

Sunday – December 29, 2019
WELCOME TO
CONCORDIA AVE CHURCH OF GOD
705 Concordia Ave – Winnipeg, Manitoba
www.cachog.org – Tel. (204) 661-0812

Order of Service

Prelude Andy Loewen

Congregational Singing *I'll Fly Away* #728
When We All Get to Heaven #729

Greetings & Information Mark Fruehm

Scripture for December: *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)

Tithes & Offering Music by Andy Loewen

Men's Choir Song *While Ages Roll*

Scripture Reading Hebrews 10:35-39

The Church in Prayer

Message *What We Need to Keep Going* Pastor Kehler

Closing Song *I'm Going On* #685

Closing Prayer

For questions, prayer and spiritual counsel,
Please call or text Pastor Kehler at: (204) 661-0812

ANNOUNCEMENT

- Tuesday – December 31st - Year-End Service at 7:00PM. We will sing, pray and hear testimonies – until about 8:30PM.
- Friday – January 3rd – Choir Practice at 7:00PM; Youth @ 8:00PM
- Next Sunday – January 5th
- 9:45AM - Sunday School for all ages; German Service.
- 11:00AM Worship Service.
- Prayer Week January 2020 – The Golden Rule
 - January 5th – 6:00PM – *The Golden Rule of Contentment*
 - January 7th – 7:30PM – *Das Anhaltende Gebet.*
 - January 8th – 7:30PM - *The Golden Rule of Praying for others*
 - January 9th – 7:30PM – *Ein Leben der Dankbarkeit*
 - January 12th – 6:00PM – *The Golden Rule of Praying for the Church*
- The Church of God Bible Course 2020 – will be held here and in Steinbach **from August 10-21**. Please contact Pastor Kehler for more information.
- Young Women’s Bible Study group. The Focus is on the Topic of *Being Set Apart*. The goal of the group and leaders is to foster a closer relationship to God and each other. Meetings are held bi-weekly – on in the Lorette/Landmark area on Wednesdays and one on weekends in Winnipeg. For registration and more information, please contact Jessica Buller & Jayden Thiessen.
- Our Sunday School Program

9:45 Adult Sunday School: Join us to discuss topics of faith and life in Christ. Leaders: Kurt Roesler and Mark Fruehm

9:45 Children's and Youth Sunday School (up to Grade 12)

Begin the morning with us in song before we break up into our groups to learn more about God's Word together. Leaders: Heidi Roesler and Melanie Flach.
- Attend one of our Weekly Bible Studies: (Our Regular Schedule)

Wednesday at Church, 7:30 pm, alternating German and English, Prayer hour with themed Bible study. Home Groups meet weekly in Winnipeg and Lorette. To get connected call Volker and Melanie Flach at **204 261 8017** - email us at macflac@ymail.com.

Reflections: A Psalm for the End of the Year

Psalm 90 is a perfect psalm for the end of the year. For one thing, this psalm includes the word "year" more than any other psalm. In the Hebrew text of Psalm 90, the word translated as "year" (shena) appears seven times. No other psalm includes shena more than twice. But, apart from the frequency of the word "year" in Psalm 90, its themes speak to us as we wrap up another calendar year. It begins by noting that God has been our home "through all the generations," from year to year to year (90:1). Even "before the mountains were born," God is God (90:2). God is always there for us. Though we can make a big deal out of the change of years, from God's perspective, "a thousand years are as a passing day" (90:4). This fact reminds us of God's unmatched majesty. It also suggests that all the hype surrounding New Year's doesn't really matter in the long run. Tomorrow night, the big crystal ball will fall in Times Square, but what will really be different, other than the number of the year? Psalm 90 acknowledges the difficulties of life: "Seventy years are given to us! Some even live to eighty. But even the best years are filled with pain and trouble; soon they disappear, and we fly away" (90:10). Now that could sound pretty depressing. But, the fact that the Bible doesn't "make nice" commends to us its truthfulness. Yes, indeed, even when life is fine for us, others are suffering. We may have plenty to eat, but millions throughout the world are without food today. And we might feel as if we're going to live forever, but, in fact, our days are numbered. The Hebrew of verse 12 could be translated literally, "Teach us to count our days, so we might gain a heart of wisdom." How does acknowledging the brevity of life help us to be wise? Well, for one thing, when we realize that we have only so many hours on earth, we'll be eager to use them well, rather than frittering them away with empty activities. Accepting the limits of our lives will help us to use well every minute God gives us. Psalm 90 underscores the fact that fulfillment in life isn't a matter of how much we have or how much we accomplish. Rather, what gives life purpose and meaning is a living relationship with the living God: "Satisfy us each morning with your unfailing love, so we may sing for joy to the end of our lives" (90:14).

I can't think of a better thought with which to end the year and begin a new one. If we live each day in the satisfaction of God's love, we will be empowered to live for him, to love him through serving our neighbors. We won't fret about the passing of the years, but will accept the gift of each day as a new opportunity for love and service.