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**Hutterthal  
Mennonite  
Church**

*Christ-centered - Living, Relating, Serving*

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**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**February 14, 2016**

“It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.’”

Luke 4: 4b, NKJV

## **Prelude**

### **Lighting of the Peace Lamp**

#### **Call to Worship:**

based on Psalm 91: 1-2

L: As we gather in this place, let us be drawn into the safety of the love of God. With the psalmist, we proclaim:

***ALL: You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.***

## **Welcome**

**Prayer:** HWB no. 751

**Hymn:** HWB no. 366,

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

**Scripture Reading:**  
**Silent Meditation**

Romans 10: 1-13 (Pew Bible p. 599)

**Confessing and Reconciling**  
**Confessional Prayer**  
**Assurance**

**Children's Time:**

Share Your Story

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

**Hymn:** HWB no. 545,

*Be Thou My Vision*

**Message:**

Confess and Believe

#### **Journal Questions:**

1. What areas of your life do you need to yield more fully to Christ? How might you begin to do this "yielding?"
2. Who might help you remain accountable to your walk with Christ?  
(When will you reach out to them and begin this intentional work?)

### 3. How do I acknowledge God as Author of my story?

#### **Sharing Time**

##### **Congregational Prayer**

##### **Lord's Prayer** (debts/debtors)

**Hymn:** HWB no. 165,

*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

#### **Benediction:**

based on Psalm 91: 14-15

L: May we carry this promise of God with us this week:

***ALL: Those who love Me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know My name. When they call to Me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them.***

#### **Musical Response**

#### **Postlude**

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**Worship Participants:** Elvera Deckert (accompanist), Todd Jones (worship leader & message), and Amanda Mettler (children's time)

#### ***PRAYER CONCERNS***

- **Frank Wiebe** (undergoing chemo)
- **Pastor Tim Detweiler** (undergoing chemo)
- **Central Plains Mennonite Conference (CPMC):** Pray for Youth Escape 2016, the July 15-17 weekend retreat for Central Plains youth. Pray that youth will attend and be encouraged to live "inside out," finding their identity in Jesus Christ.
- **Mennonite Mission Network (MMN):** Many weddings occur this time of year in Cambodia due to the cooler, dry season. On this Valentine's Day, pray for Petrus and Yuliana Handoyo of MMN as they mentor young Christian couples and model Christ-centered relationships.
- **Additional prayers**

#### **TODAY**

**9:00am:** Gathering 58: 6

**Greeters:** Lyndon & Barbie Hofer

**9:45am:** Worship Service

**Coffee Time:** Donovan & Sherryl Friesen

**11:05am:** Sunday School for all ages

**MW February Project:** Cash for Swan Lake Christian Camp

**Children's S.S. Fall Project:** CPMC Ecuador Partnership

## **NEXT SUNDAY: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Greeters:** LaVonne Tschetter & Monica Hofer

**Accompanist:** Edie Tschetter & David Friesen

**Coffee Time:** Chad & Rebecca Hofer

## **THIS WEEK**

**Mon.:** 7:00pm Freeman Network for Justice & Peace (Library)

**Tues.:** 9:15am Pastor-Peer (Sioux Falls)

**Thurs.:** 7:00pm Church Board

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Feb. 22:** 7:00pm Christian Education Committee

**Feb. 24:** March *Connection!* Deadline

**Feb. 29:** 7:00pm Deacons Meeting (Hofer Residence)

**Mar. 13:** DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

**Mar. 20-23:** Joint Holy Week Services (North Church)

**Mar. 24:** 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship

**Mar. 27:** EASTER SUNDAY

## **LENT 2016:**

1) Our 2016 Lenten journey will begin on Wednesday, February 10, 2016. We strongly encourage you to enter into an extended period of prayerful contemplation in regard to the cross of Christ. We encourage you to use Psalm 51 as a focus text for this time, meditating on the themes of confession and repentance as you breathe in the new life of Christ. If entering into this practice during breakfast or lunch you may also consider the spiritual discipline of fasting during this period and/or journaling (see below).

2) Throughout our Lenten journey we will have the opportunity to record and become more fully aware of our spiritual stories. This will include focus questions during our worship time together as well as “homework.” The “homework” will consist of

journaling, and all are strongly encouraged to participate throughout the season. *The journaling exercise need not be complex.* If you do not have a journal, simply staple several pieces of paper together (nothing fancy) that provide you with the space necessary to reflect on Scripture through writing or doodling. These can be daily or weekly entries. There are no rules. You are simply asked to write honestly about the joys and struggles of life knowing that the entries will remain confidential.

**At-Home Lent Devotionals** available! From February 9 through Easter Sunday, nurture your family's identity as Christ-followers by using these daily scripture readings and activities. Research shows that the best way to pass faith to children is through family worship in the home. These family devotions give you just the tools you need! Here is the link where you can find the devotionals in several formats. You could even print booklets for your families! <http://www.commonword.ca/SelectDownloadFormat/43/18139>

The Christian Education Committee would like to inform you of **two current ministry needs/opportunities**:

- 1) 2016 VBS Chairperson: As we approach spring, we are seeking a person or persons to head up our VBS program this year. If you are interested in assisting, please contact Larry Tschetter.
- 2) We are seeking an individual as our Junior Sunday School Assistant superintendent. We are accepting volunteers or names of those we may reach out to in regard to this ministry. If interested, please contact Larry Tschetter

Are you interested in making deeper connections with the work of our conference? Would you like to help influence that ongoing ministry? Currently, we are **seeking delegates** to the Annual Meeting of the Central Plains Mennonite Conference. The meeting is scheduled for **June 16-19, 2016 in Des Moines, Iowa**. Those interested in learning more or participating as delegates are asked to contact Pastor Todd.

We need **help sewing drawstring bags** that Twyla has already pre-cut and made available in the HMC kitchen. The bags will be used when the children pack the March project of Hygiene Kits. Please sign as to what color you have taken, return thread to Twyla and return the completed bags to the kitchen. Thank you so much.

The next meeting of the **Freeman Network for Justice and Peace** will be **Monday, February 15 at 7:00 pm** in the Community Room of the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome!

**SCHMECKFEST NOTE: Cheese Pocket making: Feb. 16, 23 and March 1** at Freeman Academy dining room starting at 9 a.m. All help would be appreciated. Contact June Pullman with your questions.

**Swan Lake Christian Camp invites you** to attend the appreciation **dinner and annual meeting March 5th at 6:00 pm**. The meal is our way of saying thank you for partnering with us in ministry. Please **RSVP by February 28** to 605-326-5690 or [campoffice@myslcc.com](mailto:campoffice@myslcc.com).

Have you always wanted to experience another culture while growing professionally, spiritually, and personally? Then **MCC's SALT pro-gram** is for you! We have upwards of 120 diverse assignments in over 35 countries. **Deadline** to apply at [mcc.org/salt](http://mcc.org/salt) is ***TOMORROW, Feb. 15.***

### **Stay in Touch through Social Media**

**HMC Website:** [www.hmcfreeman.org](http://www.hmcfreeman.org)

**HMC Facebook:** [www.Facebook.com/HutterthalMennoniteChurch](http://www.Facebook.com/HutterthalMennoniteChurch)

**Pastor's Facebook:** [www.Facebook.com/MennPastor](http://www.Facebook.com/MennPastor)

**Pastor's Twitter Feed:** @MennPastor

**Pastor's Sermon Blog:** [www.MennPastor.blogspot.com](http://www.MennPastor.blogspot.com)