



Hutterthal Mennonite Church

Christ Centered – Living, Relating, Serving

Sunday, December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent — 9:45 a.m.

Prelude

Call to Worship and Prayer

Welcoming One Another

*Gathering and Praising

Hark! The Glad Sound! VT #217

He Came Down VT #239

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10 Pew Bible p. 376

Sharing Time and Prayer

Advent Candle Lighting

O Come, O Come, Immanuel vv. 1 & 7 VT #210

Children's Time

Special Music

Scripture Reading

Matthew 11:2-11 Pew Bible p. 514

Message

Speak

Offering Prayer

*Responding and Sending

Sálvanos, Señor (Save Us, O Lord) VT #833

*Benediction

Postlude

*please stand if you are able

HMC Service may be viewed on our web-page:

www.HMCFreeman.org

TODAY December 11th, 9:45am - Third Sunday of Advent

Worship Leader: John Clem

Accompanist: Charlene Friesen

Song Leader: Amy Hofer Vetch

Advent Candle Lighting: Alvina Hofer & Steve Mendel

Children's Time: Kenny Birkey

Special Music: Alyssa & Brynlee Hofer

Message: Pastor Randall Koehler

Coffee Time: John & Monica Clem

Children's Sunday School following the service

**Adult Sunday School following coffee time in the South Room
and in the fellowship hall**

NEXT SUNDAY December 18, 9:45 am - Fourth Sun. of Advent

Worship Leader: Pastor Randall Koehler

Accompanist: Norma Hofer

Song Leader: Les Rensink

Advent Candle Lighting: Isabel Waltner & Jessica Scheetz

Children's Time: Kenny Birkey

Message: Children's Christmas Program

Coffee Time: Phil & Joline Thomas

**No Sunday School for adults or children following the service.
Everyone is invited to a light brunch downstairs in the fellow-
ship hall following the worship service.**

Calendar:

December 18: HMC Children's Christmas Program — 9:45 AM
Brunch following the service; no Sunday School

Deadline for corrections in the 2023 Yearbook

January 11: Winter Bible Study begins on Zoom

February 5: Pastor Randall's Ordination Service

Congregational Ministries Project for December:

CASH for Freeman Food Pantry

The **draft of the 2023 Annual Yearbook** is sitting on the table in the upper foyer. Please check your information and initial by it if correct or make necessary changes by December 18.

Call to Worship (from The Leader Advent Resources)

Leader: Look, I am sending my messenger. Go! Tell what you have seen.

People: God's awesome wonders fill the earth; the lost are found, the blind receive sight, the deaf hear, the lame walk, the poor are preached to, and those who are dead in spirit receive new life.

Leader: Is this what you were expecting to see?

People: Blessed are the who trust in the Lord!

Leader: For his yoke is easy; his burdens are light.

All: Great is thy faithfulness!

Everyone is invited to stay for **brunch** following the children's Christmas program on December 18. If you are able to provide an egg bake (9 x 13" pan) or a dozen muffins or slices of quick bread, that would be appreciated! Sign up on the sheet in the upper foyer.

Everyone enjoys **coffee time at HMC**. It's a great opportunity to meet visitors as well as keep connected with regulars. You have the opportunity during the month of December to contribute to the cost of coffee time by making a donation in the designated "Gift Box" located in the Fellowship Hall during coffee time. Thank you!

Flower & Flame, a group of musicians and one actor, will perform "A Christmas Carol" on Sunday, December 18th at 2PM at Freeman Academy in Pioneer Hall. Come and enjoy a show that everyone recognizes, but few have seen presented in this way. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$15. Kids 10 and under are free.

Mennonite World Conference is seeking to hire a full-time Development Executive position in North America. See <https://mwc-cmm.org/mwcdevexec> for the job posting.

Prayer Requests and Praises:

- Pray for Central Plains Mennonite Conference leaders and committees: for Nathan Luitjens, Amanda Bleichty, Susan Janzen, and Ramiro Hernandez, our conference ministers and coordinator. Also, pray for CPMC support staff: Monica Clem and Ted Widmer as they serve.
- Pray for MCUSA denominational leaders and committees that God would extend wisdom and discernment to all.
- We pray for those who are most vulnerable in our communities. May God open our eyes to the possibilities for love and for protection of the least of these among us-- and may we be willing to heed God's call.
- Laura Schlabach, who is serving with Mennonite Mission Network, asks for God's wisdom for the decision-makers at JCS International, a consortium of mission agencies in Mongolia. She also requests prayer for those who have been affected by the extreme winter air pollution that has caused respiratory illnesses in Ulaanbaatar, the country's capital, and other cities.

Pastor contact information:

Office Hours: Wed, Fri, Sat 9AM-12PM

Phone - 309-208-6032

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Pastor mailing address:

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Church Website: www.hmcfreeman.org

Salem (South) Mennonite church is sponsoring the holiday **Senior Giving Tree** for residents of Oakview Terrace and the Salem Home. Trees with gift tags and instructions are located at Jamboree Foods and Norm's Thrifty White. Gifts must be returned by Dec. 20 to ensure Christmas delivery. Thank you in advance for bringing joy to our senior citizens this holiday season!

The November edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. You can view it at the following link: <https://conta.cc/3UEteoj>

If you would like a subscription to **Anabaptist World** (formerly The Mennonite) included in our HMC group rate (\$39), please contact Charlene Friesen. Checks may be made out to 'Anabaptist World'. We have the current issue in our Hutterthal library if you would like to see a copy of this colorful, glossy and vibrant magazine.

MCC Christmas Giving! Give gifts of comfort and joy and help meet the basic needs of our global neighbors this Christmas. Choose from unique gifts such as goats, bees, backpacks and more. Give at mcc.org/delight, call 888.563.4676 or visit the MCC Central States office in North Newton, KS at 121 E. 30th Street. With each gift you can get a card and insert explaining the project. These gifts (from \$10-\$4,000) make wonderful hostess/teacher gifts, stocking stuffers and are ideal for those on your Christmas list that are hard to shop for!

A basket has been placed in the foyer for those who would like to contribute to **Hutterthal's annual designated offering** distribution. The money will go to Central Plains Mennonite Conference (70%) and Mennonite Church USA (30%). Contact John Clem if you have any questions.

HMC Worship Service Notes and Reflections:

This is a week of encouragement. We can be strong because the one who can truly restore us is coming. We have hope because of what we have already seen.

What are you carrying with you into the rest of this week from today's gathering?

How might you share it with those you interact with?

How can we both watch and prepare today for the advent of Messiah, Emmanuel, our God among us?

What stories do you have to share to encourage the community of faith?