



Hutterthal Mennonite Church

Christ-centered - Living, Relating, Serving

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 4, 2016

*"... receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God."
~ Romans 15: 7, NKJV*

Prelude:

*O Come, All Ye Faithful (Ward)
What Child Is This? (Martin)*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath:

The Candle of Peace

Hymn: Bulletin Insert vs. 2 & 5,

Hope Is a Light

Call to Worship: based on Jewish Folklore

L: Shake off the night and gather in the light of God.

P: But, how can we know when the night has ended?

MEN: Is it the moment you can tell the difference between a sheep and a dog?

WOMEN: Or, the moment you can see the difference between a fig and an olive tree?

L: No, it is the moment you can look at a face never seen before and recognize the stranger as a brother or sister.

ALL: Until that moment, no matter how bright the day, we remain in places of shadow and darkness.

L: Come, shake off the night!

P: We come to gather in the light of God.

Prayer

Welcome

Scripture Reading:

John 1: 1-5 (Pew Bible p. 560)

Hymn: HWB no. 203,

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heav'nly

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Reconciliation

Time of Offering

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Music: (

Redner) O Little Town of Bethlehem

Offertory Prayer

Children's Time:

God's Heart, Our Hands

Hymn: HWB no. 183,

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 11: 1-10 (Pew Bible p. 364)
Matthew 3: 1-12 (Pew Bible p. 509)

Message:

Empty Spaces

Hymn: HWB 195,

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Sharing Time

Congregational Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Hymn: HWB no. 184,

Hark! The Glad Sound!

Benediction

Musical Response

Postlude:

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (Mendelssohn)

Worship Participants: Shirley Hofer & Paige Zachariasen, accompanist; Alvina Hofer, worship leader; Les Rensink, song leader; Monica Hofer, children's time; and Todd Jones,

message

PRAYER CONCERNS

- **Amos & Kathryn Kleinsasser**
- **Lucilla Dewald** (Mother of Glenda Langeland)
- **Larry Hofer**
- **Family of Frank Wiebe** (entered into everlasting life on 12/2/16)
- **Additional Prayers**

TODAY—December 4, 2016

Greeters: LaVonne Tschetter & Monica Hofer

9:45 am: Worship Service

Coffee Time: LaVonne Tschetter

11:10am: Sunday School for All Ages

NEXT SUNDAY— December 11, 2016—3rd Sunday of Advent

Greeters: Larry & Nicolle Timmerman

Accompanist: Shirley Hofer & Paige Zachariasen

Worship Leader: John Clem

Song Leader: Les Rensink

Children's Time: Lillie & Andre Eisenbeis

Coffee Time: John & Monica Clem

11:10am: Sunday School for all ages

7:00pm: Family Christmas (*DATE CHANGE!*)

NOVEMBER PROJECTS:

MW November Project: Cash for CPMC Women

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

THIS WEEK

Monday, 7:00 pm: HMC Annual Meeting

8:00pm: Rural Revival (Freeman Public Library)

Tuesday, 7:00pm: Music Committee (Friesen Residence)

Wednesday, 10:00am: Freeman Ministerial (Missionary Church)

Friday, 9:00am: Cookie Walk (Senior Citizens Center, Freeman)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 11, 7:00pm: Family Christmas

Dec. 12, 7:00pm: Prayer Shawl

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

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

The **Christmas Cookie Walk** will be **Fri., Dec. 9** (snow date-Mon., Dec. 12). Please bring your cookies to **Sr. Citizen Center by 9 am**. We will assist a local individual (who wishes to remain anonymous) who is experiencing health issues. We want this to be an encouragement that shows our love & support.

Please bring a **plate of Christmas goodies** the morning of **December 11th** to be shared around the tables with the fruit and peanuts provided for our Family Christmas/Sunday School Christmas Program. We hope everyone can attend!

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.

The **Sunday School Copier** has been moved to make more room for the children to sing. The copier is now located next to the I-G Classroom in the southwest corner of the Sunday School wing.

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

Take chances. Make mistakes. Get messy. Be challenged. Learn some things. Teach some things. Spend a year living somewhere that you never dreamed you'd go... Start now at **salt.mcc.org**, find answers to frequently asked questions, assignment options and apply! Contact sharonnelson@mcc.org for more information.

"Guess Who's Coming to Bethlehem?" The Freeman Academy 1st-3rd grade

students are excited to share the news of the “baby” born in Bethlehem! The animals, who live near the manger, have heard of a baby being born and are very curious as to what “kind” of baby is born. The lamb heard He was the “Lamb of God” so surely it is a lamb, while the dove heard He was the “Prince of Peace” so it must be a dove. The angels help solve the mystery by guiding the animals to the manger where they learn that “the King of Kings brings peace and love to creatures great and small” and that this baby is the “Son of God who has come to save us all.” Come join us Tuesday, December 6th at 4:15 pm, Pioneer Hall Dining Room to hear this simple yet profound message of unconditional love.

The Freeman Academy music department features “**A Renaissance Yuletide**”, December 15 & 16, at 6:30 pm in Pioneer Hall. Reservations are needed for this event and are requested by December 8. Please check the *Courier* for the order form or the Freeman Academy website www.freemanacademy.org . You may mail the order form with your payment or stop in the Freeman Academy office to purchase tickets.

Video and audio recordings of the three **Bible Study Webinars** with Meghan Good are available on the Study Webinars page at 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.