>	
Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>	The Living Table #5
Dec 24 <sup>th</sup>	Candlelight Christmas Eve Service @ 7:00pm
Dec 31 <sup>st</sup>	Joint Presbyterian Elder Led Service @ 10:30am (Bradner, Calvin & St. Paul's)
Jan 4 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Connect – New Year Celebration Event

## **CALVIN CONNECT NEWSLETTER**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Issue of the Calvin Connect Newsletter is out and has been emailed and posted on our website. If you would like a hard copy, you can pick one up from the Information Desk.

## **SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

The Special Christmas Offering will be designated to *“The Bright Lights of Christmas at Calvin Church”*. In these difficult times we are fortunate to have a building to freely worship and praise God. A church open to all. These funds will honour our dedication to maintain our worship space; to keep it heated and to keep it BRIGHT. This is one way we honour God’s gifts to us – in being a good steward. Give as you are able.

## **SESSION SEEKING NEW ELDERS**

At the end of this year, Joyce Tiessen and Edward Akuffo terms as Elders are coming to an end. Although Edward has stated he will let his name stand for another term Session would still like to have a few more individuals join the team. Terms are six years in length. If you love Jesus and love the church, you have the basis for eldership. Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to this ministry – discuss it with others, seek guidance from another Elder and pray.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SYRIAN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

The committee wants to inform the congregation that the church will purchase Christmas gifts for Youssef and his family using money from the Go Fund Me account. The gifts will include gift cards and some presents for the girls. After discussions with Youssef, we all agreed that we do not want the girls to be overwhelmed with too many presents. If you have any questions, please talk to Lorne B or anyone else on the committee.

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**December 31<sup>st</sup> we will join with our sister churches for a Special End of the Year Service right here at Calvin.**



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## YOUTH CONNECT (Grades 7 and up)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **New Year Celebration**

Thursday, January 4, 2024 | 5-10 pm

Event Leaders: Dan M. and Lydia A.

***Fun, Laughter, Sharing:***

***Dinner, Games and Activities, Gifts, and a Movie***



#### **January Outreach Activity:**

Event Leaders – Gideon A., Jolene B., and Marissa B.

*Remember to start planning for a team meeting soon.*

## WEDNESDAY COFFEE SOCIAL

The final 2023 Coffee Social will be this Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> and will resume in the new year.

## TODAY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Copies of the January/February Guide are now available. You can pick up a copy from the Information Desk. Large prints are also available.

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## THE LIVING TABLE

*"The Living Table"* is a meal gathering with missional purpose where people gather around a dinner table, enjoy a warm meal and conversation around everyday life and God. Our vision is to build relationships, make connections, share the Gospel with those who would normally do not attend church. There is no fee for dinner.

**FRIDAYS AT 6 PM- 8 PM**

**Jan 19, Jan 26**

**MENU: TBD – but will be a Marcus Bitter's Special**

To reserve a seat at the table email us at [nicedinnerfriends@gmail.com](mailto:nicedinnerfriends@gmail.com)

Need more information: pickup a **FLYER** from the information desk or contact Marcus B, Cathy T, or Rev. Thomas Kim.

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## GHANA MISSION TRIP 2024

*Have you ever considered participating in a Mission Trip?* Here is your chance. In June 2024 Calvin will be travelling to the continent of Africa to experience God's work in Ghana. Learn and experience cross-cultural mission work supported by the PCC. Build friendships and immerse yourself in Ghanaian culture.



Complete details about the trip can be found at the Information Table.

Deadline for Registration is December 31<sup>st</sup>. Minimum number of participants is 10, maximum is 15. Speak with Edward A. or Rev. Kim for more information on what to expect.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Minister:** The Rev. Thomas Kim 778-598-2214  
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**Youth Connect:** Maria Bitter  
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Church Office Hours: Wednesdays and Fridays 9:00am-2:00pm  
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## **PRESBYTERIAN CONNECT NEWSPAPER**

The winter issue has arrived. Noted articles include “*Why we worship the way we do*” and “*Why Prayer matters: John Calvin’s Theological Thoughts*”. Since this church is named after John Calvin – that article might be of interest. The Connect Newspaper is a way for us to learn about our denomination and learn from our sister churches. *Pick up a copy from the Information Desk!*

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## **CHECK US OUT ONLINE!**

*Join us for in-person worship or online.*



**Website:** [www.CalvinLife.ca](http://www.CalvinLife.ca)



**Facebook:** Calvin Presbyterian Church Abbotsford



**YouTube:** Calvin Presbyterian Church Abbotsford