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Hutterthal Mennonite Church

Christ-centered - Living, Relating, Serving

Pastor Todd Jones

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THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

February 28, 2016

“Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.”

Isaiah 55: 6, NKJV

Prelude:

Ave Maria

Lighting of the Peace Lamp

Call to Worship:

based on Psalm 63

L: Because Your steadfast love is better than life,

ALL: We gather to praise You.

L: Because Your steadfast love is better than life,

ALL: We will bless You as long as we live.

L: Because Your steadfast love is better than life,

ALL: We will lift up our hands and call on Your name.

Welcome

Prayer

Hymn: HWB no. 40,

Jesus Christ, God's Only Son

Scripture Reading:

Luke 13: 1-9 (Pew Bible p. 551)

Silent Meditation

Confessing and Reconciling

Confessional Prayer

Silent Confession

Assurance

Children's Time:

Share Your Story

Time of Offering

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Music:

Lioness Heart (Margaret Goldston)

Offertory Prayer

Hymn: HWB no. 149,

Great God of Wonders

Message:

The Trouble

Journal Questions:

1. Knowing I have received abundant forgiveness from God, where (and how) do I need to practice forgiveness with others?

2. From whom do I want to withhold God's grace and why?
3. In a practical sense, what does "mercy" look like? How have I experienced mercy and in what ways can I share mercy with others?

Sharing Time

Congregational Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Hymn: HWB no. 504,

Have Thine Own Way

Benediction:

based on Psalm 63

L: As we continue to meditate on the Lord, may our souls be satisfied with a rich feast.

ALL: May our souls cling to God whose right hand upholds us.

L: For God has been our help, and in the shadow of God's wings we go forth,

ALL: in the shadow of God's wings we go forth, singing for joy!

Musical Response

Postlude

Worship Participants: Tiffany Zeng (piano, prelude), Jessica Sun (violin, prelude), Todd Jones (worship leader & message), Charlene Friesen (accompanist), Amanda Mettler (children's time), & Jada Koerner (offertory music)

PRAYER CONCERNS

- **Community of Hesston, KS**
- **Reagan Medina** (Daughter of Jason and Stacy, born 2/23)
- **Mother of Steve Friesen**
- **Frank Wiebe** (undergoing chemo)
- **Pastor Tim Detweiler** (undergoing chemo)
- **Central Plains Mennonite Conference (CPMC):** Today, Josh Lundberg, associate pastor at Kalona Mennonite Church, will be licensed toward ordination. Pray for Josh, lead pastor Scott Swartzendruber and the congregation in their shared ministry.
- **Mennonite Mission Network (MMN):** MMN requests prayer for SOOP

volunteers to work alongside staff doing office, maintenance and construction work, acting as teachers' aides, and assisting in the kitchen at Academia Menonita Betania, a bilingual Christian school located near the city of Aibonito, Puerto Rico.

· **Additional prayers**

TODAY

Greeters: Colin & Michelle Hofer

9:45am: Worship Service

Coffee Time: John & Monica Clem

11:10am: 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: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Greeters: Todd & Suzanne Koerner

Accompanist: Paige Zachariasen

Coffee Time: Doug & Becky McCune

THIS WEEK

Mon.: 7:00pm Deacons Meeting (Hofer Residence)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar. 13: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

Mar. 20-23: 7:00pm Joint Holy Week Services (North Church)

Mar. 24: 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship

Mar. 27: EASTER SUNDAY

Sanctuary Carpet and Chancel Stage has been completed. Designated donations for this project can be placed in the offering plate (in an envelope) or placed in the Capital Improvement Fund box by the library. The total cost of the project is projected to be \$7,000.00.

LENT 2016: 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.

We need **help sewing drawstring bags** that Twyla has already pre-cut and made available in the HMC kitchen. Please sign as to what color you have taken and return thread to Twyla. Thank you so much.

SCHMECKFEST NOTE:

- 1. Cheese Pocket making: March 1** at Freeman Academy dining room starting at 9 a.m. All help would be appreciated. Contact June Pullman with your questions.
- 2. Kuchen** will be baked in cooperation with the Tyndall Bakery again this year. Donations of fruit are needed: rhubarb, mulberries, raspberries, cherries, peaches and apricots. March 16, April 1 and April 4 are the days to make filling in the Pioneer Hall kitchen from 1:00-6:00 p.m. 6-8 workers are needed each day. Baking days at the bakery are March 17, April 2 and April 5. 10-12 people are needed each day. We carpool from the school parking lot at 8:00 a.m. and return mid-late afternoon. Contact Vernetta Waltner at vwaltner@freemanacademy.org or 605-321-7351 to volunteer your time or with any 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.

The Freeman Academy **Studio Subscription Series** invites you to join us for the next two events in March. Sunday, March 6 at 4:00pm Dr. John Walker of South Dakota State University presents a piano recital featuring works from Beethoven, Chopin and Liszt. The recital will take place in Pioneer Hall. The following Saturday, March 12th at 7:00 pm, **Ross & MacKenzie with Danielle Enblom** present music from Scotland, Ireland, and Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. Tickets, which include a dessert reception, can be purchased at the door: single event admission \$15/adult and \$8/student (K-12). For further information see the Freeman Courier or contact Amy Hofer Vetch at 605-925-4237 Ext. 240 or by email ahofer@freemanacademy.org .

Et Cetera Shoppe's new arrangement means we have more room to accept **donations of furniture!** If you've got pieces of furniture that you'd like to get rid of, consider supporting our mission. All we ask is that your items be clean, free of holes, stains and rips; odor-free (PLEASE no cigarette or pet odor) and with a solid, intact frame. Your donations are tax-deductible and mean help for people in the US and around the world! Call 925-7098 before bringing large pieces.

The congregation is cordially invited to attend a **Senior Concert** given by the vocal group 4ever, on Sunday, March 13, at 7 p.m. at the Salem Mennonite Church. See details in the *Connection*.

Stay in Touch through Social Media

HMC Website: www.hmcfreeman.org

HMC Facebook: www.Facebook.com/HutterthalMennoniteChurch

Pastor's Facebook: www.Facebook.com/MennPastor

Pastor's Twitter Feed: @MennPastor

Pastor's Sermon Blog: www.MennPastor.blogspot.com