



Esau Forgives Jacob (Genesis 33:1–11)

SARAH FULLER

Hope Mennonite Church
February 8, 2026
9:30 am Worship

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:1-2

Gathering to Worship

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

Prelude

Introit

I Will Shine

Welcome & Prayer

*Gathering Songs

What Is This Place (stanzas 1,2)

#22

Praise to the Living God

#204

Hearing God's Word

Time with Children

Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown

#191

Scripture reading

Genesis 32:22-28

Message

A Tangled Embrace

Ruth Harder

Responding to God's Word

**God of Grace and God of Glory*

#716

The Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Greeting our Guests (Please pass the welcome registers)

Seeing and Seeking God

Work of the Church

Sharing our Praises and Concerns

Prayer

Merciful God, the story of Jacob shows your willingness to enter into the messiness of our human struggles—into fractured relationships, family differences, un-reconciled situations with people we care about.

Yet we confess that too often we hold on because we do not want to loosen our grip on our possessions and our selfish desires.

Often we fear that our very lives will be dislocated by your kingdom values of justice, mercy and peace.

Help us to wrestle with the conflicting values, desires and pressures that confront us daily so that we can unclench our hands and open ourselves to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. Only then can we fully embrace others in their pain—and be embraced—in the name of Christ.

Amen.

Sending

**Be Thou My Vision*

#549

**Benediction*

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**You are welcome to stand*

A warm welcome to all who have chosen to worship with us this morning in person or on Zoom. Our worship theme between now and the season of Lent is “Entertaining Angels Unaware.” Angels swoop in and out of the pages and stories of Scripture. What do we make of these celestial beings? Are these angelic forces around us still, perhaps without us even noticing?

Worship Participants

Worship leader: Natalie Hand

Introit: Katelyn Anderson, Ellie Chlumsky, Logan Regehr, Amelia & Zoya Koop; Pianist-Ruthie Goering

Pianist: Amy Bellar

Song leader: Lowell Birkey

Time with Children: Ruth Harder

Scripture reader: Barb Voth

Worship tech: Mike Voth

Zoom host: Lee Schmucker

Stay in touch with Hope

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Pastor

Ruth Harder 913-333-2605 pastor@hopemennonite.org
Office hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30-1:30pm; Afternoons by appointment

Secretaries

Cynthia Loganbill 721-8807 secretary@hopemennonite.org
Kim Voth 644-0668 secretary@hopemennonite.org

Social Work intern

Emma Graber emmagraber@bethelks.edu

Church Office Hours

Cynthia Mon-Thurs 9-1:30pm
Kim Fri-9-1pm
Staff meeting Monday 9:30am

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

First Fruits: Giving the first and best of that we are given.

February 1

Attendance 135 (Hope 119; zoom 16)

Offering - \$4,540

Year to date - \$16,561

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

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 (February 8-14)

Today	-Dessert Auction during fellowship time
Monday	-7 pm Worship Commission
Tuesday	-1 pm Women's Bible study – Sunday scriptures
Wednesday	-7 pm Choir
Thursday	-7 pm Women's Bible study Making It Plain: Why we NEED Anabaptism and Black Church by Dr. Drew Hart. (Zoom only)
Friday	-8:30 am Coffee with Women Friends – Sunflower Café & Collective, 6120 W. Central, Wichita
Saturday	-8 am-5 pm reserved event



sundayschool

- *Toddler & Preschool (ages 2-4): Room 8/9
- *Younger elementary (K-1st): Room 2
- *Older elementary(2nd-5th): Room 7
- *Youth (middle & high school): Room 1

*Adults(sanctuary): As You Walk Along: Everywhere Faith Formation led by Mitch Stutzman. See the announcement for details.

Coffee preparation next Sunday – Greg & Dawn Epp



NURSERY (infant up to 5th birthday)
Today: Grace & Ben Parker Sutter
Next Sunday: Donovan & Laurie Regehr
February 22: Taylor & Kevin Sechrist

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK (February 15-21)

Sunday	-Noon Divine Dining - please sign up
Monday	-7 pm Child Protection task force (zoom)
Tuesday	-1 pm Women's Bible study – Sunday scriptures
	-7 pm Vision Council
Wednesday	-7 am Men's Breakfast @ Egg Crate 8606 W 13th St N, Suite #150, 5-7 pm Ash Wednesday come and go service -7:15 pm Choir
Thursday	-7 pm Women's Bible study Making It Plain: Why we NEED Anabaptism and Black Church by Dr. Drew Hart. (Zoom only)
Saturday	-10 am – 4pm pm Reserved event

Guests & visitors last Sunday: Vivienne Chlumsky; Jeff Becker; Melody Fryberger; Darlene Knutsen; Calen Boller; Zachary Contreras; Will & Sherilyn Ortman. Zoom – Charles Carter; Peter, Jennie, Ellie Wintermote

