

Advent 3: Let it be whole

Sunday, December 17, 2017

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Gathering

PreludeKenna Graber and Lacey Luinstra

Song of gathering: *Creator of the stars at night* *H 177

The work of the people (announcements)

(Please pass the welcome pads)

Call to worshipJudy Murphy, worship leader

Leader: Awake!

The invitation to carry light comes from the God of restoration.

All: O God, you amaze us with your promise to build up the ancient ruins. You say you will replace the ashes of the past with garlands of beauty. Your bold vision dazzles our doubting souls.

Lighting the Advent candleBrooklynn Black

Leader: Quiet our questions.

All: Lead us beyond our fears, and guide us on the path to peace.

Leader: Let it be whole.

Opening prayer

Praising

Songs of faith: *On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry* H 183

To us a Child of hope is born H 189

Greet one another; children come forward

Children's focus Clint Litsey

Song of faith: *Nun Ist Sie Erschienen*..... **CS 52

Offering: Local Mission

Offertory: *Gesu Bambino* by Pietro A. Yon Amanda Entz

Hearing God's Word

Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sermon: *Agendas* Pastor Anita Kehr

Responding to God's Word

Confession

(pause for silence)

Words of assurance

Song of response: *Hark! The glad sound* H 184

Pastoral prayer Pastor Joel Schroeder

Sending

Song of benediction: *Hark! The herald angels sing*..... H 201

Sending blessing

Postlude: *Postlude on a Ukrainian Carol* arr. Good

*H denotes Hymnal: A Worship Book **CS denotes Companion Songbook

Chorister: Carol Entz

Childcare: Greg or Laura Myers, Madelynn Hamm

Ushers: Gus Dorado, Dave Goering, Mike Garcia, Andrea Regier

Audio Tech: Tim Regier

Video/Lighting Tech: Alex Goering

Visuals: Carol Hiebert

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, December 17—Advent 3—*Let it be whole*

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service
4:00 PM Catechism

Wednesday, December 20

6:30 PM Christmas Eve Practice (K-5 grade)
7:00 PM Youth Group
7:00 PM Choir

Sunday, December 24—Advent 4—*Yes! Let it be now*—Luke 1:26-56

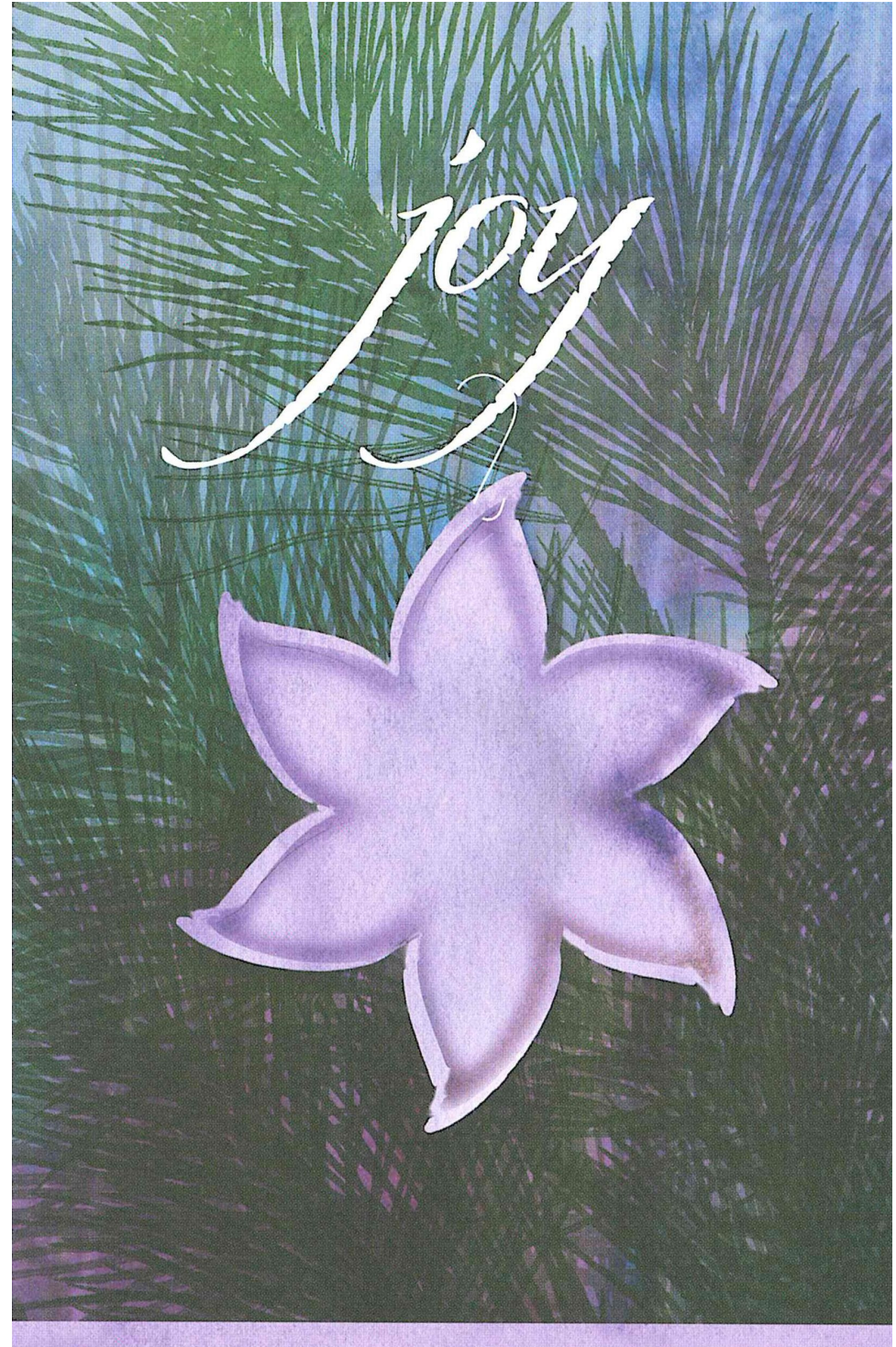
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 AM Christmas Eve Breakfast Potluck—Fellowship Hall
10:30 AM Worship Service
7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service

