



Loving Enemies (Matthew 5:43-48)

SARAH FULLER

Hope Mennonite Church
February 23, 2025
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

Psalms 37:1-11

Don't get upset over evildoers;
don't be jealous of those who do wrong,
because they will fade fast, like grass;
they will wither like green vegetables.

**Trust the Lord and do good;
live in the land, and farm faithfully.
Enjoy the Lord,
and he will give what your heart asks.**

Commit your way to the Lord!
Trust him! He will act
and will make your righteousness shine like the dawn,
your justice like high noon.

**Be still before the Lord,
and wait for him.**

**Don't get upset when someone gets ahead—
someone who invents evil schemes.**

Let go of anger and leave rage behind!
Don't get upset—it will only lead to evil.
Because evildoers will be eliminated,
but those who hope in the Lord—
they will possess the land.

**In just a little while the wicked won't exist!
If you go looking around their place,
they won't be there.**

**But the weak will inherit the land;
they will enjoy a surplus of peace.**

*Songs of Gathering

“Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing”

#7

“Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song”

#56

Hearing God’s Word

Time with the Children

Sara Dick

Scripture reading

Luke 6:27-38

“Be Still, My Soul”

#664

Message

“Sinners and Enemies”

Sara Dick

Responding to God’s Word

*“Help Us to Help Each Other”

#722

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

*“We Are People of God’s Peace”

#797

*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 morning’s theme is Love Your Enemies.

Worship Participants

Worship leader: Natalie Hand

Pianist: Vicki Howard

Song leader: Adam Kroeker

Scripture reader: David Schmidt

Worship tech: Michelle Jantz

Zoom host: Barb Voth

Stay in Touch with Hope

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Interim Pastor

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Secretaries

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Church Office Hours

Sara Dick This week: Tuesday 1-9 pm; Thursday 9-4 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 that we are given.

February 16

Attendance 123(Hope 106, Zoom 17)

.Offering last Sunday \$2,575

Year to date \$18,918

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.

Upcoming Worship Services

March 2	Service led by our Justice Together team
March 5	Ash Wednesday service 6:30 pm
March 9	First Sunday of Lent

MEETINGS THIS WEEK (February 23-March 1)

Today	-noon Pastor Congregation Relations Committee
Monday	-7:00 pm Vision Council
Tuesday	-2:00 pm Women's Bible study: PRONE TO WANDER: A Lenten Journey with Women in the Wilderness by Joanna Harader.
Thursday	-7:00 pm Women's Bible study: PRONE TO WANDER: A Lenten Journey with Women in the Wilderness by Joanna Harader.
Saturday	-Sandwich Saturday

Coffee preparation next Sunday – Joanna Pinkerton



NURSERY (birth through age 4)

Today: Grace & Ben Parker Sutter

Next Sunday: Greg & Leah Shelly-Unruh

March 9: Jordon & Emily Regehr



*Preschool: Room 8/9 downstairs

*Elementary: Room 2 downstairs

*Middle School: Room 7 downstairs

*Adults in the sanctuary: Caring for the Climate: Moving from Anxiety to Action led by Kendal Warkentine. We will be focused on what steps we, as individuals, can take to care for ourselves and God's creation.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK (March 2-8)

Monday	-7:00 pm Music Committee
Tuesday	-1:00 pm Deacons
	-2:00 pm Women's Bible study: PRONE TO WANDER: A Lenten Journey with Women in the Wilderness by Joanna Harader.
Wednesday	-6:30 pm Ash Wednesday service
Thursday	-7:00 pm Women's Bible study: PRONE TO WANDER: A Lenten Journey with Women in the Wilderness by Joanna Harader.

Visitors & guests last Sunday: Dave & Janice Sutter; Jessica & Samuel Agoitia family

Do you LOVE Mexican food? Join us for a Tex-Mex Fiesta Lunch Sunday, **March 9, 2025**, after Sunday School Sponsored by Care and Nurture, just for fun! Main course is provided. You may join in by bringing fruit or dessert. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

During the Sunday School time on March 2, there will be a planning meeting for Justice Together Network current members and others who are interested in learning more, to start thinking and organizing for the 2025 Nehemiah Assembly on May 8. Others may consider the SS time on March 2 a social hour. If you are a Justice Together Network member, we ask that you please plan to attend. Justice Together hopes to gather over 1,000 people to be the “voice of the people” when presenting recommendations to various officials about improving the lives of marginalized citizens related to homelessness and affordable housing. We want to encourage as many people from Hope to attend as possible.

Dorothy Stucky Halley, LMSW, will be the speaker at the 2025 Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association (SMCHA) annual meeting. It will be held on Sunday, March 9 at the Bethel College Mennonite Church at 2:30 in the afternoon. Dorothy is co-founder and co-director of the Family Peace Initiative. She was the executive director of a domestic violence shelter from 1986 to 1996. She has worked with those who cause harm and has served as an expert witness in domestic violence cases. She taught social work at Pittsburg State University for a decade before becoming the state’s Victim Rights Coordinator and directing the Victim Services Division of the Kansas Attorney General’s Office. Her development of a motivation typology for those who batter has opened the door to a more nuanced understanding for domestic violence professionals. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.

Commemorating 500 Years of Anabaptism & Swiss Alps Tour. May 21-31, 2025. There is still space available. You can preview the trip at www.tourwithweldon.com For more information and details, contact Weldon Martens at weldon.martens@gmail.com or 402-202-9276.

Sharing Prayers & Praise
February 16, 2024

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Work of the Church

- * The 2025 Mid-Kansas Relief Sale theme is “May Christ rule in our hearts.” Hope’s donation to the sale is \$1,500 and will go toward the T-shirt booth. For more information on the sale and how you can volunteer, see the poster on the Witness & Outreach bulletin board. Our “My Coins Count” project will begin next Sunday. Bring your coins (or paper money) to add to our bucket each week. This year the proceeds will go toward food projects.
- * Next Sunday, the Signup Genius link for our Family Promise week March 9-16, will go live. In addition, West Heights needs extra help for their back-to-back hosting weeks, February 23-March 9. If you do not receive the links, please contact Marcus Loganbill.
- * The Dessert Auction raised \$3,491 for our Scholarship Fund. Thanks to every who participated – bakers, makers, buyers, eaters. **Update: \$3,741**
- * Eldon Chlumsky & Jared Regehr worked on the House Build for the MDS annual conference this past weekend. The house is being trucked to Virginia. Check out the pictures on the Witness & Outreach to see them in action.
- * You are invited to join with Casa Betania and Aposento Alto (Mennonite Churches) for a service regarding immigration concerns. It will be held at First Mennonite, Newton, February 23, at 3 pm and will include a carry in supper.

Prayers for the Wider Church:

...Pray for Western District Conference Church Planting Commission members as they endeavor to foster meaningful relationships between sister churches.

..... Pray for Elisabeth Daudey, Alea Sagert, Sadie Sherman, Hannan Smith, and unit leaders Christian and Leigha Stoltzfus, who make up the Colorado Springs (Colorado) Service Adventure unit,

as they increase the ministry capacity of the Beth-El Mennonite Church, their host congregation.

... Delicia Bravo Aguilar and Peter Wigginton express their gratitude for their team of supporters, who have been praying for them and have helped them navigate the difficult times, as well the times when it has been easy to see God's hand at work. Pray that the churches in Ecuador will be strengthened, as they face many trials.