



# Hutterthal Mennonite Church

*Christ-centered - Living, Relating, Serving*

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## **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT** **November 27, 2016**

*“And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.”*  
~ Romans 13: 11, NKJV

### **Prelude**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath:**

The Candle of Hope

**Hymn:** Bulletin Insert vs. 1 & 5,

*Hope Is a Light*

### **Call to Worship:**

STS no. 125

**L:** God of Advent, in the darkest days and nights of the year, our hearts turn toward Your promised light.

**P:** **With the first faint glimmer of a single candle dancing into the light of many bright flames, our hope is ignited once more.**

**L:** In these Advent days, lead us in Your light to a manger where the face of God shines bright and clear.

**ALL: Amen.**

### **Prayer**

### **Welcome**

### **Scripture Reading:**

Psalm 122 (Pew Bible p. 328)

**Hymn:** HWB no. 175,

*O Savior, Rend the Heavens*

**Prayer of Confession  
Assurance of Reconciliation**

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

**Children's Time:**

A Bundle of Sticks

**Hymn:** HWB no. 182,

*Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee*

**Scripture Reading:**

Isaiah 2: 1-5 (Pew Bible p. 359)  
Matthew 24: 36-44 (Pew Bible p. 524)

**Message:**

A Transcendent Hope

**Hymn:** HWB 338,

*I Know Not Why God's Wondrous*

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

**Hymn:** HWB no. 188,

*Sleeper's, Wake!*

**Benediction**

**Musical Response**

**Postlude**

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**Worship Participants:** Paige Zachariasen, accompanist; Amanda Mettler, worship leader; Clara Koerner, song leader; Becky McCune, children's time; and Todd Jones, message

***PRAYER CONCERNS***

- **Amos & Kathryn Kleinsasser** (transitioned to Diamond Care Center 11/23)
- **Lucilla Dewald** (Mother of Glenda Langeland)

- **Larry Hofer**
- **Frank Wiebe**
- **Additional Prayers**

### **TODAY—November 27, 2016**

**Greeters:** Marj Hofer

**9:45 am:** Worship Service

**Coffee Time:** Steve Mendel

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

### **NEXT SUNDAY— December 4, 2016—2nd Sunday of Advent**

**Greeters:** LaVonne Tschetter & Monica Hofer

**Accompanist:** Shirley Hofer & Paige Zachariasen

**Worship Leader:** Alvina Hofer

**Song Leader:** Suzanne Koerner

**Children's Time:** Monica Hofer

**Coffee Time:** Steve Mendel

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

### **THIS WEEK**

**Tuesday, 7:30 pm:** Deacons Meeting (Koerner Residence)

**Saturday, 9:00am:** State Oral Interpretation (Harrisburg, SD)

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Dec 5, 7:00 pm:** HMC Annual Meeting

**Dec. 9, 9:00am:** Cookie Walk (Senior Citizens Center, Freeman)

**Dec. 11, 7:00pm:** Family Christmas

**Dec. 12, 7:00pm:** Prayer Shawl

**Dec. 20, 9:15am:** Pastor-Peer

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

### **NOVEMBER PROJECTS:**

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

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

***DATE CHANGE!*** Due to scheduling conflicts, our *Family Christmas* has been moved to Sunday, December 11, 2016 at 7:00pm. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your willingness to be flexible. Thank you!

**Families with children:** Today is the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of “Come, Walk in the Light of Day,” a free, downloadable guide for family worship from November 27 to January 6. Pick and choose the activities that work best for your family. Find it at [www.anabaptistfaithformation.org](http://www.anabaptistfaithformation.org) or on the table in the foyer.

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**. This 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** 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 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.

**Sunday School Copier:** 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.

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](http://salt.mcc.org), find answers to frequently asked questions, assignment options and apply! Contact [sharonnelson@mcc.org](mailto: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](http://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](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.