

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH
“Growing together as children of God”
December 17, 2017

Prelude

***Gathering Song:** “The angel Gabriel” #180 HWB

Musical Interlude

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord;

People: my spirit exults in God my Savior.

L: I wait for you, Lord, my soul waits, and in your word I hope.

**People: My soul waits for you, Lord,
more than sentries watch for dawn.**

L: The glory of the Lord shall be revealed,

All: and all people shall see it together.

***Hymn:** “Come, thou long-expected Jesus” #178 HWB

Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10 ~ Candace Lutt, reader

Children’s Gathering/Advent Candles: “Come! Walk in the light”
(insert – scripture sheet)

Children’s Time: “Woodworker’s Visit: Some Assembly Required”
~ Glenn Geissinger

Hymn: “O little town of Bethlehem” #191 HWB, vv. 1-2

Reading: Matthew 4:12-17 ~ Jef Winterlin, reader

Hymn: “Hark! The glad sound!” #184 HWB

Reading: Ephesians 6:15

Silent meditation

Hymn: “My soul proclaims with wonder” #181

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns (*It is a joy to welcome guests; this can
be a time for guest introductions.*)

Congregational Prayer and Lord’s 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. (*Cont. next page*)

HWB: *Hymnal Worship Book* **STJ:** *Sing the Journey* **Hesla:** *River of Gladness*
**Please stand if you are able*

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*

Offering and Offertory: “Angel Band” Arranged by Pepper Choplin
Announcements

***Sending hymn:** “My soul cries out” (*insert*)

***Benediction / Postlude**

*The order of worship and readings for this service were adapted from Take Our Moments
and Our Days: An Anabaptist Prayer Book, Herald Press, 2007.*

Community Time

10:40: Fellowship time

11:00: Education classes for all ages. Adults will meet at the front of
sanctuary. See announcements for a description of today’s topic.

TODAY: 3rd Sunday of Advent / Music Sunday

Worship leader: Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Gregg Richardson

Piano: Sandra Westby

Organ: Jim Kuebelbeck

Musicians: Lucy Reinert, Ry Siggelkow, Phil Stoltzfus, Karen Wiebe

Vocal Ensemble: Miriam Augsburg, Wendy Brunner, Melissa Hochstetler,
Joan Kreider, Thaine Dirks, Jerry Janzen, Jim Kuebelbeck., Gregg Richardson

Ushers: Stew Thornley, Dan Gerber

Nursery: Karen Wiebe, Laurie Kaufman

Fellowship: Candace Lutt & Phil Stoltzfus

NEXT SUNDAY: 4th Sunday of Advent / Christmas Eve (John 1:1-18)

Song leader & Sermon: Joetta Schlabach

Piano: Melissa Falb

Ushers: Thaine Dirks

Nursery: Marcia Siggelkow, Mark Kaufman

Fellowship: Andy Martinson & Alisa Bardo Martinson

Dec 10: Attendance: Offering – Local Budget: \$3,320

Thanksgivings:

Concerns:

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

Co-Pastors: Joetta Schlabach & Ry Siggelkow
Deacons: Dan Leisen, Heather Wengerd, Shawn Englund-Helmeke,
Katie Cuffey, Hermann Weinlick, Kristin Green
2720 East 22nd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406 Ph: 612-375-9483
E: faithmc@faithmennonite.org Web: www.faithmennonite.org
Wi-fi username: FMC Guest; password: peacefmc

FMC office hours: Dec. 18-22

Ry: Tues, Thurs 10-3 **Joetta:** Tues, Wed 10-2

Office Staff: Aimee Weigle: Mon.-Fri. 9:30-12:30

Email bulletin items by Wed afternoon. Bulletin printed Thurs morning.

Prayer Request from Central Plains Mennonite Conference: Pray for your sister churches: Shalom in Eau Claire, Wisconsin; First and Bethel in Mountain Lake, Minnesota; and Rochester (MN) Mennonite Church.

Come pray for our church and community! Parent Resource Room, 9:10-9:25 a.m. each Sunday. Also, if you would like to have someone pray with you or discuss a matter of concern please look for persons with the purple “deacon” ribbon or the green “prayer” ribbon on their name tag. They are glad to meet with you.

It's time to fill the Nursery and Fellowship schedules! Information was recently placed in your church mail folder and a link to the online scheduler is in the Midweek Email Update.

Church Meetings and Events (online calendar: www.faithmennonite.org)

Dec 19 – Sunday Text Discussion, 8:30 a.m., Seward Co-op

Dec 26 – Dec. Newsletter items due to church office by noon

Dec 28 – Men’s Breakfast, 7 a.m., Curran’s Restaurant, Mpls.

Jan 3 – Deacon Commission Meeting, 6:30, Kristin Green’s home

The Adult Education Advent Series concludes today with a discussion of Luke 2:1-24: “Birth of Jesus in Bethlehem as the fulfillment of God’s promise,” lead by Greg Renstrom. Front of sanctuary.

We invite you to return **this afternoon at 4:00 p.m.** for the **FMC Christmas Program**. The candle-light service, featuring our children’s and youth Sunday School classes will be followed by a cookie social – everyone please bring a plate to share (fruit, veggies, cheese & crackers also welcome).

We will have our regular morning worship service next Sunday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve day. We will not hold an evening service on Christmas Eve. Opportunities abound for Christmas Eve services across the city. There will be **no Sunday School classes** on Dec. 24th and 31st.

- *Worship and Education Commissions*

Thanks to Heather Reinert for the Advent visual arrangements in the sanctuary, and **Thanks to Sam Reinert** for shoveling snow this week.

Service of Remembrance and Healing at Emmanuel Mennonite Church (1744 Walnut St., St Paul 55113), **Tuesday, Dec. 19th, 7-8 p.m.** The holidays can be difficult if you have experienced loss, or are grieving or mourning. Please join us as we gather together to acknowledge the emotions that are often deeply felt during the holiday season.

From Andrew Wright, Program Director, MCC-Central States: I am passing along this opportunity to see if there could be any connections made for supporting immigration work here in the Twin Cities. Each year MCC holds a **"40-hour immigration law" training for community members who want to become an accredited "advocate"** for people navigating the complex immigration legal process. The training prepares someone to become "accredited" and able to work in organizational or even congregational contexts, and is qualified to offer advice, help process paperwork, and in some cases, provide legal representation while under the supervision of an immigration attorney.

Currently, MCC Central States has scholarship money available to send 1 or 2 people from the Twin Cities to a training. There is a "beginner's level" and an "advanced level". Ideally, this person would be someone who could come back to the Twin Cities or within in our region and perhaps pursue a relationship with an immigration legal service provider, and/or accreditation, and provide legal advocacy in an organizational or congregational context. **Do you have ideas of people who might be able, interested, and willing to attend a training and serve in this way? If so, please contact me.**

Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” ⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Matthew 4:12-17

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— ¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” ¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Ephesians 6:15

¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.