

# First Sunday after Epiphany

## January 12, 2020

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### Gathering

**Gathering song:** *Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah* ..... \*H 50

**Welcome and the work of the people (announcements)**

**Opening words** ..... Ryan Koehn, worship leader

**Centering music**..... Melody Bontrager

**Call to worship:**

One: Faithful God,  
by water and the Spirit  
you bring us from bondage to freedom,  
from death to life.

**Many: We gather here to sing your praise!**

One: By the power of your Spirit  
you sent your Son to serve and save.  
You descended like a dove to bless Him.

**Many: Come upon this congregation today.**

**Keep us from the spirit of fear.  
Bring us into your grace  
that we may serve and be saved in You.**

### Praising

**Songs of faith:** *Holy Spirit, come with power* .....H 26

*They that wait upon the Lord* .....H 584

**Greet one another; children come forward**

**Children's focus** ..... Bryan Kehr

**Offering:** Local Mission

**Offertory**

(Please pass the welcome pads)

**Offering response:** *Grant us, Lord, the grace* ..... H 388

### Hearing God's Word

**Scripture:** Isaiah 42:1-9; Matthew 3:13-17

**Sermon:** *Incorporation* ..... Anita Kehr, pastor

### Responding to God's Word

**Song of response:** *Jesus shall reign* (verses 1, 3, 4, 5)..... H 319

**Prayers of the church**..... Eric Murphy, Caregiving Commission

### Sending

**Sending song:** *Be thou my vision*..... H 545

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

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

Chorister: Barb Claassen

Childcare: Laura or Greg Myers

Nursery: Shirley Dietzel, Kathleen Andres

Ushers: Bob Schmidt, Brian Walker, Heath Kerr, Donnie Kingsley

Audio Tech: Tim Regier

Video/Lighting Tech: Eugene Waltner

Visuals: Connie Claassen

Property Committee: John Good

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**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

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

**Sunday, January 12**—Isaiah 12:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:00 AM Grocery Shower—FH

10:30 AM Worship Service

**Wednesday, January 15**

7:00 PM Youth Group

7:00 PM Choir

**Saturday, January 18**

9:00 AM The Great Winter Warm-Up MCC Quilt tying—FH

**Sunday, January 19**—Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday (Mennonite World Conference)

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service

### Upcoming Worship Services

January 26—Jesus, Teach Us: Beatitudes—Matthew 5:1-12; Micah 6:1-8;  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31

February 2—Chuck Neufeld preaches. Chuck is serving as our Western District Conference consultant for the congregational review and Pastor Anita Kehr's term review.



**The heavens  
were opened**

# SR. HIGH YOUTH



- **Bible Study**—Sunday, January 12, 4:00-6:30 PM, at Emily Brandt's house.
- **Community Night**—Wednesday, January 15, 6:45-8:30 PM. Working together on a BIG! MCC project. Come to be surprised. Supper included.
- **Winter Retreat**—February 15-17 at Camp Mennoscah. Invite a friend!

**Church Family Nights** start back up Wednesday, January 22! A friendship meal is served at 5:30 PM and activities for all ages start at 6:45 PM. Everyone is welcome!

**CHURCH FAMILY NIGHT SAFETY MONITORS NEEDED**—The Safe Sanctuaries Committee is needing volunteers to serve as Safety Monitors during Church Family Nights beginning January 22. Safety Monitors will help ensure safety for all who gather at FMC. There will be two shifts (6:00-7:00 PM and 7:00-8:00 PM) each Wednesday evening for the basement and for the main floor. We are needing four people for each Wednesday night. For more information or to volunteer, contact Pat Denno.

**Men's Bible study has resumed** on Thursdays, 7:30 PM, at 507 Autumn Glen Court. All are welcome. If questions, please phone or text Sam at 620-951-4455.

**The Great Winter Warm-Up**—MCC's effort to collect 6500 comforters in honor of their 100th year is happening all over the country and in our own Fellowship Hall this week, January 17 and 18. We will be tying comforters on Friday evening 7:00-9:00 PM and on Saturday 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. Lunch is being provided on Saturday, but bring snacks if you desire. Come for the whole day or any part of the event. Everyone is invited to help tie and learn to tie! Come tie a knot, say a prayer and give a gift to the world! For questions contact Elena Entz Wiebe or Cindy Unruh.

**Save the Date: The All-Commissions/Committees Planning Retreat** will take place during the morning of February 1 at Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston. If you are a member of a Ministry Commission or Resource Committee, please plan to attend this important gathering.

**Transition information:** A Search Committee is in the process of being formed by the Church Board. Their work will begin by developing background materials for a Congregational Information Form while the congregation is discerning the kind of positions being sought.

**Offering envelopes for 2020** 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 at 316-283-0273.

## Community Announcements

**Offender/Victim Ministries** will hold its Annual Meeting today, 2:00-5:00 PM, at the MCC Center, 121 E. 30th St., North Newton. The public is invited. In addition to a brief program and business meeting at 3:00 PM, Valentine letter/card writing materials will be available. For more information, contact OVM, 316-283-2038 or [info@offendervictimministries.org](mailto:info@offendervictimministries.org).

**Volunteers are needed in Eureka, KS** to help complete repairs from the July 2018 tornado. Workdays are scheduled for these dates: January 17 and 18 and January 24 and 25. Transportation will be available from the Newton/Hutchinson/Wichita area each day. Lodging is available if you would like to stay overnight Friday into Saturday. Meals and tools will all be provided. Groups of 10 to 15 are needed each day to complete roofing, window and door replacement, exterior siding and trim repairs. Please contact Jordan Miller by email, call or text to reserve your spot today ([jordanmiller795@gmail.com](mailto:jordanmiller795@gmail.com)).

