



Hope Mennonite Church
December 5, 2021
9:30 am Worship
Second 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

Friends, let us gather to worship and dare to imagine!

**We dare to imagine that by the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us.**

We dare to imagine that God brings light to those who sit in
darkness and in the shadow of death.

**Like John the Baptist, we don't just sit around and wait.
We set our daring in motion!**

We prepare the way of Jesus in the world,
and into human hearts.

**We dare to set our feet on the path of peace,
where God will guide us.**

Lighting the candle of Peace

Randy & Shirlyn Graber

* Songs of Gathering

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” Voices Together 218

“Night Long Awaited” (choir & congregation) Voices Together 242

Hearing God's Word

Children's Story

Debbie Kasitz

Scripture reading

Luke 3:1-18

“O Come, O Come, Immanuel” (verses 1,4,7) Voices Together 210

Message

“God's Escalator”

Dave Stevens

Responding to God's Word

*"On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry"

insert

The Giving of our Tithes and Offerings (First Fruits)

Offertory

Prayer of Thanksgiving

"The Angel Gabriel" arr. John Leavitt

Choir

"The Midnight Clear" Ruth Elaine Schram & Aren Newell Williams.

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

*"Bless'd Be the God of Israel"

Voices Together 223

*Benediction

Based on Voices Together 1056

Friends, because God dearly loves us,

God has given us Jesus Christ, the greatest gift of all.

**Christ, the true light that enlightens everyone,
has come into the world.**

Let us go forth,

letting this true light shine within us and around us.

Let us go forth, following in the footsteps of Christ.

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Welcome to this season of Advent and "Dare to Imagine." We are glad you are joining us for worship this morning, either in person or via Zoom. The recording is available Monday-Thursday. This is First-Fruits Sunday. Thank you as always for your faithful giving, and for sharing your time, talents, and energy in the ministry of Good News!

Worship Participants

Worship leader: Renetta Gooden

Pianist: Laurie Regehr

Song leader & choir director: Kendrick Weaver

Scripture reader: Mike Voth

Worship tech: Michelle Jantz

Stay in Touch with Hope

Hope Mennonite Church
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Wichita, KS 67212

phone 722-0903
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Pastor

Dave Stevens 796-0114 pastor@hopemennonite.org
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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 28

Attendance 71

(Hope 42; Zoom 28; Zoom recorded 1)

Offering \$ 5,872

Year-to-date \$192,620

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 (December 5-11)

Today -Congregational meeting following worship
-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



- *Pre-1st: Room 8/9
- *Elementary: Room 7
- *Youth: No class today
- *Adults: Congregational meeting

Coffee preparation next week: Galen & Cindy Fast

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK (December 12-18)

None scheduled

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Today, we will hold a congregational meeting during Sunday School for a first look at the proposed 2022 spending plan. Following the meeting, you are invited to our first fellowship meal since 2019. Enjoy good food and fellowship.

Immerse yourself into the Christmas message with music and song on Sunday **December 19** at 4pm at Hope Mennonite. Hopeful Blues is honored to host Doxology Ensemble, a 12-voice male ensemble from the Anabaptist community near Hutchinson. Jointly, they will present a concert of sacred music, joining two unique ensembles for an afternoon of Christmas music. Doxology Ensemble sings Acapella choral arrangements, both classic and modern. The Christmas repertoire includes arrangements of traditional carols, rousing spirituals, and soaring choral settings of scripture. After a two-year hiatus, they are excited to be rehearsing again and are looking forward to sharing the joy of the Incarnation through song. Jared Shetler, a former vocal student of Mark Bartel is a member of Doxology and attends Hope Mennonite. Hopeful Blues, an eclectic instrumental group based at Hope Mennonite Church in Wichita performs a variety of sacred instrumental music from old world to contemporary. The Christmas selections will be a blend of contemplative and familiar. Admission is free, donations are welcomed.

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. **Deadline December 8.**

The November 26 issue of “Anabaptist World” is available on the front table. This issue offers articles on contemplative spirituality during this season of Advent and beyond.

Special Concerts this coming week.

1. The Delano Wind Ensemble Christmas Concert **today**, 3 pm, at Westside Baptist Church, 304 S. Seneca. Holiday favorites both sacred and secular will be played. Galen is a member of the Delano Wind Ensemble and Delano Jazz Ensemble. Free admission, \$10 donations encouraged.
2. Sunflower Performing Arts at Hesston College presents Canadian Brass, Tuesday **December 7**, 7:30 pm, at Hesston Mennonite Church. Tickets required.
3. Central Kansas Master Chorale presents “Lessons & Carols”, **December 12**, 7 pm, at Hesston Mennonite Church. Free admission. Madison Hofer-Holdeman is a member of the group.

For more information, there are flyers posted on the bulletin board for all three events.

Prayers for the wider church

...Pray for the Western District Conference Church Planting Commission, as they envision new initiatives and partnerships for church planting in the coming year.

...Pray for Rebekah York serving in Bogota, Colombia since 2020. Bekah serves with the Mennonite Biblical Seminary of Colombia preparing young leaders and providing continuing education for seasoned leaders. Her home congregation is Belmont Mennonite, Elkhart, IN.

...Pray for Mennonite Mission Network’s Bolivia partners, the Bolivia Mennonite Church, a group of 12 congregation and church plants around Santa Cruz.

On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry 183

WINCHESTER NEW 88. 88

1 On Jor - dan's banks the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin! Make straight the
 3 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 4 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh. A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 rise to fall no more. Oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, *Jordanis oras praevia*, *Hymni Sacri* and *Paris Breviary*, 1736; tr. John Chandler (Sts. 1-3),

Hymns of the Primitive Church, 1837, alt.; (St. 4) *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861

Music: *Musicalisch Handbuch...*, 1690, arranged by William H. Havergal, *Old Church Psalmody*, 1847



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.** Will you put us over the top?