

**December 2, 2012**  
**First Sunday in Advent**  
**10:45 a.m.**

**Please enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship in silence.**

*Jesus says, "Be on guard", "be alert". He knows something about waiting, whether it is for the ax to fall or for the baby to be born or for the Kingdom to come.*

**GATHER**

Prelude

A Processional for the Advent Season

Solo: O come, O come Emmanuel, the ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lowly exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Choir: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Solo: O come, thou Dayspring come and cheer our spirits by thy Advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's Dark shadow put to flight!

Choir: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!  
(The choir processes)

Solo: In the days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised up above the hills; Peoples shall stream to it, and many nations shall come and say:

All: **"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."**

*The congregation may stand.*

Pastor: For out of Zion shall go forth the law,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Solo: O come, O Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;  
To us the path of knowledge show, and help us in that way to go.

Choir: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

Pastor: He shall judge between many peoples,  
and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

All (singing): **O come, Desire of Nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind.  
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; fill all the world with heaven's peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

Pastor: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord! -Isaiah 2

\*Advent Hymn #140

*"Jesus Came, The Heavens Adoring"*  
**During the singing of verse four the light enters**

\*Invocation

O God of life and matchless grace, who takes us from the cradle of creation to be heirs of heavenly promise, grant the fullness of your presence so we may live in awe of your splendor, in devotion to your gospel, in love of your kingdom, and in longing for the coming of your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.



Today we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. Ours is an open table. All who love and follow Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to share the bread and cup. At the conclusion of the service ushers will be at the exit doors to receive the monthly offering for the Community Mission Fund.

The bulletin cover: "Earth: The Manger's Way" © Mary Barnes-Gingrich 2012, uses two curved lines to represent the road to the manger. The lines embrace the earth and lead to the manger, not where we traditionally expect the child savior to be. Jesus came for all the world.

Our thanks to Chant and Diana Sayavongsa, sanctuary greeters, Steve Fogel, Reuben Hanson, Sue Samuelson, Dwight Samuelson, Alan Thorne, ushers; Ingrid Papanek, Scripture Reader; Meg and Brian Madvig, coffee hosts, and Gary Eanes, candle lighter.

## December 2, 2012

### **TODAY IN OUR CHURCH**

If you are visiting today, welcome! Please join us in the narthex immediately following the worship service for coffee and conversation. All are welcome.

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship and Holy Communion
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. For adults, 1) *The Story* in Room 203 and 2) *"Wait for the Lord"* in the Upper Room.
- 10:45 a.m. Worship
- 11:45 a.m. Brief congregational meeting to vote on new members.
- 5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Leaders meeting in Pastor Hawkinson's office
- 6:00 p.m. Confirmation
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Continuing Education. Brian Madvig will be the presenter.
- 7:00 p.m. High League

### **MONDAY—DECEMBER 3**

- 3:30 p.m. Junior High Merge
- 7-8:15 p.m. Parent Gathering (for parents of Junior and Senior High students)
- 7:00 p.m. Nominating Committee meeting in the library

### **TUESDAY—DECEMBER 4**

- 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study Lesson 11: Sodom and Gomorrah: Genesis 18-19. Immediately following all are invited to the home of Ingrid Eiesland for a Christmas luncheon.
- 9:45 a.m. Playgroup will meet at church. Contact: Kira Johnson
- 7:00 p.m. Mens Basketball
- 7:00 p.m. Diaconate Board meeting

### **WEDNESDAY—DECEMBER 5**

- 10:00 a.m. Staff meeting
- 5:00 p.m. Children's Sunday School Program rehearsal in the Choir Room
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner: Smorgasbord. All are welcome. cost: \$3.50/adult; \$2.50/child or \$10/family. Cleanup: Book/Film Group.
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bell Choir rehearsal
- 6:15 p.m. Singing, Skits and Scripture in the Upper Room. All are welcome.
- 6:45 p.m. Programs for all ages, ending at 7:45 p.m. Explorers (ages 2-3); Voyagers (ages 4-Kindergarten); Pathfinders (grades 1-2); Trailblazers (grades 3-5) Junior High
- 6:45 p.m. Book/Film Group in the Prayer Room
- 6:45 p.m. The Story in Room 203
- 6:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal

