



Hayden Regehr

Hope Mennonite Church  
December 18, 2022  
Fourth 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

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

We cry out for restoration, we call upon God to give us life.

**Do not be afraid, says the Lord.**

**I have promised to be with you.**

As we hold fast to God's promise,  
we light this candle as a sign of our joy.

**Bring your restoration to your people, we pray.**

Lighting the Advent candle

Renetta Gooden

\*Songs of Gathering

"O Come, O Come Immanuel" (vs 1,3,5,7) Voices Together 210

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" Voices Together 241

Hearing God's Word

Children & youth Christmas presentations

"Joy"

"Christmas Bells"

"The Night the Animals Talked"

Scripture reading

Matthew 1:18-25

"Born Is Emmanuel" arr. Patrick Liebergen

Choir

Message

"What's in a name?"

Randy Quinn

Responding to God's Word

"Wonderful Peace" Gustaf Nordqvist

Choir

"Sweet Songs Of Christmas" arr. Emily Crocker

The Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

\* "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Voices Together 252

\* Benediction

\* \* \* \* \*

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: Natalie Hand

Pianist: Ruthie Goering

Song leader & choir director: Trae Gehring

Scripture reader: Mike Mayta

Worship tech: Randy Pinkerton

Zoom host: Michelle Jantz

Upcoming Worship Services

December 21

Longest Night service - 6:30 pm

December 24

Christmas Eve service - 6:30 pm

January 1

First Sunday of Christmas



Stay in Touch with Hope

Hope Mennonite Church  
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[www.hopemennonite.org](http://www.hopemennonite.org)

Interim Pastor

Randy Quinn 779-4329 [pastor@hopemennonite.org](mailto:pastor@hopemennonite.org)

Secretaries

Cynthia Loganbill 721-8807 [secretary@hopemennonite.org](mailto:secretary@hopemennonite.org)  
Kim Voth 721-1250 [secretary@hopemennonite.org](mailto: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](http://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 11

Attendance-87

(Hope-74; Zoom-13)

Offering \$15,660

Year-to-date \$221,128

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 18-24)

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

Saturday -6:30 pm Christmas Eve service

Coffee preparation next Sunday: No church service



NURSERY (birth through age 4)

Today: Jordon & Emily Regehr

Next Sunday: No scheduled church/nursery

January 1: Annette & Eldon Chlumsky



Prek-1<sup>st</sup>: Room 8/9 downstairs

Middle School: Room 7 downstairs

Adults: Sanctuary-Pastor Randy will lead us in an exploration of the Biblical Christmas narratives. Today we will look at Luke's narrative.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK (December 25-31)

Sunday -At home service

Tuesday -7:00 pm Leadership Zoom meeting with Melissa

\* \* \* \* \*

You are invited to our Longest Night Service, Wednesday, December 21; a service designed to offer a place to honor the sense of loss many people feel at this time of the year. Taking place on the evening of the winter solstice, we will use the imagery of the long cold night and provide a place to ponder and reflect with others who are experiencing their own grief. The grief may be fresh, it may be old; it may stem from the death of a loved one or any other loss that makes you feel "out of synch" with those around you. The service will feature reflective music, scripture, a brief mediation, and the lighting of candles. Come alone or come with friends. All are welcome.

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; from our church library and 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. Next Zoom meeting with Melissa Hofstetter: December 27 with Leadership.

"Dear Hope Mennonite, Merry Christmas! We want to thank you for all the prayer and financial support you've given us this year. We couldn't do it without you!" La Paix Du Christi, Joseph, Rachel, Elijah & Micaiah (postcard picture on the bulletin board)

Sandwich Saturday – The 2023 calendar has been posted on the bulletin board. Will you consider signing up for one of our Saturdays? We especially need volunteers in January & February. And as always...25 dozen cookies.

Annual reports – If you are the chair of a commission or committee, start thinking about your 2022 report. After Christmas, you'll receive a copy of your 2021 report to work from.

### Prayers for the wider church

...In this Advent season, give thanks for God's gifts of creativity and joy celebrated in the diverse cultural and ethnic traditions of congregations across Western District Conference.

...Pray for Mennonite Mission Network's Mexico partners CIEAMM-Evangelical Mennonite Anabaptist Conference of Churches in Mexico (11 congregations in or near Mexico City); IAMUM-United Anabaptist Mennonite Church of Mexico (6 conferences).

## **Sunday School texts**

### **JOY**

J is for Jesus who was born on Christmas Day  
O-ver to Bethlehem the shepherds and angels made way.  
Y is for you - we hope you will say —  
Merry Christmas as we celebrate Jesus' birthday!

### **Christmas Bells**

Christmas Bells, Christmas bells  
Ring them all the day  
God our Father sent his Son on that first Christmas Day

## **Choir Texts**

“Born is Emmanuel”

Come, or come adore Him, born is the Holy Child; sing we noel!  
Come, or come adore Him, Infant so meek and mild; sing we noel!  
Angels give Him glory, Joyful carols ring;  
Come, or come adore Him, born is the Lord our King!  
Come, o come adore Him, noel, born is the Lord of Light.  
Come, or come adore Him, noel, Look to the start so bright.  
Shepherds give Him glory, He is come to dwell, now sing we noel!  
O come adore Him; Born is Emmanuel! Sing we noel!

“Wonderful Peace”

Peace, peace, wonderful peace, peace to the world is given.  
Hush'd are the angels, so still is the night;  
then in the East shone a heavenly light.  
Join in the chorus His praises we sing!

Glory to God, to the newly born King.  
Peace, peace, wonderful peace, peace to the world is given.  
Peace, peace, bearer of peace, men of goodwill receive Him.  
Holiest of nights, O most wond'rous of days;  
Shepherds and kings lift their voices in praise.  
Join in the chorus, His praises sings!  
Glory to God to the newly born King!  
Peace, peace, wonderful peace, peace to the world is given.

“Sweet Songs of Christmas”

Sweet songs of Christmas, goodwill and joy;  
Wisemen wonder, “Who is this Boy?”  
Sweet Baby Jesus in swaddling clothes;  
Shepherds wonder, “How blooms this Rose?”  
Hosannas fills the nighttime air their praises never cease.  
O Gloria in excelsis Deo, Echoing, “Peace!”  
Sweet sound of singing, melody so pure!  
Children wonder, “Will this Star endure”