



Advent 2

Hope Mennonite Church
December 8, 2024
Second Sunday of Advent
Opening Hearts
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 Elisha Miller

Welcome

Opening Prayer

*Call to Worship based on Joel 2:12-13

Let us return to the Lord with all our hearts.

With our whole heart?

The hurting and hurtful part? The bleeding and empty part?

The sewn-up-tight-don't-come-in heart part?

With our whole heart, with all our hearts we come to worship the Lord God,

whose merciful compassion, abundant patience, and faithful forgiving love meet us in our need.

Lighting the Advent Candles Jeremy, Victoria, Amelia, Zoya Koop

*Songs of Gathering

"How Many Times We Start Again" #553

"Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee" #215

Hearing God's Word

Children's Time Lori Miller

Scripture Readings Joel 2:12-13, 28-29; Luke 11:13

"Comfort, Comfort, O My People" #212

Message "Abundantly Tender-Hearted" Sara Dick

Responding to God's Word

*"Praise with Joy the World's Creator" #428

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

Prayers of God's People

Sending

*"My Soul Proclaims with Wonder"

#222

*Benediction

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*Stand as you are able

A warm welcome to all who have chosen to worship with us this morning in person or on Zoom. This Advent season we are invited to join biblical characters on a journey of persistently walking with God, being open to God's spirit, including the marginalized, and accepting the support of others as we prepare to welcome Christ anew into our hearts and our lives.

Worship Participants

Worship leader: Connie Luty

Pianist: Vicki Howard

Song leader: Lowell Birkey

Scripture reader: Ruthie Goering

Candle lighting readers: Connie Luty, Karen Zehr

Worship tech: Mike Voth

Zoom host: Lee Schmucker

Upcoming Worship Services

December 15 Third Sunday of Advent; children's program

December 21 6:30 pm The Longest Night service

December 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent; Christmas choir

Stay in Touch with Hope

Hope Mennonite Church
868 N. Maize Rd.
Wichita, KS 67212

phone 722-0903
fax 722-5173
www.hopemennonite.org

Interim Pastor

Sara Dick (316) 821-0577 pastor@hopemennonite.org

Secretaries

Cynthia Loganbill 721-8807 secretary@hopemennonite.org

Kim Voth 721-1250 secretary@hopemennonite.org

Church Office Hours

Sara Dick This week: Tuesday 9-1:30 pm; Thursday 9-1 pm

Cynthia Monday-Thursday 9 -1:30 pm

Kim Friday 9-1 pm

Staff meeting Tuesday 9:30 am

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

First Fruits Giving

Giving the first and best of what we are given.

December 1

Attendance 84 (Hope 75; zoom 9)

Offering last Sunday - \$10,492

Year to date \$209,280

Spending plan commitment \$260,000

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*

Hope Mennonite Church Statement of Welcome and Inclusion

We believe all people are created in God's image and we covenant to accept, respect, and love one another as we seek to follow Jesus. We gather around God's table as an open and affirming congregation, embracing all people to full participation in the life and ministry of our church regardless of age, race, marital status, sexual orientation, economic status, gender identity, citizenship, ability, ethnicity, or any other factor subject to discrimination or exclusion in our world. We recognize and give thanks for the diverse opinions among us and are united as we strive to model a community of faith offering justice, peace, love, and compassion in the name of Christ.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK (December 8-14)

Today -Congregational meeting
-Holiday meal following meeting
Tuesday -2:00 pm Deacons
Wednesday -7:00 pm Choir

Coffee preparation next Sunday – Cindy Fast



NURSERY (birth through age 4)

Today: Jordon & Emily Regehr
Next Sunday: Greg & Leah Shelly-Unruh
December 22: Kevin & Taylor Sechrist



*Preschool: Room 8/9 downstairs

*Elementary: Room 2 downstairs

*Middle School: Room 7 downstairs

*Adults in the sanctuary: Congregational meeting

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK (December 15-21)

Sunday -noon; reserved event in the library
Wednesday -7:00 pm choir

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Guests & visitors last Sunday: Dave & Janice Sutter; Ryan & Oaty Henneberg; Alex Epp & Alexis Parke

The Advent devotional *The Word Made Flesh* by Jacob Torbeck has arrived. There are available on the front table. First come, first serve. These are offered to the congregation by our Worship Commission.

The December issue of *Anabaptist World* is available on the front table. Articles feature thoughts on listening to each other and understanding our differences. Pick up your copy today.

If you are interested in learning more about Hope Mennonite, Pastor Sara will be offering a 3-Sunday Inquiry Class for adults beginning January 19 during Sunday School. Membership at Hope, following the class, is optional.

Thank you to all who volunteered for Family Promise this past week. Hope filled 33 slots with 18 volunteers and Aldersgate filled 39 slots with 15 volunteers. We served four families - six adults, six children and one infant. It was a great week! St. Mary Orthodox is the next hosting congregation and will be doing two weeks in a row, with help from the other churches. Hope will be helping them out on Monday, the 16th. If you would like to assist that evening, please let Marcus Loganbill know. Our next hosting will be March 9 - 16. At this point there is also an open week in February - we may need to be on call in case that is not filled.

Prayers for the Wider Church:

...Give thanks for those who serve on Western District Conference Commissions, and pray for them as they guide ministries that sustain pastors and other ministers, provide resources for congregations, and support church planting partnerships in our conference.

...The Tucson (Arizona) Mennonite Voluntary Service unit is embarking on a Mexico-United States borderlands tour this week. Pray that Zing Bawi Ken, Schyler Entz, Hannah Lehman and Patrick Webb will have hearts and minds that are open to the pain, joy and complexities that surround immigration to the United States.

... Ghana is holding its presidential and parliamentary elections. Francis Dzorvor, a Mennonite Church of Ghana pastor, requests prayer for God's intervention and peace to prevail.

Sharing Prayers & Praise

December 1, 2024

Work of the Church

- * Margaret Wiebe thanked those who brought hand towels for MCC. She is offering a Christmas project to those interested – items for the infant care kits. The most needed items are mild soap (Dove, Ivory), and infant sleepers. The deadline is December 24.
- * Karen Zehr attended the latest MCUSA Executive Board meeting. There was sharing about the history of Latino Mennonites and the importance of including that history in the denomination's archives.



COMMEMORATIVE POINSETTIAS

Lowell & Dianne Birkey - In memory of Dianne's parents, Eugene & Gladys Sprunger

Annette & Eldon Chlumsky - In memory of their parents, Arlan & Twila Wedel and Don & Carol Chlumsky

Sara Dick - In honor of survivors

Randy & Shirlyn Graber - In memory of Shirlyn's brother, Christopher Liechty

Jerold & Donna Heide - In memory of Jerold's father, Marvin Heide, and his mother and her husband, John & Orletta (Heide) Wiebe

Steve & Vicki Howard - In memory of Steve's parents Marvin & Annetta Howard, and Pastor Dave Stevens

Michelle Jantz - In memory of her cousin, Melissa Stucky

Heidi Johnson - In honor of her mother, Heidi Johnson-Laws

Scott & Connie Luty - In memory of their parents, Walter & Kathryn Wiens and Harlan & Phyllis Luty

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

Donovan & Laurie Regehr - In memory and honor of their parents Curt & Marie Regehr and Larry & Jane Voth

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

Margaret Wiebe - In honor of "the least of these."