

# Epiphany

## January 3, 2021

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### Prelude

*And the glory of the Lord*  
Handel's Messiah

### Welcome

Casson Schmidt, worship leader

### Responsive Reading

Blessed are you, O God!  
in whom nothing is wasted.

**You salvage the remnant!**

**You bless your people with a Savior!**

**We rise in praise!**

Blessed are you, O God.

You call out to us, even now.

**You bring hope to our wandering.**

**You give light to our uncertainty.**

**We rise in purpose!**

Blessed are you, O God!

We have seen the glory of the Lord!

**And all flesh shall see it, together!**

**We rise, filled with the goodness of  
our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, and Friend.**

Thanks be to God!

### Words for the children

Sara Rickard

### Scripture reading

Isaiah 60:1-5a; Matthew 2:1-12

Casson Schmidt

### Words for the Road

*Arise! But Why?*

Susan Jantzen, pastor

### Song of response

*We are climbing Jacob's Ladder*

Ben's Band

### Communion

Words of preparation

Sharing the bread

Sharing the cup

### Prayers for the offering and prayers of the church

Sean Claassen

### Sending song

*Go Tell it on the Mountain*

### Sending

Casson Schmidt

### Postlude

*Let All Things Now Living*

arr. by Cindy Berry

Nora Miller, piano

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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**

## Upcoming Worship Services

**January 10**—Pastor Kurt will be preaching—*Rested, Restored & Renewed*

**January 17**—Pastor Kurt will be preaching—*Rested, Restored & Renewed*

**January 24**—Pastor Kurt will be preaching—*Rested, Restored & Renewed*

### Happy Birthday!

Alan Entz—January 3

Oneta Unruh—January 7

David Shelly—January 8

*\*We will be live-streaming our worship beginning at 10:30 AM. You may view it on our webpage ([firstmennonitenewton.org](http://firstmennonitenewton.org)), on our Facebook page, YouTube, or at our Vimeo site. Recordings of the service will be available afterwards as well. Thank you to all those who helped to make the new camera system possible. Today, Ryan Goertzen Regier, Ryan Koehn and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Nora Miller. Thank you to Connie Claassen for the visual art.*

### FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

PO Box 291, 429 E. First Street,  
Newton, KS 67114-0291  
Phone: 316-283-0273

E-mail: [office@firstmennonitenewton.org](mailto:office@firstmennonitenewton.org)

Website: [www.firstmennonitenewton.org](http://www.firstmennonitenewton.org)

#### Pastoral Team

Kurt Horst,  
Interim Lead Pastor  
620-217-0517  
[kurth@firstmennonitenewton.org](mailto:kurth@firstmennonitenewton.org)

Susan Jantzen,  
Interim Pastor of Worship and Visitation  
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Tammy Duvanel Unruh,  
Interim Youth Ministry Coordinator  
316-207-3472

#### Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr  
316-283-0273



## Arise! Shine!



**First Mennonite Church  
Newton, KS**

**Office hours**—Our church office hours will be different. Staff will mostly be working remotely from home. Pastors Kurt, Susan and Tammy will be available by email or by their cell number. Tracy will be in the Church Office on Monday mornings and on Thursday afternoon, and the other days will be working from home. She is always available by email. Tracy will check phone messages left on the church phone each Monday and Thursday. Please feel free to get in contact with one of us if you need anything. We will practice this way until January and then we will reevaluate again.

**Kurt:** kurth@firstmennonitenewton.org or 620-217-0517

**Susan:** susanj@firstmennonitenewton.org or 620-877-7923

**Tammy:** tammyduvanelunruh@gmail.com or 316-207-3472

**Tracy:** office@firstmennonitenewton.org or 316-288-6168

**Harvest of Love**—FMC gave over 400 pounds of food to the Salvation Army these last two months! Thank you to everyone that participated!

**Offering envelopes**—2021 offering envelopes are in your church mailbox. You are welcome to stop by and pick them up out of your church mailbox or if you would like them mailed to you, please email the church office or call.

**Church picture directory**—we are still waiting for the picture directories to be shipped from Lifetouch. As soon as we receive them, we will let you know.

### Community Announcements

**MCC Comforter Blitz update:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 Kansas Friends of MCC Comforter Blitz in Yoder, KS has been canceled. However, the Blitz committee still has a goal of collecting at least 300 comforters between February and April. We need your help to meet this goal! Fabric kits and comforter sets to tie (top, back, and batting) are available to check out from MCC in North Newton. For contactless drop-off of completed comforters the 24-hour donation room is always available. To arrange drop-off or checkout materials, contact Kate at kate-mast@mcc.org, or 316-804-8432.

**Camp Mennoscah is a wonderful place** for family gatherings of whatever size! A variety of facilities fit any number of family groupings. Or maybe you only need a space during the day for walking the trails or playing disc golf. There is plenty of outdoor space! Contact Camp Mennoscah to reserve a time at 620-297-3290 or office@campmennoscah.org.

