

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

March 6, 2005

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: James Voth

Keyboard: Chelsea Vaught

Whitewater, Kansas

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg

Chorister: Suzy Burch

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

A special welcome to each of our guests! During this time we welcome our guests. We're glad you have come to worship with us. May you sense God's peace and direction as we meet together with our Creator and Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Choral Call to Worship *Here I am to worship* Praise Team

Light of the World, You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus: So here I am to worship; here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly You came to the Earth You created,
all for love's sake became poor

To Chorus

Call to Worship

Leader: Come out of the darkness!
Now in the Lord you are light!

People: **We will live as children of light.**

Leader: The light shines in the darkness,
but the darkness has not understood it.
Those who love their brothers or sisters live in the light.

People: **This I do know, that once I was blind and now I can see.
O Lord, you are great and do marvelous deeds.**

Gathering Prayer

* **Hymn of Praise No. 70** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Children's Moments

Special Music

Cherub Choir

Morning Offering Mennonite Church USA

Old Testament Reading 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Reader: Levi Goossen

Sharing and Prayers of the Church

Invitation to Prayer

The Lord says, "I am the shepherd. You shall not want.
Rest in my pasture. I will restore your soul."

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, encouraged by your perfect care,
I face my self-doubt and self-accusation.
I admit my confusion about whether I have done right or wrong.
I trust in you, Lord, and you alone.
In your mercy, help me find my way.
I don't know which way to turn.

Ritual of pouring sand. In silence we witness the ritual
of pouring sand as a symbol of pouring out our sins to the Lord
and trusting God to cleanse us.

Prayers of the Church

Words of Assurance

The Lord says, "I will lead you in paths of righteousness
For my name's sake.
My rod and staff will comfort you.
I will anoint your head with oil.
Surely goodness and mercy will follow you
All the days of your life,
And you will dwell in my house your whole life long."

* **Song of Assurance** *Our God reigns*

How lovely on the mountains are the feet of Him
Who brings good news, good news.
Announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness,
Our God reigns, our God reigns.

Chorus: Our God reigns, our God reigns
 Our God reigns, our God reigns.

He had no stately form, He had no majesty.
That we should be drawn to Him.
He was despised and we took no account of Him,
Yet now he reigns with the Most High.

Chorus: He reigns, now He reigns
 Now he reigns with the Most High.

Children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for child care

The Gospel Reading John 9:1-12, 24-25 Reader: Levi Goossen

Sermon *Anointed With Oil and Mud: Turning Humility into Service*

* **Hymn No. 545** *Be Thou My Vision*

* **Benediction**

Postlude

* Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand

At the conclusion of the worship service we invite the adults
to be seated and take a few moments to greet one another while the
children are dismissed to their Sunday School classes.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN AT 10:45 A.M.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

For Sharing and Prayer

Pastor Jim and Barb will be on vacation Monday through Thursday. Pastor Jim will then attend the Bethel College Board meetings Friday and Saturday. Pastor Brett will bring the morning message next Sunday, March 13th.

Western District Conference: Pray for Bruce Bradshaw as he is installed today as pastor of Zion Mennonite Church, Elbing.

Mennonite Mission Network: Pray that the witness of love, even without spoken words, given by Christian brothers and sisters to victims of the tsunami in South Asia will impact people. Also pray that Christians will be both diligent and wise as they seek ways to share verbally of God's love.

Church Events

Today at noon Business Council will meet at the home of K. John Klaassen.

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Worship Council meets at church.

Wednesday at 7:00 – 8:10 p.m. Children's and Youth Programming
7:00 – 7:35 p.m. Adult Bible Study
7:40 – 8:15 p.m. Adult Choir

Friday at 9:30 – 11:30 p.m. The youth group will go cosmic bowling at Eastgate Lanes in Newton.

