



Hope Mennonite Church
December 26, 2021
9:30 am Worship
First Sunday of Christmas
“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

Call to Worship

Friends, let us gather to worship, and dare to trust in the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us.

We dare to trust in Jesus Christ, in whom God has dared to pitch a tent in the world.

Let us dare to trust God who makes us his children by the power of his own will.

We dare to trust in the One who gives us new birth from above.

Let us dare to trust in the Light who shines in the darkness and whom the darkness will not overcome.

We dare to worship the Uniquely-begotten of the Father—the One full of grace and truth.

Opening Prayer

* Songs of Gathering

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Voices Together 249

“It Came upon a Midnight Clear”

Voices Together 248

Hearing God's Word

Scripture

John 1:1-5, 9-14

In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was with God and the word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

All things came into existence through him. Indeed, not a single thing came into existence apart from him. In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. And the light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not

overcome it. The true light which enlightens every person was coming into the world.

He was in the world and the world came into existence through him, yet the world did not recognize him. He came to his own, yet his own people did not accept him.

But to those who received him, he gave authority to become God's children, that is, to those who put their trust in his name. They are born, not through bloodline, or sexual union, or human will, but of God.

And the Word became a human being and tented among us.

We have seen his glory—the glory that befits the One who is uniquely-begotten, having come from the Father—the One full of grace and truth.

"To Us a Child of Hope Is Born"

Voices Together 259

Message

Dave Stevens

"The Word Became Flesh and Tented Among Us"

Responding to God's Word

*"Joy to the World"

Voices Together 240

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

*"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Voices Together 252

*Benediction

Based on Isaiah 60:1, 19-20

Friends, Arise! Shine! For your light has come!

The glory of the LORD dawns upon us.

God's presence will always shine.

God's presence will never set.

The LORD is our everlasting light.

Stay in Touch with Hope

Hope Mennonite Church
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Pastor

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Emergencies

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Secretaries

Cynthia Loganbill

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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.

December 19

Attendance 121

(Hope 97; Zoom 24; Zoom recorded 0)

Offering \$16,995

Year-to-date \$228,699

Spending plan 2021 - \$250,000

Working Men of Christ - \$35

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.

Welcome to the First Sunday of Christmas. 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: Lowell Birkey
Pianist: Amy Bellar
Song leader: Lowell Birkey
Scripture reader: Randy Pinkerton
Worship tech: Michelle Jantz

Upcoming Worship Services

January 2	Epiphany Sunday
January 9	Guest speaker – Gary Hand
January 23	Guest speaker – Gary Blaine

MEETINGS THIS WEEK (December 26-January 1)

Saturday -Sandwich Saturday



No Sunday School today or next week.
Classes will resume on January 9.

Coffee preparation next week: Eldon & Annette Chlumsky

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK (January 2-8)

Sunday -10:45 am Discipleship Commission & Library
Committee – library

Wednesday -7:00 pm Choir

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Guests and visitors last week: Mike & Connie Kaufman; Bonnie Kaufman; Gene & Norma Kliever; Rod & Amy Kliever; Phoebe Cloud

Sandwich Saturday – Are you able to help provide cookies for January 1? We need 15.5 dozen. Please consider signing up to coordinate one of the months in 2022.

Hope offers the option of giving your tithes and offerings electronically through the program **Tithely**. If you are interested in this option, please contact the church office for instructions.

Thank you from HumanKind Ministries to Hope Mennonite Church for the donation of peanut butter and cereal for Operation Holiday's distribution December 16-18. Operation Holiday distributed food, blankets, children's coats, pet food, toys and more to more than 12,000 low-income individuals and families. Witness and Outreach also donated \$500 from their special fund to Operation Holiday for additional supplies to distribute.

At the end of January, the Thursday evening women's bible study will begin studying the book, **HOW TO HAVE AN ENEMY: Righteous Anger and the Work of Peace** by Melissa Florer-Bixler. Herald Press is having a 40% off sale which ends on December 31. If you are planning on attending the Thursday evening women's Bible study, and would like to order the book, please contact Lee Schmucker (text or call – 316-258-441 or email – Lee@SchmuckerTraining.com) by **noon on December 27th**. **Or anyone else** in the congregation who would like to order this book and join in our group order, also please contact Lee. This book is "Timely, Powerful, and Practical." "This book is an engagement with what real peace-making looks like. And the author starts not with making peace, but with being sure we're actually doing conflict well. This book is exceptionally timely as we see calls for unity without accountability or truth telling inside and outside the church. In her writing, Pastor Melissa Florer-Bixler examines our current situation and compares to what / how Jesus responded to foes in his day. She discusses historical truth-telling as the base and examining power structures as the important framework for naming harm. More importantly, she asks us to take the call of Jesus seriously - to stand with the marginalized and to be a true communal alternative to the ways of the Empire in which we live."

With the retirement of Mary Raber, our mission partner in Ukraine, we are pleased to share that the Givens family is our new mission partner in France. Check out the article on the bulletin board from the December issue of Mennonite Mission Network's "Extending Beyond" for a first look. The January newsletter will also have more information.

Prayers for the wider church

...Pray for pastors, chaplains and other ministers in Western District Conference, that they would experience God's renewed strength and hope for ministry in the New Year.

...Pray for Mennonite Mission Network partnership with Ecuador Partnership & Quito Mennonite Church and the Bolivia Global Mission Partnership which includes the Bolivian Mennonite Church and three South Central Conference congregations committed to a long-term relationship and joint ministries.



A huge thank you to all who have made contributions to Working Men of Christ which help with returning citizens. We reached our 2021 goal of \$12,000.