



**Hutterthal Mennonite Church**  
Christ Centered – Living, Relating, Serving  
**Sunday March 12, 2023**  
**Third Sunday of Lent**  
**9:45 a.m.**

Prelude

Call to Worship and Prayer

Welcoming One Another

**\*Gathering and Praising**

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns* VT #101

*Woza nomthwalo wakho (Come, Bring Your Burdens to God)*

VT #679

Scripture Reading

Romans 5:1-11 Pew Bible p. 596

Sharing Time and Prayer

Children's Time

Words of Confession and Assurance

Special Music

*My Jesus* by Anne Wilson

Scripture Reading

John 4:1-42 Pew Bible p. 562

Message

Shaped through Thirst

Offering Prayer

**\*Responding and Sending**

*For You, O God, My Soul* VT #41

*Rain Down* VT #703

**\*Benediction**

Postlude

**\*please stand if you are able**

HMC Service may be viewed on our web-page:

[www.HMCFreeman.org](http://www.HMCFreeman.org)

**TODAY March 12, 2023 9:45 am *Third Sunday of Lent***

**Worship Leader:** Brandon Waltner

**Accompanist:** Paige Hofer

**Song Leader:** Aprille Birkey

**Special Music:** Kenny, Aprille & Jessica arr. by Sylvia Hofer

**Children's Time:** Jada Koerner

**Message:** Pastor Randall Koehler

**Coffee Time:** Paul & Priscilla Hofer

**Children's Sunday School following the service.**

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

**NEXT SUNDAY March 19, 2023 9:45 am *Fourth Sunday of Lent***

**Worship Leader:** John Clem

**Accompanist:** Paige Hofer

**Song Leader:** Amanda Mettler

**Children's Time:** Jada Koerner

**Message:** Pastor Randall Koehler

**Coffee Time:** Donovan & Cheryl Friesen

**Children's Sunday School following the service.**

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

**Calendar:**

March 13: HMC Deacon Meeting at 7 PM

March 15: HMC Board Meeting at 7 PM

March 24 & 25: Schmeckfest

April 2-5: Annual Holy Week Services

7 PM at Bethany Mennonite Church

April 2: Bethany leading

April 3: North Church and House Church leading

April 4: Hutterthal leading

April 5: South Church leading

April 6: Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 7 PM in  
HMC Fellowship Hall

April 9: Easter Sunday

## Call to Worship:

Leader: Come, let us bow down in worship.

**People: Let us kneel before the Lord our maker;**

Leader: for the Lord is our God,

**People: we are the people of God's pasture,**

*All: we are the flock under God's care.*

## Words of Confession and Assurance:

Leader: Lord, we long for living water.

We thirst for life. And yet,

We have drunk deeply of resentment;

We have savored self-centeredness.

We confess to the Lord...

*(silent prayer)*

Leader: Today, O God, let us hear your voice.

*All: Give us this living water so we may never thirst again. Amen*

## Benediction:

Leader: Like water poured out on a thirsty land,

**People: may the Lord pour out the Holy Spirit on us.**

Leader: May we blossom with new life.

*All: May we bring refreshment and joy to others.*

---

**HMC Congregational Ministry Project for March:**

Hygiene Kits for MCC.

Place items in the receptacle in S.S. room #1.

### Prayer Requests and Praises:

- Birthdays/Anniversaries: Rina Hofer on March 12 (today), Todd Koerner on March 13, and Savanna Timmerman on March 16.
- Pray for the good and peace-filled work of the Agape Peace Center and the Minnesota Peacebuilding Leadership Institute, both in Minnesota.
- From her home in Burkina Faso, Anicka Fast serves with Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), Mennonite Mission Network and Mennonite World Conference. One of her ministries is to amplify the voices of African Christian historians. Pray for her as she helps facilitate a history-writing workshop for Congolese Mennonites in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, this month.
- Pray for national and state government leaders and representatives. Pray for discernment and compassion as they make difficult decisions that affect many people. Pray that their greatest awareness is on the experience of those on the margins or edges of our communities and nation, for victims of oppression, injustice, poverty, or pain.

### Pastor contact information:

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

Phone - 309-208-6032

Email - [pastorrandallhmc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorrandallhmc@gmail.com)

Office Administrative Assistant: Aprille Birkey

***OAA Hours: Thursdays 9:30 AM - 12 PM***

Church Office phone: 605.925.7186

Church Email: [hutterthal@goldenwest.net](mailto:hutterthal@goldenwest.net)

Church Website: [www.hmcfreeman.org](http://www.hmcfreeman.org)

The **blue** ribbon this 3rd Sunday of Lent represents water as we are Shaped by Thirst. Are you thirsty? Thirsty for life? Will you believe in the God who provides water from a rock to the thirsty Israelites? Will you receive the living water that restores the humanity of the tragically degraded and trampled Samaritan woman?

We continue on the **Lenten Journey** this morning, 40 days of re-focusing and going without in order to create space for God. Our Lenten theme is "Created in the Image of God, Shaped by Jesus" from the Leader magazine. We are surrounded by a host of pressures that squeeze and contort us into less-than-human, even inhuman, shapes and disfigurements. Lent is a season to release that pressure, to repent of (or turn from) all that would distort and reduce our humanity. It is a season of fasting where we choose to abstain from whatever may be holding our lives too tightly in its grip. Likewise, in this season, we pay special attention to Christian disciplines: prayer, solitude, Bible Study, simplicity, and service. Yet we also remember that we cannot reshape ourselves. In themselves, these disciplines do not reshape us; they do not restore our authentic humanity. They simply open space in our lives for God to work. Our Creator will recreate us. Jesus' life, death, and resurrection call us and transform us into a new way of being human. We become human, indeed we are reborn, as the Spirit breathes life into us, a life that bursts forth from deep within like a stream of living water.

### **Rural Revival Education:**

Learning to make kombucha (fermented tea). Free tasting. Saturday, March 18, 2023 2-3 PM at the Freeman Prairie Arboretum Visitor Center. Free admission.

Please join us April 2-5 for our **Holy Week Services** at Bethany Mennonite Church. The message series for this year is *Be Angry*, which is about discipleship and drawing nearer to God. The speaker for this year is Dr. Nathan Hitchcock, owner of Sevensided Consulting, where he works with seminaries, denominations, and mission agencies to implement competency-based theological education. In a day when many educational organizations are struggling just to hang on, Dr. Hitchcock is helping them to thrive. Previously, he taught church history and theology at Sioux Falls Seminary. He received his PhD from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Dr. Hitchcock lives in Brandon, SD with his wife, two children, and an array of snoring Boston terriers. Come and join your Mennonite brothers and sisters from our local congregations as we gather together for these annual services.

**Heritage Hall Museum & Archives** will be buzzing during Schmeckfest 2023. It will be open 10a.m.—7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 24 and 25. Craft demonstrations in the museum and programming at the Bethel Church begin at 1. The popular Heritage Pickers are returning with 10-minute presentations scattered throughout the museum both afternoons that offer quick history lessons about specific artifacts. Visits with local experts about exhibits and areas of interest in the museum, archives, and Deckert house are planned. The model train, a 20-question exercise, and the hands-on rope-making demonstration are among highlights planned for children. The museum is extending its regular admission to two days during Schmeckfest, which enables people to come and go both Friday and Saturday. Museum wristbands, which will serve as admission tickets, are available for sale now. A complete schedule of events can be found online at: <https://heritagehallmuseum.com/news-%26-events>.