Upcoming Worship Services

December 31—*Yes! Let it be new*—Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148;
Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

January 7—Epiphany: *Yes! Let it be declared*—Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7,
10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12



Donations for the Salvation Army—Again this year, we are taking donations of mittens, gloves, hats, and scarfs for the Salvation Army. There will be boxes under the Nativity Set in the Court Area for the month of December. Thank you for your donations.

The Allies group, which supports people with various sexual identities and their families and friends, will be meeting Sunday, December 17, 4:00 PM at Paul and Wendy Schrag's home (1527 Westborough Drive).

Christmas Eve breakfast potluck—Sunday, December 24, 9:30 AM, in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee and juice will be provided by the Nurture Commission. Please bring a breakfast item to share with others and join us for fellowship and good food. There will be **no Sunday School** on this day.

Looking For a Messiah? The Christmas Eve Service will be Sunday, December 24, 7:00 PM, in the sanctuary. Bring your families and friends to hear the children tell the story of Jesus' birth. Immanuel, God is with us!

Yearbook update forms have been put in your mailbox. Please fill out the form if there are any changes and return the form to the box in the Court Area by Sunday, December 24. If you have family members listed in the Yearbook who do not regularly attend or live out of the area, please fill out a form for them if their information is different from what is in the Yearbook. If you are not currently in the Yearbook and would like to be, please make sure to fill out a form. Extra forms are also available in the Court Area.

If you would like to send Jaime Tschetter a holiday greeting card her address is: 6046 East 30th Street, Tucson, AZ 85711.

Children's Christmas Eve dress rehearsal will be Wednesday, December 20, 6:30-8:00 PM. We will be putting on our costumes and running through the program. Please practice your lines! On the December 24, we will need the children to arrive at 6:20 PM. Please meet in the basement. This is for children in grades kindergarten to 5th grade.

Register now for the Year of Evangelism Kick-Off: January 19-20, 2018. Reconnect ancient spiritual practices, social justice, and authentic Anabaptist evangelism for today. See the poster on the bulletin boards. Find a schedule and more information about this exciting workshop for church groups and individuals at: <http://mennowdc.org/year-of-evangelism/>. Registration is \$30/person or \$25/person if four or more people from the same congregation attend. Contact Joel Schroeder if you're interested.

Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus enrollment is now underway. All men and boys who enjoy singing are encouraged to sign up by December 31, so that music packets can be ordered. For more information, contact Don Kingsley at 316-773-8044.

Offering envelopes for 2018 have been placed in your mailbox. If you did not receive offering envelopes and would like them or have any questions, contact the Church Office.

Community Announcements

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association is selling recipe books with 23 favorite recipes. The books are \$20. If you are interested in one of the recipe books, there is more information on the shelf outside of the Church Office.

New music supports Syrian refugees through MCC! The Midnight Hymn Sing is a collection of hymns performed and reimagined by a new generation of Mennonites from San Francisco. The Midnight Hymn Sing was made to call us all to come back around the piano and to find something that speaks to our hearts in the 21st century. CDs are available at MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30th) for a suggested donation of \$15/CD with all money going to support MCC's work with Syrian refugees. The album is also available on Amazon and iTunes. Please contact patsydirksen@mcc.org or tinaschrag@mcc.org or 283-2720 with questions or to get your CD!

SR. HIGH YOUTH *With Jesus as the center, we are called to be: Faith-Focused, Mission-Minded, Community-Connected*



CATECHISM - TODAY (Sunday, 12/17) @ 4:04—

Read chapter 3 in *God's Story, Our Story*.

NO YOUTH GROUP - Wednesday, 12/20

LUMINIARIES - Sunday, 12/24 @ 6:16 PM



We're looking for you, summer staffers! Camp Mennoscah has started the "round-up" process for the 2018 summer staff. Find the information online at campmennoscah.org/application/ and then fill out the application! Our summer staff are dedicated to giving campers, staff, and guests a great, God-filled experience at Camp Mennoscah. Contact Olivia at 620-297-3290 with questions.

Kauffman Museum at Bethel College is open regular hours through the holidays: Tuesday-Friday, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM, Saturday-Sunday, 1:30-4:30 PM (closed Monday). Visit "Voices of Conscience: Peace Witness in the Great War," extended through January 21, 2018, and the newest special exhibit, "Chisholm Trail: Driving the American West," opening December 19-April 1, 2018, as well as the permanent exhibits "Of Land and People" and "Mennonite Immigrant Furniture." See www.bethelks.edu/kauffman/ or the Kauffman Museum Facebook page for more information.

OUR VISION—Together in Christ: rooted deeply, reaching widely, loving well
OUR MISSION—With Jesus as our center, we are called to be:

- Faith-Focused
- Mission-Minded
- Community-Connected



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Kay Schroeder, Pastor of Worship and Visitation (Sabbatical, September 1-December 31)	
Administrative Assistant	Custodian
Tracy Kerr	Gordon Flickner
316-283-0273	316-217-1346

WELCOME TO EVERYONE who has come to worship and especially to those who are here for the first time. May you experience the loving embrace of God today. Nursery Care, infants to age 2, is provided during the worship service in the nursery located at the back of the Sanctuary. Childcare is available for children ages 2-4 during the second half of the worship service in Room 223. If you need help finding your way, ask an usher at the door. We would be glad to help you!

"Meet the Congregation" displays now feature Melvin and Nancy Pauls (Court Area display case); Doug and Joanie Pauls and family (Library display case); Rod and Andrea Pauls and family (Court Area display case); and Stan and Kim Pauls (Court Area display case). Take a look at these display cases and learn more!

First Mennonite Church by the numbers

Attendance:

- Worship—245 Visitors—12
- Sunday School—195

Offering: Last week's offering for Local Missions Fund was \$10,827. The offering for December 24 is for Local Mission.

In Sympathy—Jerry Hiebert passed away on Thursday, December 14. Funeral arrangements are pending. We extend our condolences to Carol, Monte, Christa and the rest of the family.

Congratulations to Casson Schmidt who is graduating today, December 17, with his Master of Education (MEd) in Special Education: High-Incidence Emphasis (or Special Education Ninja in layman's terms) from Wichita State University. After many long nights of hard work, the day has finally come! Great job, Casson!

Harvest of Love—Today is the last day that we are collecting food. Items always needed are canned tuna, macaroni and cheese, hamburger helper, tuna helper, cereal (of any kind), peanut butter, canned vegetables, and soups. A box is available in the Court Area to collect nonperishable items. If you wish to make a monetary donation you may write a check to "Harvest of Love" and place it in the offering.