



# Hutterthal Mennonite Church

*Christ-centered - Living, Relating, Serving*

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## **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT** **December 11, 2016**

*"... be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand"*  
~ James 5: 7-8, NKJV

### **Prelude:**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath:**

The Candle of Joy

**Hymn:** Bulletin Insert vs. 3 & 5,

*Hope Is a Light*

### **Call to Worship:**

L: We wait, O God, for Your coming in poverty and through the pangs of birth,

***ALL: and we dare not only to hope, but to resound with joy!***

L: The Kingdom of God is at hand!

***ALL: Fill us with Your Spirit that we might participate in that Kingdom.***

L: Let Your will be done.

**P: Let all things be made new.**

***ALL: Make us new!***

### **Prayer**

### **Welcome**

### **Scripture Reading:**

Psalm 146: 5-10 (Pew Bible p. 333)

**Hymn:** HWB no. 212,

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

**Prayer of Confession**  
**Assurance of Reconciliation**

**Time of Offering**  
**Offertory Invitation**  
**Offertory Music**  
**Offertory Prayer**

**Children's Time:**

God Cares for Each One

**Hymn:** HWB no. 181,

*My Soul Proclaims with Wonder*

**Scripture Reading:**

Isaiah 35: 1-10 (Pew Bible p. 376)  
Luke 1: 46-55 (Pew Bible p. 540)

**Message:**

Irrepressible Joy

**Hymn:** HWB no. 172,

*O Come, O Come, Immanuel*

**Sharing Time**  
**Congregational Prayer**  
**Lord's Prayer** (debts/debtors)

**Hymn:** HWB no. 197,

*Angels We Have Heard On High*

**Benediction**

**Musical Response**

**Postlude:**

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**Worship Participants:** Amy Hofer Vetch, accompanist; John Clem, worship leader; Les Rensink, song leader; Andre & Lillie Eisenbeis, children's time; and Todd Jones, message

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

- **Lucilla Dewald** (Mother of Glenda Langeland)
- **Larry Hofer**

- **Family of Frank Wiebe** (entered into everlasting life on 12/2/16)
- **Additional Prayers**

### **TODAY—December 11, 2016**

**Greeters:** Larry & Nicolle Timmerman

**9:45 am:** Worship Service

**Coffee Time:** John & Monica Clem

**11:10am:** Sunday School for All Ages

**7:00pm:** Family Christmas

### **NEXT SUNDAY— December 18, 2016—4th Sunday of Advent**

**Greeters:** Delmer & Shirley Hofer

**Accompanist:** Elvera Deckert

**Worship Leader:** Michelle L Hofer

**Song Leader:** Suzanne Koerner

**Children's Time:** Monica Clem

**Coffee Time:** Phil & Joline Thomas

**11:10am:** Sunday School for all ages

### **NOVEMBER PROJECTS:**

**MW November Project:** Cash for CPMC Women

**Children's S.S. Fall Project:** Bethany Food Pantry

### **THIS WEEK**

**Monday, 7:00 pm:** Prayer Shawl

**Tuesday, 7:00pm:** Church Board

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Dec. 20, 9:15am:** Pastor-Peer (Sioux Falls)

**Dec. 21, 10:00am:** Freeman Ministerial (Missionary Church)

**Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve

**Dec. 28:** January 2017 Connection deadline (Hutterthal@goldenwest.net)

**Dec. 31:** New Year's Eve

**Jan. 3, 7:00pm:** Deacons Meeting (Clem residence)

**Jan. 8:** Epiphany Sunday—Worship with Communion

**Jan. 18, 6:30pm:** Midweek Bible Study

**Please note** that we will not be having Sunday school on Christmas Day. Enjoy this time of profound revelation — of Christ's in-breaking — and reflect with family and friends on

the wonder of the incarnation as you gather around your Christmas trees.

The **Youth Group will be selling cheese spreads** with the help of Todd and Kim Jones and Joline Thomas. A person from this group will be available during coffee time to take your orders and payment. The spreads will be \$9.00. The FINAL DAY for ordering will be Sunday, December 11. So, hurry and get those orders in! The spreads will be available for pick-up on Sunday, December 18.

In preparation for the children's Sunday School Christmas program this evening, we are looking for **Christmas tree topper angels** to be loaned to us for use in decoration. The angels will be used as backdrops during the performance and can be taken home to enjoy for the rest of the Christmas season. If you have an angel that you would be willing to share with us, please contact Suzanne Koerner or Rebecca Hofer.

**The Et Cetera Shoppe is seeking donations of peppernut cookies** to sell as an additional holiday fundraiser for MCC. Peppernuts baked from your favorite recipe can be brought to the shop ANYTIME. Bring your peppernuts in Ziploc bags or ice cream pails and we will package them here. Thank You.

Everyone enjoys **coffee time** at HMC. It's a great chance to meet visitors as well as keep connected with regulars. You have the opportunity during the month of December to contribute to the cost by making a donation in the designated "gift box" located in the Fellowship Hall during coffee time." Thank you! ~ Coffee Committee

On Sunday, January 8, 2017, we will celebrate **Communion** together. We encourage you to enter prayerfully into this celebration, asking for God to move in and through the time we share together that we might be both refreshed and renewed.

The Deacons would like to encourage you to consider giving a gift to **the Benevolent Fund**. On January 8, 2017 an offering basket will be placed in the foyer to receive gifts for this ministry. The Benevolent Fund is overseen by the Deacons and is used to offset the financial strains caused by ill-health, work loss, etc. If you know of someone who may benefit from the ministry of the Benevolent Fund we ask that you speak with one of our Deacons: Todd Koerner, Monica Clem, or Monica Hofer. All disbursements are handled confidentially.

Video and audio recordings of the three **Bible Study Webinars** with Meghan Good are available on the Study Webinars page at [www.centralplainsmc.org](http://www.centralplainsmc.org) Make use of these to

raise the bar on reading and interpreting the Bible: Sunday School classes and Bible study groups could watch and discuss them together; Sunday School superintendents could use them to train teachers; individuals can watch them for personal growth.

I want to express a hearty **thank you** to my church family for all your prayers, friendships, and concerns over many years when Ray's health was failing and now his death. You were always there for us. A huge thank you to those who brought food to the house (I won't have to cook for six months) and for the cakes and salads brought to the funeral. Your gifts of Gideon Bibles, money to Freeman Academy, MEDA, the flowers and plants, your visits and phone calls (keep coming and calling). Your words of encouragement have been a comfort since Ray's passing. May God bless you richly.

~ Love in Christ! Joyce Hofer and Families

**Thank you** for the gift of \$150.00. It will be used to help those in need. ~ The Wellspring Board of Directions