

**FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH**

Nov. 27, 2016

\***Gathering Song:** “We plow the fields and scatter” #96 HWB  
“Come, thou long-expected Jesus” #178 HWB

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

\* **Welcome and Call to Worship:**

Leader: In Advent God calls us to become new,

**People: to make room for our own nativity,  
even when there is no room at the inn.**

L: Where we are busy— **P: grant peace.**

L: Where we are lost— **P: grant salvation.**

L: Where we are sad— **P: grant joy.**

L: Where we are bitter— **P: grant love.**

L: May this be a time to hope for all these gifts of God.

**All: Amen.**

*From Words for Worship 2, edited by Diane Zaerr Brenneman,*

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\***Hymn:** “My soul is filled with joy” #13 STJ

**Children’s Gathering Song:** “O come, all ye faithful” #212 HWB, v. 1

**Children’s Time:** Andy Martinson

**Song:** “Gloria” #204 STJ

**Scripture reading:** Daniel 6:6-27

**Sermon:** “On Prayer and Other Acts of Resistance”

**Hymn:** “Through our fragmentary prayers” #347 HWB

**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.

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**

**Announcements**

**HWB: Hymnal Worship Book**

*\*Please stand if you are able*

**STJ: Sing the Journey**

\***Sending hymn:** “From the hands” #97 HWB

\***Benediction**

\***Sharing the sign of peace / Postlude**

Community Time

**10:40** Fellowship time

**11:00** No Christian Education classes for all ages. Children & youth Sunday school classes will meet at front of sanctuary to begin rehearsing for the Christmas program.

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**TODAY:** First Sunday of Advent: Daniel’s hope in God

**Worship leader:** Bardo-Martinson Family

**Sermon:** Ry Siggelkow

**Song leader:** Karen Wiebe

**Organ:** David Mayou

**Nursery:** Andy Martinson, Arlene Geissingner

**Ushers:** G. Geissingner, S. Thornley **Fellowship:** Weinlicks, W. Brunner

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Second Sunday of Advent: God’s promised Spirit (Joel 2:12-13, 28-29)

**Worship leader:** Wright Family

**Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

**Song leader:** Adam Nafziger

**Organ:** Jim Kuebelbeck

**Ushers:** R. Martin, D. Martin

**Nursery:** Joel Cuffey, Rebecca Wright

**Fellowship:** Kuenning/Leisen, Vidas

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**Nov 20:**

**Attendance:** 107

**Offering:** \$1,505

Amount needed each Sunday to meet annual budget: \$5,673

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**Thanksgivings:**

**Concerns:**

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*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.*

**Co-Pastors: Joetta Schlabach & Ry Siggelkow**  
**Deacons: Kristin Green, Glenn Geissinger**  
**Katie Cuffey, Hermann Weinlick, Heather Wengerd**  
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*FMC office hours: November 28-December 2*

**Ry:** Tues, Thurs 9-3 **Joetta:** Tues, Wed 9-3

**Office Staff: Aimee Weigle:** Mon – Fri 9:30-12:30

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

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(Concerns: cont.)

**Prayer Request from Central Plains Mennonite Conference:** Next weekend, Central Plains conference ministers Tim Detweiler and Dave and Shana Boshart will attend the annual gathering of Mennonite Church USA conference ministers. Pray for God's guidance and blessing on this gathering.

**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.

**Church Meetings and Events** (online calendar: [www.faithmennonite.org](http://www.faithmennonite.org))

**Dec 3** – Carol Sing-Along, 6:30 p.m., Joan Kreider home

**Dec 3-4** – Seward Art Crawl, FMC fellowship hall

**Dec 4** – Community sing, 2 p.m., sanctuary

**Dec 4** – Pastor-Parish Relations Comm., 12:15 p.m., chapel

**Dec 7** – Deacon Commission, 6:30 p.m., Kristin Green home

**Dec 10** – Sewing Group, 9:30 a.m. Library

**Dec 11** – Advent choir practice, 11 a.m., sanctuary

**Dec 14** – Church Council, 7 p.m., chapel

**Dec 15** – Ecumenical Taizé, 6 p.m.-meal; 7 p.m.-prayer; fellowship hall

**Dec 18** – Advent choir practice, 8:45 a.m., fellowship hall

**Dec 18** – Christmas program and cookie social, 4:30 p.m., sanctuary

## Daniel 6:6-27

<sup>6</sup>So the presidents and satraps conspired and came to the king and said to him, "O King Darius, live forever! <sup>7</sup>All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions. <sup>8</sup>Now, O king, establish the interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked." <sup>9</sup>Therefore King Darius signed the document and interdict. <sup>10</sup>Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open toward Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously.

<sup>11</sup>The conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. <sup>12</sup>Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, "O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?" The king answered, "The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked." <sup>13</sup>Then they responded to the king, "Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day." <sup>14</sup>When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him. <sup>15</sup>Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, "Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed." <sup>16</sup>Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!" <sup>17</sup>A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel.

<sup>18</sup>Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him. <sup>19</sup>Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. <sup>20</sup>When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?" <sup>21</sup>Daniel then said to the king, "O king, live forever! <sup>22</sup>My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong." <sup>23</sup>Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. <sup>24</sup>The king gave a command, and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into

the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

<sup>25</sup>Then King Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language throughout the whole world: "May you have abundant prosperity! <sup>26</sup>I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people should tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: For he is the living God, enduring forever. His kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion has no end. <sup>27</sup>He delivers and rescues, he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth; for he has saved Daniel from the power of the lions."

Leader: 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.*

## Announcements

**Calling all singers: Advent choir rehearsal** will be held during the Sunday school hour on December 11th and at 8:45 a.m. on the 18th, the day we sing. All are welcome! Singers are welcome even if you can only make it to one of the rehearsals. – *Rudy Okerlund*

**December Adult Christian Education:** In December 2009, Palestinian Christian leaders launched the **Kairos Palestine Document**, a statement that shares their daily realities of life under occupation and calls on Christian sisters and brothers and churches worldwide to be witnesses to these realities, to be in solidarity, and to take action. In December, we will be studying this Kairos Palestine Document together as a church. You can pick up a copy today (\$5) or download the document from [www.mennopin.org](http://www.mennopin.org).

**From Joan Kreider:** End a perfect Seward Art Crawl day with a Faith Mennonite carol sing for the whole family: Saturday Dec. 3, 6:30 pm. Snacks and hot cider provided. This will also be a farewell to my wonderful home of 30 years and piano of 15 years.

**Bike donation request:** Kristin Green will be co-teaching a class at Sanford Middle School called Engineering the Ride. Students will learn basic bike maintenance skills while repairing bikes over the winter. Kristin is looking for used bikes that could be donated to the program. **If you have a used bike that you are willing to donate**, please contact Kristin. Donated bikes can need repairs, but no bikes with major damage please. Thanks!