Adult Sunday School: As You Walk Along: Everywhere Faith Formation. What are you talking about as you walk along? This was the question Jesus asked to the travelers on the road to Emmaus. It is a question we need to ask ourselves consistently. What are you talking about as you walk along? Whatever you spend your time doing, whoever you spend your time with, whatever you spend your time talking about, that is what is going to form and shape you. Join this time to explore together practices that build faith. What are the things that we can do everyday as individuals and families and in our faith community and “on the road” to nurture faith in each other and build resilient faith for the next generation? This time will be spent considering the framework that MennoMedia is using as we lean into the next era of faith formation. Please join us in the sanctuary with Mitch Stutzman, Director of Development and Partner Engagement for MennoMedia, to explore these important questions.

It is difficult to describe just how much your gestures of support and kindness shown to our family and myself are appreciated. Losing two sisters in the last six months has been challenging to say the least. To have a reminder from people that care for us that we are not alone in our grief is immeasurable. From the heart, thank you for the hugs, cards, and condolences. Arlene Jantz

Thank you so much for all the kindness shown during the recent death of our mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. We always know that our Hope Mennonite Church family is the best - and once again, you proved it to be true! We appreciated the prayers, cards, notes, texts, generous memorial gifts, visits, and so many of you attending her memorial service. We are grateful for God's promise of eternal life! Laurie and Donovan, Jordon and Emily, Hudson, Haydon, Holden, Justin and Tiffany, Logan, Landon, Leyton, Jared and Natalie Regehr.

The February issue of Anabaptist World is available on the front table. Feature articles include writings on the Old Order Way (Amish); Right, Wrong Ways To Read The Bible; and much more.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18: Join Pastor Ruth and others around a warm fire in the Hope Memorial Garden **anytime between 5-7:00 pm.** Note that choir will delay their start time on the 18th to 7:15 pm. During the Lenten season (40 days not including Sundays), we will explore the different cries of Hosanna in Scripture and in our lives today. Hosanna means **Save us, O Lord.**

Don't forget about the \$5,000 challenge match that Hope Mennonite is offering to benefit Camp Mennoscah! This match is only good within our congregation, so we hope that you will offer what you can to be doubled by the challenge and ensure the timely completion of Camp Mennoscah's retreat center. Camp is still aiming for completion of the retreat center by the end of March, so every dollar makes a **HUGE** difference over the next 90 days! Checks can be written to Hope Mennonite with Camp Mennoscah in the memo line. To date we have received **\$1,100** with \$3,900 left to go to meet the match.

Justice Together Network Members: Please save Sunday, **March 1** for lunch and a planning meeting about the upcoming Nehemiah Assembly. There will be updates on the Gun Violence Prevention and the Affordable Housing & Homelessness Committees. We will also plan our invitation strategy for the Nehemiah Assembly on April 27. Oh, and there will be LUNCH! Please RSVP to Brenda Lilliston, Grace Parker Sutter or Wendy Wiens.

Prayers for the wider church

...Pray for members of the Western District Conference Executive Board as they provide oversight, support and guidance for WDC's mission and ministries.

.... Later this month, the Service Adventure units from Anchorage, Alaska, and Colorado Springs, Colorado, will meet for their spring gathering. Pray for participants and unit leaders as they plan and look forward to this time of fellowship and rest.

... Pray for a family serving in Nepal, as political uncertainty, following an uprising in Kathmandu last fall, continues to plague their community and has left them feeling the need for heightened safety measures.

Sharing Prayers & Praise
Week of February 1, 2026

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Work of the Church

- * Alice Pryce presented Hope with a certificate, small banner and the CROP Walk quilt celebrating another year of being the top fundraising church. This year over \$5,000 was raised and there were 33 participants on the day of the walk last October.
- * Marcus Loganbill shared about Mennonite Action's call to have a singing demonstration in the Target parking lot on February 15. Anyone interested in this possibility should talk to Marcus.
- * Care & Nurture is coordinating a Divine Dining experience on February 15 following Sunday School. There are two signup sheets – one to attend and the other to bring an item for the baked potato bar. **Sign up today.**
- * We are making an addendum to our July 2025 church picture directory. If you are not included in the current one, Kim Voth will be taking pictures starting today.

I Will Shine

There's a light within me—The perfect light of Christ—
And I have made a promise to keep it burning bright
By walking in His footsteps and following His plan
In every time and every place, In every way I can.

One simple act of kindness will lift a lonely soul;
One gentle word that's spoken turns sadness to hope.
One choice to be like Jesus will spread the love He gives,
And one by one the world becomes a better place to live.

Chorus: I will shine like a candle in the dark;
All it takes to make a difference is a spark.
And it's easy to see that the brightest I'll be
Is when I let His light shine through me.
When I let His light shine through me.