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## Hutterthal Mennonite Church

*Christ-centered - Living, Relating, Serving*

Pastor Todd Jones

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**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**March 6, 2016**

**“You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble;  
You shall surround me with songs of deliverance”**

**Psalm 32: 7, NKJV**

## **Prelude**

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

## **Call to Worship:**

based on Psalm 32

L: Many are the torments of the wicked,

***ALL: but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.***

L: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,

***ALL: and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.***

## **Welcome**

## **Prayer**

**Hymn:** HWB no. 5,

*There is a Place of Quiet Rest*

**Scripture Reading:**

Luke 15: 1-3 & 11b-32 (Pew Bible p. 552)

**Silent Meditation**

## **Confessing and Reconciling**

**Confessional Prayer**

**Silent Confession**

**Assurance**

**Children's Time:**

Share Your Story

## **Time of Offering**

**Offertory Invitation**

**Offertory Music**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Hymn:** HWB no. 139,

*Far, Far Away from My Loving Father*

**Message:**

Prodigal

### **Journal Questions:**

1. In what ways does your life reflect “prodigal” living?
2. How have you experienced God’s grace this week — God running to embrace you with all He is?

3. Look critically at your life: What lies at the root of your resistance to share God's reconciling grace with others?

## **Sharing Time**

### **Congregational Prayer**

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

**Hymn:** HWB no. 491,

*Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling*

## **Benediction**

**L:** Turn toward the open arms of Christ and His ways and receive His good news of reconciliation.

**P:** **As we turn, may we experience and share the grace of His healing forgiveness.**

## **Musical Response**

## **Postlude**

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**Worship Participants:** Paige Zachariasen (accompanist), Todd Jones (worship leader & message), Amanda Mettler (children's time), & Colin Hofer (audio-visual assistance)

## ***PRAYER CONCERNS***

- Adeline Friesen
- **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):** Pray for the Mennonite Church USA Constituency Leaders Council meeting in Goshen, Indiana, Monday through Wednesday. Pray for God's guidance as these representatives of the area conferences meet. Pray for wisdom for David Boshart as he facilitates the meetings.
- **Mennonite Mission Network (MMN):** Alisha and Josh Garber of MMN teach and mentor students at LCC International University in Lithuania. Throughout the winter, Josh has battled bronchitis. Pray for renewed energy for Josh and for the health of Alisha and their first child expected in May.

· Additional prayers

**TODAY**

**Greeters:** Todd & Suzanne Koerner

**9:45am:** Worship Service

**Coffee Time:** Doug & Becky McCune

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

**MW March Project:** Hygiene Kits - see *Connection!* for details

**Children's S.S. Spring Project:** The Banquet (Yankton)

**NEXT SUNDAY: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Greeters:** Dennis & Marcia Schrock

**Accompanist:** Amy Hofer Vetch

**Coffee Time:** Mildred Hofer

**THIS WEEK**

**Mon.:** 8:00pm Rural Revival (Freeman Library)

**Wed.:** 10:00am Freeman Ministerial (Parsonage)

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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

**Mar. 14:** 7:00pm Prayer Shawl

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

7:30pm Freeman Network for Justice & Peace (Library)

**Mar. 17:** 7:00pm Church Board

**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** project 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 have transitioned to a new Office Administrative Assistant, Jill Hofer. Please forward your bulletin announcements to her by **Thursday, 5:00 p.m.** You can send announcements via email to [hutterthal@goldenwest.net](mailto:hutterthal@goldenwest.net) or reach her by phone at 925-4783 or 605-261-3411 (texts work also.) Thank you.

The Trustees have declared the old removable **stage pieces as surplus**. If you are interested in taking these pieces, please speak with one of the trustees.

### **SCHMECKFEST NOTE:**

**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 pm**. 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. Contact Vernetta Waltner at [vwaltner@freemanacademy.org](mailto:vwaltner@freemanacademy.org) or 605-321-7351 to volunteer your time or with any questions.

The Freeman Academy **Studio Subscription Series** invites you to join us for the next two events in March.

- **TODAY, March 6 at 4:00 pm** 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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. 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*.

Register now for **Sent 2016**: A gathering of Mennonites planting Jesus-centered communities, March 31–April 2 in New Orleans. This **church planting summit** is open to people who are testing a call to church planting as well as church planters, pastors, missiologists and conference leaders. Learn more and register at [www.mennoniteusa.org/sent](http://www.mennoniteusa.org/sent) .

**Central Plains Mennonite Conference** Freeman office has a new phone number—605-929-3325 . The old number will be discontinued in June.

Dr. Marcie Moran will lead a **seminar on grieving and loss** at the Freeman Library meeting room on March 12, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Dr. Moran is a psychiatric nurse and psychologist, Director of Catholic Family Services in Sioux Falls, and a well-known expert on the topic of grieving and crisis. A panel of four local people who have experienced loss in a personal way will also share their journey of grief. The seminar is free to attend and sponsored by the Freeman Ministerial, Modern Woodman of America, and Salem Mennonite Church.

### **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)