

Ellie



Hope Mennonite Church
December 11, 2022
Third Sunday of Advent
9:30 am Worship

Gathering to Worship

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

Prelude "Mary, Did You Know?"

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is soon.

**Tell what you hear and see;
even now, like water in the desert,
we see God's action all around.**

As we gather strength, we light this candle
as a sign of your love made visible among us.

Bring your restoration to your people, we pray.

Lighting the Advent candle Jerold & Donna Heide

*Songs of Gathering

"What Is This Place"

Voices Together 22

"We Come"

Voices Together 225

Hearing God's Word

Children's Story Jared Regehr

Scripture reading Matthew 11:2-11

"Hark! the Glad Sound!" Voices Together 217

Message "Paying Attention" Randy Quinn

Responding to God's Word

*"It Came upon a Midnight Clear" Voices Together 248

The Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Away in a Manger"

Prayer of Thanksgiving

“Silent Night”

Hopeful Blues

Greeting our Guests (Please pass the attendance pad)

Seeing and Seeking God

Work of the Church

Sharing our Praises and Concerns

Prayers of God’s People

Sending

* “Praise God”

Voices Together 70

* Benediction

Postlude

“Helpless & Hungry”

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A warm welcome to all who have chosen to worship with us this morning in person or on Zoom. The YouTube recording becomes permanently available on Monday. Our Advent theme this year is “A season of waiting & watching.” Our Advent bulletin covers are drawn by some of our Hope children & youth.

Worship Participants

Worship leader: Mike Voth

Hopeful Blues: Laurie Regehr, Eldon Chlumsky, Leon Greaser, Galen Fast, Rod Kremer

Song Leader: Galen Fast

Scripture reader: Vicki Howard

Worship tech: Michelle Jantz

Zoom host: Brenda Glanzer Lilliston

Upcoming Worship Services

December 18

Third Sunday of Advent

Choir and children’s Sunday School

December 21

Longest Night service - 6:30 pm

December 24

Christmas Eve service - 6:30 pm



Stay in Touch with Hope

Hope Mennonite Church
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Interim Pastor

Randy Quinn

779-4329

pastor@hopemennonite.org

Secretaries

Cynthia Loganbill

721-8807

secretary@hopemennonite.org

Kim Voth

721-1250

secretary@hopemennonite.org

Church Office Hours

Randy

Tuesday-Wednesday 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Monday, Thursday – work from home

Cynthia

Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-1:30 pm

Kim

Friday 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Staff meeting

Tuesday 9:30 am

Hope on Facebook: Follow the link at 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 4

Attendance-101

(Hope-91; Zoom-10)

Offering \$10,996

Year-to-date \$204,018

Spending plan commitment 2022 \$255,000

Hope offers an electronic option of giving through **Tithely**.

Contact the church office for instructions.

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 11-17)

Tuesday -7:00 pm Deacons Zoom with Melissa Hofstetter

Wednesday -7:00 pm Choir

Coffee preparation next Sunday: Eldon & Annette Chlumsky



NURSERY (birth through age 4)

Today: Val & Mike Mayta

Next Sunday: Jordon & Emily Regehr

December 25: No scheduled church/nursery



Prek-1st: Room 8/9 downstairs

Middle School: Room 7 downstairs

Adults: Adult Sunday School this week will be led by Pastor Randy. This week and next, he will lead us in an exploration of the Biblical Christmas narratives. This week we will explore the gospel of Matthew's story; next week we will look at Luke's narrative. Today the class will be held in the youth room downstairs.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK (December 18-24)

Wednesday -6:30 pm Longest Night of the Year service

Saturday -6:30 pm Christmas Eve service

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Guests and visitors last week: Tavian & Cruz Graber; Jennifer Metzler; Jon Doell & Heidi Greenwood Doell; WMOC House of Jeremiah – Joel, Alonzo, Adam, Merle, Steve

The Youth Group is selling 2023 God's Creation calendars for \$10. Calendars, as well as note pads for \$4, can be found on the literature table between the mailboxes. Remit payment to the church office.

The display table near the library has newly acquired donated-- Thank You!-- books in addition to books pertaining to grief and loss. Some are from our church library and some borrowed from Western District Conference Library. There are also three new volumes of the Believer's Bible series. Check any of these out using the normal procedure.



The Trinity knot is an ancient symbol representing the eternal, unbroken presence and interconnectedness of the triune God. Like a circle, there is no beginning and no end. Melissa Hofstetter, transition advisor, explained that in Hebrew the word for "hope" (Tikvah) is the same word used for "rope" or "cord" - that which holds together and brings hope. This symbol of the rope

in the shape of a Trinity knot will be used in our conversations with Melissa, as God is the One in whom we find Hope. Zoom meeting with Melissa Hofstetter this week: **Deacons**

We invite you to join us for our "Longest Night" service on **December 21** at 6:30. We know that most of us find joy in the festivities of the holiday season. Most of us have fond memories of the season that add to our joy. But not everyone. Some people find themselves experiencing sadness rather than joy. They have experienced loss that become more poignant because of the celebrations around us. For them, the longest night only heightens their awareness of an absence. We are offering a service to provide a safe place to express that grief, along with others, acknowledging that we are not alone in our sadness. So, if you are experiencing sadness this season, or if you know someone who is having a hard time getting through the holidays because of a recent death, this service is for you.

Prayers for the wider church

...In this Advent season, give thanks for God's gifts of justice, peace and restoration offered through ministries of Western District Conference congregations.



COMMEMORATIVE POINSETTIAS

Lowell & Dianne Birkey - In memory of Dianne's parents Eugene & Gladys Sprunger and Lowell's father Jake Birkey

Ruthie Goering - In memory of her husband Jim

Jerold & Donna Heide - In memory of Jerold's mother Orletta Wiebe

Steve & Vicki Howard - In memory of Steve's parents Marvin & Annetta Howard

Michelle Jantz - In memory of her step-grandfather Carl Peters and her cousin Verlin Richert

Heidi Johnson-Laws - In memory of Pastor Dave Stevens

Scott & Connie Luty - In memory of Connie's parents Walter & Kathryn Wiens and Scott's mother Phyllis Luty

Joanna & Randy Pinkerton - In memory of their parents Fred & Judy Pinkerton and Ellis & Edna Gerber

Donovan & Laurie Regehr & family - In memory of Donovan's parents Curt L & Marie Regehr, Laurie's father Larry Voth and great-niece Kaitlyn Greenman

Bob & Delaine Stolze in honor of their new granddaughter Nikki Moncado

Jim & Barb Voth - In memory of their parents Elmer & Frieda Enns and Herman & Dora Voth

Mike & Kim Voth - In memory of Kim's father Ron Caywood and Mike's parents Paul & Eva Mae Voth

Margaret Wiebe - In memory of her parents Vernon & Rubena Wiebe and nephew Ben Haury

Jan Worley - In memory of her nephew Benjamin Schroeder