**Newton Community for Racial Justice** hosts MLK Day of Service opportunities on Monday, January 20, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM. Visit Newton Community for Racial Justice Facebook page or email [newtoncrj@gmail.com](mailto:newtoncrj@gmail.com) for service locations and sign-up link.

**Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus enrollment** is now underway for its 52<sup>nd</sup> year. All men and boys who enjoy singing are encouraged to sign up. For more information, contact Donnie Kingsley at 316-773-8044 or email: [dl\\_jr@cox.net](mailto:dl_jr@cox.net). The 2020 concert schedule is April 19, 7:00 PM—Tabor College Richert Auditorium in Hillsboro and April 26, 7:00 PM—Bethel College Memorial Hall in North Newton.

**Bethel College's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration**—All are invited to Memorial Hall on Monday, January 20, for activities starting at 2:00 PM (or come and go as your schedule allows) with an informal time of snacks and mingling, followed by special music by the Bethel Worship Center band, and a step dance performance by the Junior People of Color (POC) Step Team from Leavenworth. Michelle Vann of Wichita, an author, teacher, speaker, radio show host, blogger and active church and community member, will speak at 3:00 PM, and the afternoon will end with a reception.

**Join an intentional community with peers**, serve with a local nonprofit, and plug into your neighborhood and local congregation in places like Chicago; Washington, D.C.; San Francisco; and Alamosa. Learn more at [MennoniteMission.net/Serve](http://MennoniteMission.net/Serve). Age: 20+; term: 1–2 years.

**Boots, Buckets and Barrows:** In partnership with Mennonite Disaster Service, Ted & Co. presents the original play, *The Jesus Stories: Faith, Forks & Fettuccine*, in conjunction with a unique auction of buckets filled with baked goods and home items, along with “flash auctions” to fund the tools and volunteers MDS needs to help restore communities and rebuild homes ravaged by natural disaster. All proceeds benefit the continued work of MDS. Admission is free! Please come prepared to bid on Friday, January 31, 7:00 PM, at Hesston Mennonite Church and Saturday, February 1, 7:00 PM, at Journey Mennonite Church, South Hutchinson. Sponsored by Kansas MDS Unit, Hesston College Disaster Management Program, and Journey Mennonite South Hutchinson.

**Looking for that next great adventure?** MCC SALT positions now available! Take chances. Make mistakes. Get messy. Be challenged. Learn some things. Teach some things. Spend a year living somewhere that you never dreamed you'd go...Serving and Learning Together (SALT) is a year-long, cross-cultural service experience. Through SALT, Christian young adults from Canada and the U.S. serve internationally in a wide variety of positions in fields like education, agriculture, health care, information technology, peace and more! Start now at [salt.mcc.org](http://salt.mcc.org), to find answers to frequently asked questions, assignment options and to apply. Application close date 02/15/20.

**Western District Women in Mission** in cooperation with Everence Financial will host a two-day conference "Let's Talk...Women, Money & Faith" on January 24 and 25 at Tabor Mennonite Church, Newton. Featured speakers, Teresa Boshart Yoder and Rhoda Blough from Everence Financial, will address money and faith topics for women of all ages and stages of life. More information and registration coming soon on Facebook at [facebook.com/WesternDistrictWomen/](https://facebook.com/WesternDistrictWomen/)?modal=admin\_todo\_tour or at our web page [communicationswdwm.wixsite.com/wdwm](http://communicationswdwm.wixsite.com/wdwm).

**2020 is your year to go on an MCC Learning Tour!** Travel to Haiti March 21-28 to learn about root causes of Haiti's reality and see MCC projects in person. Join MCC Bolivia in celebrating 60 years with two learning tours; May 2-9 will focus on Eastern Bolivia and October 10-17 will focus on Western Bolivia. Finally, you're welcome to travel to Nicaragua, July 20-30, to celebrate the centennial of MCC, focusing on past and present MCC work in Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Contact [jordanpenner@mcc.org](mailto:jordanpenner@mcc.org) and check [mcc.org/events](http://mcc.org/events) for more details.

**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 in Room 225. 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!

### **First Mennonite Church by the numbers**

#### **Attendance:**

Worship—207; Visitors—4; Sunday School—163

**Offering:** Last week's offering for Mennonite Mission Network was \$1,529 and Local Mission was \$2,930. The offering for January 19 is for Local Mission.

**Receiving or has received care**—Don Penner, NMC.

**I would like to thank Connie Weber** for taking me to Topeka last Friday. She dropped everything on her schedule and helped me out. A friend of mine of 45 years is hospitalized there and may not live much longer. It meant a lot to the family that I was there. Thank you, Connie! ~Krys Hiebert

**Thank you to everyone** who gave to the Salvation Army Harvest of Love food drive. Our church collected 315 pounds of food!

**For your awareness**—the floors in the basement (halls, fellowship hall and classrooms) are in the process of being refinished.

**New Intergenerational Sunday School Opportunity**—If you are not currently attending a Sunday School class, the "In the Word" and "FIRST" classes extend this invitation. There is a new Sunday School session which will run through February 23. **It meets in the NW corner of the Fellowship Hall** (not the Warkentin Room as previously announced). It will be led by Sam and Barb Claassen, and the topic is: "Following the Footsteps of Paul: The Entry of the Gospel to Europe." Please consider joining us at any time during this 8-week session. You do not need to attend all sessions, but are welcome to come when you can. Questions? Contact Dwayne Abrahams or Brent Voran.

**Rehearsals for adult choir will resume** this Wednesday, January 15, 7:00 PM, with subsequent rehearsals at 6:45 PM, when Church Family Night begins again. This would be a great time for new singers to join (or rejoin) as we begin the winter/spring season culminating with Easter Sunday.