



**Hutterthal
Mennonite
Church**

Christ-centered—Living, Relating, Serving

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**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
December 29, 2013**

Prelude: HWB no. 181,
Proclaims with Wonder

My Soul

Silence

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

L: Come before the One made perfect in suffering,

P: Let us awake to the birth of our Savior,

L: the One who calls us brothers and sisters,

P: the One who helps in times of testing!

L: The pioneer of our salvation goes before us:

ALL: O, the mystery of God's dwelling in our distress!

Thematic Opening Hymn: HWB no. 233,

Joyful Is the Dark

Dramatic Reading

Confession & Resting in the light of the Advent Wreath

Scripture Reading:

(Pew Bible p. 392)

Isaiah 63: 7-9

Litany of the Advent Wreath

L: In both the exuberance of Christ's birth and the human sorrow that accompanied it, let us pause to consider God's presence in both joy and grief.

Silence

L: Let us confess the violence we have experienced and spread, that God may overcome it with grace.

Silent Confession

L: In our distress, the Advent wreath reminds us of God's steadfast love.

P: In this light, we celebrate forgiveness. In His love and compassion, Jesus redeems us.

Children's Time:

Story of Baghdad

Silent Music: A

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 2: 13-23 (Pew Bible p. 509)

Silent Meditation

Sharing Time

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts and debtors)

Hymn: HWB no. 182,

Receive Thee

Oh, How Shall I

Message:

In Our Distress

Time of Offering

Offertory Invitation

Sharing Our Gifts

Offertory Prayer

Thematic Closing Hymn: Hymnal Insert,
in the Light

Come! Walk

Benediction

L: Let us proclaim the mystery:

P: Christ is born

ALL: that the house of the Lord may be filled!

Musical Response

Postlude

Worship Participants: Paige Zachariasen (piano), Les Rensink (song leader), Todd Jones (worship leader, dramatic reading, & message), Clara Koerner, Todd Koerner, and Brandon Waltner (dramatic reading), Kim Jones (reader: Isaiah 63: 7-9), Jill Hofer (children's time), & Andrew Koerner (reader: Matthew 2: 13-23)

PRAYER CONCERNS/PRAISES

- **Joline Thomas and Family** (Joline's father died on Christmas Day)
- **Byron Thomas**
- **From CPMC:** The team of pastors working on a Bible study for conference congregations is working on a very tight deadline. Please pray for God's guiding hand on their work.
- **From MMN:** The Evangelical Mennonite Church of Burkina Faso, an MMN partner, started as a mostly rural denomination, but is now focusing on creating urban congregations, too. Pray for the Mennonite witness as they share Jesus' healing and salvation in cities.

TODAY

Greeters: Shane & Any Hofer Vetch

Nursery: Paige Zachariasen

Coffee Time: Derrick & Jessica Preheim

MW Dec. project: Bryon Thomas family

Children's Sun. School project: Freeman Food Pantry

We respectfully request that the **designated pews** remain open for families with young children and those with physical needs. We also request that the **crying room** remain available for infants and nursing mothers.

A **Handicap Accessible Bathroom** is located in the basement.

NEXT SUNDAY: Second Sunday after Christmas

Greeters: Phil & Joline Thomas

Nursery: Open

Organ: Norma Hofer

Coffee Time: Boni Hofer

6:30pm: Community Epiphany Service, @ Missionary Church

THIS WEEK

Thursday: Freeman Ministerial, 10am (Missionary Church)

Saturday: Epiphany Retreat, 9am

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 6: Freeman Network for Justice & Peace, 12pm (Freeman Library)

January 7: Deacons Meeting, 7pm (Clem Residence)

January 8: Soup & Fellowship, 6:30pm

Kid's Club, 7pm

Midweek Bible Study, 7pm

Please join us this morning for a special Sunday School hour Q & A with Matthew Tschetter. Matthew will be sharing with us regarding his service in Nicaragua with MCC. This special opportunity is geared toward Youth and adults ... but all are welcome!

Next Sunday, Jan. 5, we will celebrate **Communion**. At HMC, Communion is gladly shared with all who know Jesus as Savior and Lord and desire to walk with Him by faith. Please consider joining us for this special celebration. Also, please note that the Deacons will be receiving gifts for the **Benevolent Fund**, a

fund established to assist members and friends of the congregation who are experiencing financial distress. If you or someone you know is experiencing financial difficulty, please contact Monica Clem, Todd Koerner, or Monica Hofer who can assist you with benevolent fund requests. A basket will be placed in the foyer on Sunday, January 5, 2014 to receive monetary gifts to this fund.

Mid-week Kid's Club- looking for a couple of people to help teach at Kid's Club during midweek bible study starting January 8. Even just teaching a week or 2 is a great help! Contact Brandy Friesen 940-1493.

Attention ladies! We need someone to organize the MW program at Oakview Terrace on Fri., Jan. 31, 2:30 pm. Contact Barbie or Brigitta.

You are invited to a **Community Epiphany Service** on January 5, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. This service is sponsored by the Freeman Ministerial Association and will be held at the Missionary Church. An offering will be received for the Freeman Ministerial Benevolent Fund and the Food Pantry at Bethany. A time of refreshment and fellowship will follow.