

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

December 26, 2010

Christmas

Prelude

***Hymns:** “Hark! The herald angels sing” #201 HWB
“It came upon the midnight clear” #195 HWB (vv. 1, 3, 4)
“I will come to you in the silence” (hymnal pocket; vv. 1-4)

Silence / Lighting the Christ Candle - Ratigan-Green family

Call to Worship – Psalm 148

Prayer

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:13-23

Children’s gathering song: “Come and see” #20 HWB

Children’s time: “Baby Jesus the refugee”

Song: “Holy Child within the manger” (insert)

Offering and Choral Offertory: “Redeemer” - Neil Okerlund, director

New Testament Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18

Sermon: “An inhospitable welcome”

Testimony of hope in adversity – Marybeth Luining

Silence “Prayer & Meditation on Psalm 103” by Marybeth Luining

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Leader: We pray (give thanks) to the Holy One,

People: Hear our prayer.

Congregational Prayer

Our Father/Mother in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. AMEN

Announcements (please give in writing to worship leader)

Introduction of guests

***Sending hymn:** “Break forth, O beauteous heav’nly” #203 HWB (v. 3)

***Benediction**

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

**Please stand if you are able*

Community Time

- 10:45 **Fellowship time**

There are no Christian Education classes today. Classes resume next Sunday.

TODAY: Christmas – Weep & Rejoice (Matthew 2:13-23)

Worship Leader & Sermon: Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Hermann Weinlick **Piano:** Sandra Westby

Readers: Michelle Okerstrom, Sam Bartel, Jacob Schlabach, John Tamrat

Ushers: Mike & Paula Okerstrom

Nursery: 2 volunteers needed

NEXT SUNDAY: Epiphany

Worship Leader: Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Gregg Richardson **Piano:** David Mayou

Ushers: Nikki Nafziger & Darrell Martin

Nursery: Marcia Sigglekow & Hermann Weinlick and 1 volunteer
needed (Meagan will be gone)

Snow shoveling: 2 volunteers needed

Fellowship: 2 volunteers needed

A staffed nursery for toddlers and children up to age 5 is located in the education wing. Please ask an usher if you wish to be guided to the nursery.

December 19: Attendance: 121 **Offering:** \$8,132 **Designated:** \$5,030

Please note **sign-up sheets** for the congregation on the back table of the Fellowship Area in the back of the Sanctuary:

- **Snow Shoveling.** Volunteers are really needed for the weekends and current special situations during the winter season. Thank you!
- **Fellowship sign-up.** Enjoy hot coffee and conversation with fellow church members between worship and the education hour? **Two volunteers per Sunday are needed** for beverage preparation, snack and cleanup. Questions about duties may be directed to the Fellowship Commission – Minke Sundseth, Arlene Geissinger, and Cleta Roth Gingerich.

Faith Mennonite Church

Pastor: Joetta Schlabach

Ministry Staff Person: Kathleen Remund

Deacons: Aryn Baxter, Kami Blackwell Kinney

Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick

2720 East 22nd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406 Ph: 612-375-9483

E: faithmc@faithmennonite.org Web: www.faimennonite.org

FMC OFFICE HOURS: Dec 27-31

Pastor: Wed & Thurs 10-4; Tuesday is a study day. Joetta is open to receiving phone calls at home on Mon. and Wed. evening from 7- 8:30 p.m.

Ministry Staff Person: Monday 1-3 p.m., Friday 9-Noon.

Office Assistant, Julie Cross: Tues., Weds. & Thurs. 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Email all bulletin items before Wednesday evening to:

faithmc@faithmennonite.org. Bulletin is finalized and printed on Thursday.

December 28 – Candlelight Service for the Children of Iraq and Other

Child Victims of War: “Out of the Darkness; Into the Light,” 6:30 p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 4537 3rd Avenue South, Minneapolis

Wesley Wednesday, hosted by Greg Renstrom. **December 29:** “A New Malmo, Minnesota Christmas” 101 East Grant Street, Minneapolis, MN 55403. Social hour: 5:30 p.m., Message music by Steven Anderson: 7:15; Spiritual hour: 7:30 p.m.

Save the Date for Spring MDS Trip: Years after Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast, there is still a surprising amount of rebuilding to be done. The tentative date for our spring trip to help Mennonite Disaster Service is **April 3-8**. We do not yet know whether we will be in New Orleans or a different city. Transportation will be decided by the group that goes. We need to know whether we have enough people from Faith, or whether we should open the trip to other congregations. Please contact Melissa Hochstetler if you are interested.

Church Meetings and Events

December 28 – Lectionary discussion 8:30 a.m., Trotter’s, corner of Cleveland and Marshall, SP

December 29 – January newsletter deadline, noon

January 9 – All church potluck, noon

January 9 – Interfaith immigration witness, Ramsey Co. Detention Center, 2:30-3:00 p.m.

Matthew 2:13-23

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I have called my son.’

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

‘A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.’

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.’ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, ‘He will be called a Nazorean.’

Hebrews 2:10-18

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

‘I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.’

And again, ‘I will put my trust in him.’

And again, ‘Here am I and the children whom God has given me.’

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

L: For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God within us,
For the Word of God among us,

All: Thanks be to God.