### **THURSDAY—DECEMBER 6**

- 1:30 p.m. Community Kitchen—food preparation in our church kitchen for serving at the soup kitchen. All are welcome. Contact: John Anderson, 847 772-4893

### **SATURDAY—DECEMBER 8**

8:00 a.m. Mens Fellowship

8:30-noon. **Advent Unplugged: Preparing for the Holidays in a New Way**, an Advent Mini-Retreat in the Upper Room, facilitated by Doug Wysocky-Johnson, Executive Director of Lumunos. All are welcome. Cost: \$15. Complimentary childcare provided—please sign up if needed. Register on the church website ([www.winnetkacovenant.org](http://www.winnetkacovenant.org)) or call the church office.

10-11:00 a.m. Sunday School Program rehearsal

### **SUNDAY—DECEMBER 9**

8:30 a.m. Early Worship and Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. For adults, 1) *The Story* in Room 203 and 2) *“Wait for the Lord”* in the Upper Room.

10:45 a.m. Worship. New members will be welcomed.

11:45 a.m. High Coffee. Please join us in fellowship hall as we welcome our new members.

5:00 p.m. Children’s Sunday School program.

6:00 p.m. Confirmation

6:00 p.m. High League Progressive Dinner

### **ADVANCE CALENDAR**

Sunday, December 16, 5:00 p.m. **Choir Christmas Concert.** Child care will be available for children under the age of five.

Thursday December 20 4:30 p.m. **Friendly Towers Christmas Party** (see Notices)

Monday, December 24, 4:00 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. **Christmas Eve Services.**

Fridays, January 11-February 22, 6:30-9:00 p.m. **The Marriage Course**—Seven nights set in a fantastic atmosphere...Candlelight dinner at a table for two...Listening to practical talks that are informative and fun, played on DVD and facilitated by a couple...No group sharing...Time for just the two of you...Free child care. For more information/registration, visit [www.winnetkacovenant.org](http://www.winnetkacovenant.org), or call 847 446-4300. \$25 per couple for the entire course, includes dinner, child care and materials. Flyers and postcards are available in the narthex for you to share with friends and neighbors. Anyone is welcome!

### **NOTICES**

With joy we announce the birth of Quinn Kathryn Knotts, born Wednesday, November 21 to Luke and Kat Knotts. Quinn weighed 8 pounds 8 ounces at birth.

Larger print copies of the morning hymns are available on the table in the back of the church near the sound booth. Children’s bulletins are also available in the narthex. Please help yourself as needed.

**The Friendly Towers Christmas Sharing Tree** is up in the narthex. Choose a gift request; SIGN YOUR NAME ON THE LOWER HALF OF THE TAG, DETACH IT, AND PASTE IT ON ONE OF THE LISTS ON THE TABLE near the tree. All gifts should be wrapped and returned to the tree by Sunday, December 16. We are happy to have helpers at the party (December 20). If you intend to bring your gift directly to the party, please notify Gladys Johnson, 847 559-0339. Join with another family, your Sunday School class, or K-Group to buy one of the more expensive gifts if you would like. See December newsletter for further important details.

The **Christmas Post Office** is open!. Bring your fully addressed Christmas cards for members and friends of the congregation to the mailbox in the narthex, along with a check made out to Winnetka Covenant Church for the amount you would have paid for postage. The youth will sort the mail and have it ready for pick-up after the service. Or, you may choose to send one greeting to the entire church body

for a donation and this card will be posted in the narthex to be seen by the congregation. All money raised will help support youth ministry and mission work.

**Kids' Rotation Sunday School, through-December 16 - The Covenant: Messengers of the New Covenant.** In November and December, Sunday school will be slightly different than our usual rotations because the kids will be practicing for the Children's Christmas program. They will practice from 9:30-10:10 a.m. in the choir room. Then age 4 through grade 5 will be combined for 20 minutes of class time in room 204 (10:10-10:30) for this special workshop, following their Christmas program practice. In the workshop, kids will hear the Christmas story, ponder the future life of Jesus Christ, hear the song, "Mary, Did You Know?" and create a slide show for each of the scenes in the song.

