



Hutterthal Mennonite Church

Christ Centered – Living, Relating, Serving

Sunday, December 19, 2021

9:45 a.m.

Forth Sunday of Advent

DARE TO IMAGINE:
LOVE



Hutterthal Mennonite Church
Sunday, December 19, 2021
9:45 a.m.

Prelude

Call to Worship

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Scripture Reading Micah 5:2-5a Pew Bible p. 490

Offering Prayer

Congregational Song

Hail to the Lord's Anointed HWB# 185

Sharing Time and Prayer

Scripture Reading Psalm 80:1-3 Pew Bible p. 313

Advent Candle Lighting

Children's Christmas Program *How Far Is It To Bethlehem*

(see insert for order and participants)

***Benediction**

Postlude

***please stand if you are able**

HMC Service may be viewed on our web-page:

www.HMCFreeman.org

Prayer of Confession:

Leader: We notice, O God, that when you feed people, everyone has enough.

People: We notice that in our world, when we feed people, some have more than enough, and many are still hungry.

Leader: Teach us love.

People: We notice, O God, that in your social, economic, racial, and gender orders, no one is greater, and no one is left behind.

Leader: We notice that in our world, there are many ladders, and many are climbing.

People: Re-orient us to your vision of equality.

Leader: God of mercy, lower us, raise us, empty us, and fill us. Like an empty manger, we want to be ready to receive Emmanuel.

Candle Litany:

Leader 1: We light a candle of love, and imagine...

Leader 2: the lowly lifted, fear met with love.

Leader 1: We light the candle and pray for God's face to shine on us, to save us, restore us.

Leader 2: Imagine that... we are God's wonders, blessed wonders.

**Children's Christmas Program:
*How Far is it to Bethlehem?***

Come, Ye Lofty with O Come, All Ye Faithful

Children's Choir

Open the Gates, O Jerusalem

Children's Choir
soloists: Brynlee Hofer and Bridget Neuharth

How Far is it to Bethlehem? with O Little Town of Bethlehem

Children's Choir
soloist: Camilla Hofer

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Men's Choir

What Will We Find?

Women's Choir

Star Song

Children's Choir
soloist: Alyssa Hofer

One King with We Three Kings of Orient Are

Men's Choir

Not That Far from Bethlehem

Children's Choir
soloist: Addison Waltner

I Give it All with Offering

Whole Group Choir
soloists: Isabel Waltner and Addison Waltner

Children's Choir: Isabel Waltner, Jessica Scheetz, Addison Waltner, Egan Mettler, Alyssa Hofer, Ethan Waltner, Isaac Mettler, Bridget Neuharth, Brynlee Hofer, Camilla Hofer, Avery Waltner, Otto Mettler, and Landon Neuharth

Narrators: Isabel Waltner, Addison Waltner, Jessica Scheetz, Alyssa Hofer, Brynlee Hofer, Bridget Neuharth, and Camilla Hofer

Spies/Travelers: Egan Mettler, Isaac Mettler, and Ethan Waltner

Girl Travelers: Isabel Waltner, Jessica Scheetz, Addison Waltner, and Alyssa Hofer

Music Director: Suzanne Koerner

Program Directors: Kylea Waltner and Rebecca Hofer

Piano Accompanist: Paige Zachariasen

Guitar Accompanist: Randall Koehler

Men's Quartet Director/Accompanist: Amy Hofer-Vetch

Men's Quartet: Kenny Birkey, Chad Hofer, Cole Hofer, and Brandon Waltner

Women's Choir: Aprille Birkey, Rebecca Hofer, Morgan Koehler, Jada Koerner, Amanda Mettler, Autumn Rouse, and Kylea Waltner

Whole Group Choir: Children's Choir, Men's Quartet, Women's Choir, and Children's Choir parents

Winter Bible Study Announcement: Winter Bible Study will be starting January 5th at 7 pm on Zoom. We are nearing the deep heart of winter when the days are shortest and the nights are coldest, so the deacons and pastor are inviting you to join HMC's annual winter bible study. We will be studying the book, *Invited* by Leslie Verner. Our study will continue on Wednesday evenings until March 9. You can order or buy your own copy of the book when is convenient for you. If you would prefer to join a group order through the church, send a message to the church email address with how many copies that you would like by December 26, so we can make sure to get them in before bible study starts. If you would like to peruse the book ahead of time, HMC has a copy in the church library.

The Swan Lake Christian Camp December newsletter is available online at www.myslcc.com under the "about us" tab. Read about upcoming events and happenings as well as a few Christmas reflections from SLCC staff.

Health Update & Prayers for Retired Conference Minister, Tim Detweiler: Over the last year, Tim Detweiler has been receiving a target therapy for the resurgence of his lung cancer. October tests showed that despite the treatment the cancer continues to grow and has advanced to a new stage. At the beginning of December, Tim was also hospitalized due to difficulty breathing. Among other causes, the target therapy medicine has been damaging his heart and a tumor is pressing on a key artery. With these discouraging developments, Tim has discontinued his daily target treatment, received five days of intensive radiation, and will begin a course of chemotherapy and/or immunotherapy infusions every three weeks for the foreseeable future. Your continued prayers and support have been greatly appreciated by Tim, Carol, and family. Thank you! If you wish to pray more specifically, you can follow Tim's journey at caringbridge.org/visit/timdetweiler

TODAY December 19, 9:45 am Forth Sunday of Advent

Accompanist: Paige Zachariasen

Worship Leader: Randall Koehler

Song Leader: Aprille Birkey

Children's Time & Advent Candle Lighting: Cameron and Rina Hofer

Message: Christmas Program

Coffee Time: Phil & Joline Thomas

No Sunday School following the Christmas Program

NEXT SUNDAY December 26, 9:45 am

Accompanist: Charlene Friesen

Worship Leader:

Song Leader: Marj Hofer

Special Music: Hymn Sing

Message: Randall Koehler

Coffee Time: Larry & Edie Tschetter

10:45: Sunday School for all ages

CALENDAR:

Dec. 25: HMC Christmas Day Service - 10 AM

Jan 2: Baby Shower for Pastor Randall and Morgan - 2PM

Jan. 5 : HMC Winter Bible Study begins on Zoom - 7 PM

There will be a time of **fellowship and snacks** following the Children's Christmas program worship service TODAY. Thank you to Priscilla Hofer and Twyla Hofer for planning the refreshments for our time together.

HMC December Cash Project: medical expenses for Laura Ilunga, international student at Freeman Academy who is hosted on weekends and holidays by the Todd Koerner family.

Special Offering: We are having a special offering during the month of December for our Designated Offering Distribution. Benefitting from your gifts will be CPMC, Freeman Academy, MCC, MCC Meat Canning, MC USA, Swan Lake Christian Camp, and Wellspring (according to the percentages listed in the Yearbook). We are grateful for all these organizations and wish to support them in this way.

Prayer Requests and Praises:

- Praise God that all of the kidnapped anabaptist missionaries in Haiti have been released and soon will be back in the US.
- Pray for Joyce Hofer as she continues to recover at home from COVID-19.
- Give thanks for all of your brothers and sisters in Central Plains Mennonite Conference, for all of God's work accomplished through them in Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Montana, and Nebraska.
- Pray for all of those who experience mixed emotions throughout this holiday season as they walk in grief, mourning, anger, fear, anxiety, and more. We pray that Emmanuel (God with us) would be present to each one in a special way this Christmas.

Pastor Randall's contact information:

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