**SOOP (Service Opportunities with our Partners)** is accepting applications! Use your gifts and skills to work alongside others in a network of ministries across the church. Flexibly designed for retirees, families, and adults over 25. Visit MennoniteMission.net/SOOP to learn more!

**Transitional Information:** All of the needed forms are complete and on file at Western District Conference. This includes the Congregation Information Form, Pastoral Priorities information, and job description. In addition, the Search Committee has started placing ads in publications with basic information about our positions. If anyone has any names to suggest for WDC to contact, please share with Ron Ratzlaff, Chair of the Search Committee. Other members of the committee are: Wendy Funk Schrag, Don Schmidt, Ken Regier, Keith Knopp, Miriam Goertzen-Regier, Jennie Wintermote, Payton Hiebert, Sean Claassen, Janice Good. Please continue praying for the Search Committee and Church Board as we journey through this process.

**Youth Venture is accepting applications** for summer 2021! Discover and experience the work that God is doing in the world with a team of other young people as you serve, learn, worship, and build relationships. Visit MennoniteMission.net/YouthVenture to learn more!

**Kauffman Museum at Bethel College** is hosting the Smithsonian traveling exhibit “Crossroads: Change in Rural America” through January 17. Accompanying it is a local companion exhibit, “Of Land and People: Our Community at the Crossroads,” created from the museum’s permanent exhibit “Of Land and People.” The museum is open 9:30 AM-4:30 PM, Tuesday-Friday; 1:30-4:30 PM; Saturday and Sunday; and closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission to the “Crossroads” exhibit is free on Saturdays.

**Canner Operator**—MCC is looking for new canner operators! This two-year service term is unique and offers the opportunity to travel around the U.S. and Canada, working as a team while meeting new people! Check out [mcc.org/canning](http://mcc.org/canning) for details!

**Applications for Camp Mennoscah Summer Staff** positions are now being accepted! Although there is a chance positions will change to meet the needs of pandemic-impacted summer youth camps, the current summer staff leadership positions are naturalist, crafts leader, lifeguard, grounds/maintenance, music leader, office, and all-round/media. For those 21 years old or older, there is also a Director of Support opening. Find the application and information online at [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org) under Summer Youth Camps!

**Monday, January 18, 6:30 PM**—Bethel College’s annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration will feature spoken word artist M’Vyonne Payne and former pro athlete and motivational speaker Chris Singleton. The event will be held in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center, with COVID protocols in place, and will also be live-streamed via YouTube at [bit.ly/bethelks-mlk2021](http://bit.ly/bethelks-mlk2021) Sponsors are the Bethel College Diversity Council, Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and Student Life Office, with support from the Bethel College Women’s Association.

## **Announcements**

**With the continuing high levels of infection in Harvey County,** and the expectation that the holidays will contribute to keeping infection numbers high for most of January, FMC will continue with live-streamed remote worship through the month of January. Decisions about future worship services will be reviewed again near the end of January and made based on infection numbers and county guidelines. Thank you for your patience, understanding, and continued wise decision making regarding community and individual health and safety.

**Offerings can be sent** to the church at P. O. Box 291, 429 E. First Street, Newton, KS 67114. There is also an offering plate in the Gathering Area that will be checked daily if you want to drop your gifts off at church. Please mark the designation of your offering. If left unmarked, it will go to Local Mission. For electronic giving, go to the church website [firstmennonitenewton.org](http://firstmennonitenewton.org) or contact the church office.

**Pastor Kurt is often in the office** Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you want to stop in you are encouraged to call ahead.

**Today, as is our tradition,** we will share in a communion service on the first Sunday of the year. In addition to preparing yourself for communion, since we are not able to gather in person, you are asked to have the communion elements prepared at home. You should have a cup of juice (usually grape) and some form of bread. (If there will be more than one person you can choose whether to share a common cup or have a cup for each person.) Having a snack ready for any children present is also recommended. Whether you are sharing the communion elements alone or with your immediate family know that you are not alone but that we, the First Mennonite Community, are doing this together wherever we are and that the Holy Spirit of God makes us one as we take communion together in remembrance of Jesus.

**In the church Gathering Area** you will find a log cabin which was made for Tonessa Driskill by her husband. When Tonessa passed away, the Life Sharing Sunday School class, volunteered to clean up her house and storage unit. The family kept what they wanted as mementos of Tonessa. The family then gave the class the freedom to keep or dispose of whatever remained. The class found this log cabin among her things. It needed a little refurbishing which was completed by Doug Graham. The log cabin will be donated to the MCC sale this year. The cabin will be located in the Gathering Area for a number of weeks, if you wish to view it. Please do not touch since there are a number of delicate pieces to the cabin.

**SAVE THE DATE!** All members of Church Board, Commissions, and Committees are invited to a Zoom meeting on Saturday, January 16, 8:30-11:30 AM, for a BEGINNING 2021 time. This is an important planning start of our year so your participation is appreciated! 2021 will be an important year in the life of FMC with our focus on our search for new pastoral staff so please join us if possible. More information will be coming!