**The Story:** A journey together into the story of God's love, continues Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m., and Sundays, 9:30 a.m. *The Story* is scripture condensed into 31 accessible chapters, allowing the stories, poems and teachings of the Bible to read like a novel. Materials will be provided. All are welcome.

Ravenswood Covenant Church is hosting an Advent Concert Series: Thursday, December 13 (Covenant Gospel Jazz Trio) and Thursday, December 20 (Axiom Brass). Both concerts are open to the public at no cost. Childcare is provided and light refreshments will follow the concerts.

"When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand." *Henri Nouwen*

**Stephen Ministry of Winnetka Covenant Church.**

*Please contact one of our pastors or a Stephen Ministry leader if you would like more information.*

**Texts for next week:** Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:1-6

#### **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

##### ***Those in need***

Sue Abram

Charlotte and Owen Anderson (sister and brother-in-law of John Couleur)

Elsie Anderson

Family of Roman Bussetti (nephew of Kitti Steiner)

Richard Carlson (nephew of Jean Larsen)

Kristen Dahl (daughter of Eleanor and Peter Milbratz)

Ray Dahlberg (brother of Marj Hanson)

Carolyn Donnan (sister of Carl Balsam)

Marilyn Drotts

JoAnna Haak (daughter of Cleo Constantin)

Connie Jackson (sister of Marti Crow)

Doug Johnson (uncle of Aimee Balsam and Dane Johnson)

Family of Gordy Johnson (uncle of Tom Johnson and Kris Heintzelman)

Frank Kassen

Marlene Larson (friend of Mary Nilsen)

Al Laser

David Lopata (friend of Dave and Maria Moreno)

Dwight Peterson (brother of Bonnie Hawkinson and Kurt Peterson)

Jonathan Schwartz (brother of Mike Schwartz)

Ruth Seaver (sister of Judy Ebright)

Roger Vanoer

Wendy Woehler (niece of Lee Borre)

Kathleen Hanson Zavatsky (sister of Cindy Buettgen, John Hanson and Pamela Hanson)

Stephen Ministers and those for whom they care

Our nation and leaders

***Those serving in the military:***

Chris Haak (grandson of Cleo Constantin)  
Ryan Hengell (nephew of Phil and Barbara Kazanjian)  
Chris Hillman (friend of Bill & Sue Kelly)  
Bill Kelly  
Peter Sudhoff

***Those we support who are serving on the mission field:***

Kara Bladel (Alaska)  
Christine Buettgen (Democratic Republic of Congo)  
Don and Lillian Dwight (Taiwan)  
Brittany Girle (Juarez, Mexico)  
Pamela Hanson (Honduras, on home assignment)  
Julio and Katie Isaza (Colombia)  
Peter and Anna Kim (China)  
Jamie and Erica Rose (Alaska)  
Gary and Mary Lou Sander (Colombia)  
James and Rachel Ventress (Alaska)

**WINNETKA COVENANT CHURCH**

1200 Hibbard Road

Wilmette, Illinois 60091

Church Office: (847) 446-4300 Message Line: (847) 501-4158

[www.winnetkacovenant.org](http://www.winnetkacovenant.org)

**Ministers to the Congregation**

*Peter Hawkinson, Pastor*  
*Andrea Johnson, Pastor of Discipleship and Outreach*  
*Christy Bouris, Youth Pastor*  
*Arthur A.R. Nelson, Parish Associate*  
*Dawn Pegis, Director of Music*  
*Dominic German, Music Intern*  
*Joshua Smith, Organist*  
*The Stephen Ministers*

*Our mission is to be a Christian community and to proclaim the gospel, worshiping together in love, nurturing people in the faith, serving others as Christian disciples, and building a world of justice and hope in the name of Christ.*

**At Winnetka Covenant Church:**

*We hold grace as our highest value.*

*We practice honest, open, direct communication.*

*We speak the truth in love and listen in love.*

*We believe the best about each other, valuing others above ourselves, as Christ does.*

*We allow room for mistakes, acknowledging that mistakes are part of the growth process.*