



Hope Mennonite Church
November 28, 2021
9:30 am Worship
First Sunday of Advent
“Dare To Imagine”

Gathering to Worship

*As we gather for worship, please silence all electronic devices.
Hearing assistance devices are available from the ushers.*

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Sisters and brothers, let us dare to imagine! Let us dare to rejoice! Let us dare to raise our heads!

The ransom is paid, our captivity is over, the light is dawning. God says, “Comfort, comfort, O my people!”

Let us prepare the way of the Lord through the wilderness.

Let us join the angels and give glory to God in the highest heaven.

Let us dare to embrace God’s peace and goodwill.

**Let us dare to hope in God’s Good News,
which is coming to all the earth.**

Lighting the candle of Hope

Gary Hand

* Songs of Gathering

“Hope Is a Candle”

Voices Together 211

“Longing for Light”

Voices Together 715

Hearing God’s Word

Children’s Story

Carole Stevens

Scripture reading

Isaiah 40:1-11; Luke 21:25-36

“Comfort, Comfort, O My People”

Voices Together 212

Message

“Dare to Imagine”

Dave Stevens

Responding to God's Word

*"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Voices Together 216

The Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Greeting our Guests (Please pass the attendance pads)

Seeing and Seeking God

Work of the Church

Sharing our Praises and Concerns

Prayer of God's People

Sending

*"Love Came Down at Christmas"

Voices Together 255

*Benediction

Brothers and sisters, raise your heads, reach toward the light,
wait in growing hope.

Let us dare to imagine the goodness of our God!

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Welcome to this season of Advent and "Dare to Imagine." So much has been put on hold or turned upside down that we need to listen and respond to God's presence with new ears & renewed hearts and minds. As we begin a new church year, let's dare to imagine our path forward with God toward God's good dream for our world. We are glad you are joining us for worship this morning, either in person or via Zoom. The recording is available Monday-Thursday.

Worship Participants

Worship leader: Natalie Hand

Pianist: Cynthia Loganbill

Song leader: Lowell Birkey

Scripture reader: Ruthie Goering

Worship tech: Randy Pinkerton

Stay in Touch with Hope

Hope Mennonite Church
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Pastor

Dave Stevens

796-0114

pastor@hopemennonite.org

Emergencies

267/374-9419

Secretaries

Cynthia Loganbill

721-8807

secretary@hopemennonite.org

Kim Voth

721-1250

secretary@hopemennonite.org

Church Office Hours

Dave

Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Cynthia

Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Kim

Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Staff meeting Monday- 9:30-11 a.m.

Hope on Facebook: Follow the link on our website hopemennonite.org and “like” Hope Mennonite Church to see pictures and receive updates on church life.

First Fruits Giving:

Giving the first and best of what we are given
as a worship response to God.

November 21

Attendance 81

(Hope 66; Zoom 13; Zoom recorded 2)

Offering \$2,991

Year-to-date \$181,067

Spending plan 2021 - \$254,900

Our Purpose:

As an Anabaptist community of faith empowered by the Holy Spirit, Hope Mennonite Church is calling and making disciples who bring Christ's love and peace to our world.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK (November 28-December 4)

Wednesday -7:00 pm Choir

Thursday -7:00 pm Women's Bible study via Zoom

Dear White Peacemaker: Dismantling Racism with Grit and Grace

Saturday -Sandwich Saturday

-8-11:00 pm Fellowship hall reserved



No Sunday School today. All classes resume next Sunday.

Coffee preparation next week: Greg & Dawn Epp

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK (December 5-11)

Sunday -10:45 am Congregational meeting

-Noon – Fellowship meal, please sign up.

Tuesday -6:30 pm Deacons

Thursday -7:00 pm Women's Bible study via Zoom

Dear White Peacemaker: Dismantling Racism with Grit and Grace

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Guests and visitors last week: Amy Collier; Tavian & Cruz Graber

Our youth group will be coordinating Sandwich Saturday **this coming Saturday**. They will continue their annual tradition of distributing warm winter gloves along with the sack lunches. The major need is for men's gloves. **We also need 21 dozen cookies.**

On December 5, we will hold our annual spending plan meeting during Sunday School for a first look at the proposed 2022 spending plan. Following the meeting, we will hold our first fellowship meal since 2019. Everyone is invited to stay and enjoy food and fellowship. Please bring a dish to share. **Sign up** so enough tables and chairs can be set up.

Special Christmas concert. Everyone is invited on the afternoon of **December 19**, for a concert featuring Hopeful Blues and the Doxology Ensemble. This 12-man ensemble includes our own Jared Shetler. There will be more information next week.

You are invited to purchase a poinsettia to honor an event or person, or in memory of someone during the Advent & Christmas season. The poinsettias will be displayed in the sanctuary beginning December 12 and may be taken home following the Christmas Eve service on December 24. The cost per poinsettia is \$10. You can fill out the form sent by email last Wednesday, or simply notify the church office.

Prayers for the wider church

...Pray for pastors, musicians, worship leaders and teachers who guide Western District Conference congregations in celebrating the Advent and Christmas season.

...Pray for Jane & Jerrell Ross Richer who have been serving in the Eastern Rain Forest of Ecuador since 2015. They work half of the year with indigenous church leaders in Ecuador and the other half as educators in the US. Their home congregation is Waterford Mennonite Church, Goshen, IN.

...Pray for Elena & Freddy Satalaya who have been serving in Iquitos, Peru since 2017. They work with children and youth ministries in the Mennonite Church of Iquitos. Their home congregations are Crossroads Mennonite Church, Timberville, VA; Mount Clinton Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, VA and Iglesia Cristiana del Peru, Iquitos, Peru.



A huge thank you to all who have made contributions to Working Men of Christ which help with returning citizens. To date, \$11,965 has been collected toward our goal of \$12,000. Only \$35 to go.

Sharing Praises and Prayers
November 21, 2021

* Dave Schmidt's cousin will have heart surgery on Tuesday.