

Sunday Praise and Worship Service

† Order of Service



Lighting of the 4th Candle of Advent:

Today we light the 4th Candle of Advent, representing the Candle of Peace or God's Love. Let us reflect upon the verse John 3:16-17 (ESV):

For God So Loved the World

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, ^a that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Footnotes: a. [John 3:16](#) Or For this is how God loved the world

Lighting the 5th Candle: Christ Candle (John 8:12):

On Christmas Eve, we will light the **Fifth Candle or Christ Candle** and reflect upon the following significant aspects of the Lord Jesus Christ:

- Jesus is our light, Son of God and son of man; the King of kings.
- Jesus is our hope; he died a man and rose from the grave; the highest Priest of priests.
- Jesus is our peace; he brought us our salvation from the judgment of sin; no more worry, pain or fear.
- Jesus is our joy; promising us eternal life. He demonstrates God's love-- pure, holy, undying love.
- Whoever believes in Him will never perish but have eternal life! (John 3:16).
- Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! (2 Corinthians 9:15)
- Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD! (Psalm 4:6b)

Christ Candle:

Celebrating the birth of Jesus and rejoice in His coming to us, we light the Christ candle. Let us read the verse: **John 1:5 (ESV):**

Walking in the Light

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

Light represents an important symbol in the Scriptures, often represented by candle, and so, we will light the Christ Candle and among other verses, read **John 8:12 (ESV):**

I Am the Light of the World

¹² Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Bloor Lansdowne Christian Fellowship

11AM † December 24, 2017

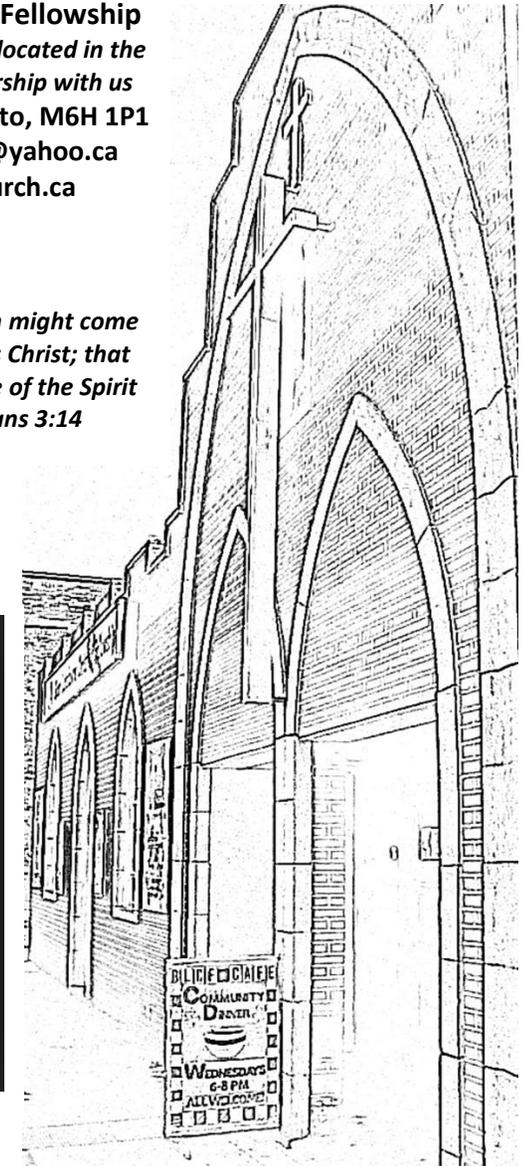
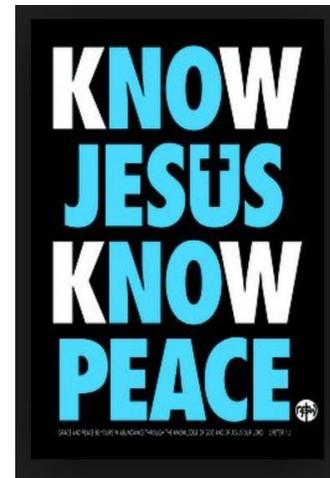
Bloor Lansdowne Christian Fellowship
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*That the blessing of Abraham might come
on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ;
that we might receive the promise of the Spirit
through faith. – Galatians 3:14*



- ❖ Sunday ~ 11:00 AM: Praise and Worship Service
- ❖ Wednesday ~ 11:30 AM Prayer and Bible Study
- ❖ Wednesday ~ 6-8 PM: BLCF Café Community Dinner
- ❖ Sunday December 31 ~ 11AM: BLCF Presents: *the nativity story*
- ❖ Online Sermons: bloorlansdownechristianfellowship.wordpress.com

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Announcements and Call to Worship; Prayer

Opening Hymn #108: The First Noel, the Angel Did Say;
Christmas Hymns (from Hymnal)

Prayer and Tithing: Hymn #572: Praise God from Whom All Blessings;
Prayer Requests

Responsive Reading #627 (*The Savior's Advent* – Luke 2); Prayer

Message by Steve Mickelson: 'Advent: Rejoicing in Light of the Lord';
Lighting of the 4th Advent Candle and the Christ Candle

Closing Hymn: #117: Silent Night! Holy Night!

Benediction - (2 Corinthians 4:6): For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

"May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever." - John Armstrong

1st Sunday of Advent which represents our Hope in Christ – we lit the Prophets' Candle and read Romans 15:12-13 (ESV):

¹² And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope."



¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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2nd Sunday of Advent which represents our Faith in Christ – we lit the Bethlehem Candle and read Luke 3:4-6 (ESV):

⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

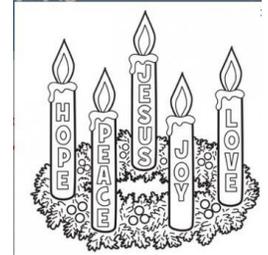
"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,^[a]
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Footnotes: a. [Luke 3:4](#) Or crying, Prepare in the wilderness the way of the Lord



3rd Sunday of Advent which represents our Joy in Christ – we lit the Shepherds' Candle and read Luke 2:7-15 (ESV):

⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.^[a]

The Shepherds and the Angels

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"^[b]

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

Footnotes: a. [Luke 2:7](#) Or guest room b. [Luke 2:14](#) Some manuscripts peace, good will among men

