



Hutterthal Mennonite Church

Christ Centered – Living, Relating, Serving

Sunday March 26, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:45 a.m.

Prelude *Crown Jewels* by Christopher Goldstone

Call to Worship and Prayer

Welcoming One Another

*Gathering and Praising

New Earth, Heavens New VT #377

Holy Spirit, Come with Power VT #57

Scripture Reading Romans 8:1-11 Pew Bible p. 597

Sharing Time and Prayer

Children's Time

Words of Confession and Assurance

Special Music

Scripture Reading John 11: 1-57 Pew Bible p. 568

Message Called to Life

Offering Prayer

*Responding and Sending

They That Wait Upon the Lord

I Sing the Mighty Power of God VT #182

*Benediction

Postlude

*please stand if you are able

HMC Service may be viewed on our web-page:

www.HMCFreeman.org

TODAY March 26, 2023 9:45 am *Fifth Sunday of Lent*

Worship Leader: Suzanne Koerner

Prelude: Noelle Friesen

Accompanist: Charlene Friesen

Song Leader: Amy Hofer Vetch

Children's Time: Jada Koerner

Special Music: Vernon J. & Norma Lee Hofer

Message: Pastor Randall Koehler

Coffee Time: John & Monica Clem

Children's Sunday School following the service.

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

NEXT SUNDAY April 2, 2023 9:45 am *Palm Sunday*

Worship Leader: Lyndon Hofer

Accompanist: Paige Hofer

Song Leader: Aprille Birkey

Children's Time: Jada Koerner

Special Music: Children's Sunday School Department

Message: Pastor Randall Koehler

Coffee Time: Brandon & Kylea Waltner

Children's Sunday School following the service.

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

Calendar:

March 28: Calvin Hofer Time of Remembrance at 11 AM

April 2: Baby Shower for Samuel Tschetter-Castro at 2 PM

April 2-5: Holy Week—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—7 PM

April 9: Easter Sunday

**HMC Congregational Ministry Project for March:
Hygiene Kits for MCC.**

Call to Worship:

Leader: Out of the depths we cry to you.

People: O Lord, hear our cry.

Leader: If you kept a record of sins, who would stand a chance?

People: O Lord, hear our cry.

Leader: But with you there is forgiveness.

All: We wait for you, O Lord. We hope in your word. Blessed be your name.

Words of Confession and Assurance:

Leader: Lord, our lives are dry bones.

We are cruel in our words

And indifferent in our actions.

We confess to the Lord...

(silent prayer)

Leader: Breathe on us, Lord.

Put your Spirit within us

And make us alive.

All: We place our hope in you. Amen.

Benediction:

Leader: Put your hope in the Lord.

People: The Lord is unfailing love,

Leader: and with God is full redemption.

People: God will bring us up from our graves.

All: God will redeem us from all our sins.

Today, on this fifth Sunday of Lent, we illustrate with a **green** ribbon that we are Called to Life! Believe in the one who erases the stench of death, who makes even the driest of dry bones live.

Prayer Requests and Praises:

- Birthdays/Anniversaries: Jaden Thomas on March 26 (today), Vernon J. Hofer on March 27.
- Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Naomi Tice. Naomi serves as the administrative assistant for volunteer placements with Christliche Dienste (German Mennonite Voluntary Service), an agency that sends German youth to participate in Mission Network service programs. Pray for Naomi as she lives in a Christian community and builds relationships with German Mennonites.
- Pray for Central Plains congregations that are in the midst of pastoral searches. Pray for search committees and for candidates looking for churches, that God may guide the search process according to God's will.
- From Mennonite World Conference: we pray about the political and economic changes in the Southern Cone of the Americas and the resulting social instability (especially in Bolivia and Peru). May the Anabaptist communities, churches and institutions be a light; may they promote dialogue, denounce injustice and respond to so much need.

Pastor contact information:

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

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OAA Hours: Thursdays 9:30 AM - 12 PM

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

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.

We are planning a **baby shower for Samuel Tschetter-Castro** on Sunday, April 2, at 2 pm. Matt and Violeta have indicated that, because they have already experienced generosity in the gifts that they have received, Samuel is not in need of anything. They suggest that, if you wish to give something to honor his birth, you would give a cash donation for the purchase of MCC newborn kits. There will be a basket or a gift box at the shower for your donation. This shower will be an opportunity to share with the Hutterthal family the joy of his arrival as well as help other families who do not have what they need for their babies. We hope you will come and enjoy this happy occasion. If any questions please contact Kathy Pullman.

Calvin Ray Hofer's Time of Remembrance is this Tuesday, March 28, at 11 AM at our church with a meal following in the fellowship hall downstairs. If you would like to watch online, you can at the following address: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0lonuUFdUU8>

We continue on the **Lenten Journey**, 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." Lent is a season 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. We open space in our lives for God to work. Our Creator will recreate us as the Spirit breathes life into us, a life that bursts forth from deep within.

The March edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Executive Director Kevin King shares his experiences of working on an MDS project in Dulac, Louisiana; a home dedication in Kentucky provides visible reminders that God cares; and MDS Canada returns to Cape Bretton to repair damage from Hurricane Fiona. <https://conta.cc/3JazUG0>

Rural Revival will meet on Monday, March 27 at 7:30 P.M. in the Freeman Public Library All are welcome.

The **Bridgewater Community Cantata** will be presenting God So Loved the World in Bridgewater and Emery during this year's Easter season. The cantata features well-known old and contemporary hymns and presents the simple truth of the Easter message of Jesus's sacrifice and resurrection.

The performances will be at the Diamond Care Center in Bridgewater (Sunday, Mar. 26 at 2:30 pm), the Zion Bible Church in Bridgewater (Sun., Apr. 2 at 7:30 pm), and the First Baptist Church in Emery (Fri., Apr. 7 at 7:30 pm).

Please join the chorus and communities in celebrating the marvelous message of the Easter season!