Friday and Saturday - The annual KCLASS Leadership Training Conference will be held at Riverlawn Christian Church in Wichita. Grace Hill has registered as a group and anyone from our church is welcome and encouraged to attend. There will be two full days of workshops including topics for Daycare/Preschool, Special Interest Small Groups, Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Worship Ministry, Outreach Opportunities, Early Childhood, Elementary, and Youth Programs, Counseling Ministries, Mental Health, and Children's Ministry Seminar. For more information, contact Kris Goossen.

Next Sunday, March 13 Tickets for the Steven Curtis Chapman concert on Sunday, March 13, have been purchased. Transportation to the

concert will be leaving from the church at 6:15 p.m. For more information please contact Tim or Lisa Schmidt. Also, see the flyer on the bulletin board.

Monday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m. Hands of Friendship meet at church. Program: Bake peppernuts for the Mennonite Relief Sale; Devotions: Rita Patterson; Hostess: Elfrieda Schmidt; Financial Project: Western District Women in Mission.

Please make note of these important Lenten announcements and plan now to attend these special services.

- On Palm Sunday, March 20 the worship service will begin at **9:30 a.m. (not at 9:15 a.m. as previously announced)** The Bethel College Choir and Bethel College students will give leadership to the service.
- Joint Holy Week services will begin Sunday, March 20, 7:00 p.m. at Zion Mennonite Church, Elbing. Speaker to be announced.
- The Joint Maundy Thursday service on March 24 will be at Grace Hill beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Our annual Easter Sunrise service will begin at **6:00 a.m.** Easter Sunday. Sunrise is at 6:22 a.m. this year!

March 28 – April 2 Western District Basketball & Volleyball Tournament

SMILE!! It's time for a new Grace Hill pictorial directory! Olan Mills will be at the church on April 4 and 5 (Monday and Tuesday, 3:00 – 9:30 p.m.) to take pictures of our families. Sign-up for picture appointments will begin today after the worship service in the foyer. If you have any questions, contact Debbie Claassen or Lisa Schmidt.

April 8 and 9 The Mennonite Relief Sale in Hutchinson Check the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the foyer – there are many opportunities to get involved. **Verenike making** will be Tuesday, March 29 from 12:00 noon to 3:30 p.m. in Hillsboro at the Marion County 4-H Building. See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. And don't forget to leave your extra change in the penny jug in the foyer! Questions? – contact Kendall Claassen or Kim or Debbie Claassen.

Announcements

The Quilt for the Mennonite Relief Sale is on display in the Fellowship Hall.

You're invited to join "Prayers of the Church" each Sunday morning from 9:00 – 9:10 a.m. in the classroom next to the kitchen. Please feel free to place prayer requests in the prayer box in the foyer.

You can HEAR the worship service even better using the church's FM radio transmitter. All that is needed is a small AM/FM radio with headphones. Tune to FM 104.9 and you may receive the worship service seated anywhere in the sanctuary. Several radios are available at church or bring your own. If you have any questions our sound technicians will be glad to assist you.

Nursery This Sunday: Nancy Harms and Jana Harms

Nursery Next Sunday: Carol Claassen (Olin) and Brittany Claassen

Keyboard Next Sunday: Chelsea Vaught

Special Music Next Sunday: Adult Choir

Ushers Next Sunday: Doug Hiebert and Terry Klassen

Offering Last Sunday: Western District Conference \$1,307.00

Offering Next Sunday: Local Church

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor: James Voth *Pastor's Study: 283-2644 E-mail: jvoth@cox.net*

Pastor's Cell Phone (in case of emergency) 1-316-655-2811

Youth Pastor: Brett Klingenberg *Office Phone: 799-2238*

Cell phone: 316-772-6267

E-mail: brett_210@hotmail.com

Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen *1-888-516-8474*

Secretary's E-mail: kimdebc@wheatstate.com

Church Website: <http://gracehill.ks.us.mennonite.net/>

Et Cetera

The Friends University “Singing Quakers” will be giving a concert to benefit the Mennonite Relief Sale this evening at 7:00 p.m. at the Eden Mennonite Church, rural Moundridge. Everyone is invited to attend.

Become a hospice volunteer. Volunteer in patient care, bereavement care, special events, or office work. The training will be held in Newton, Saturdays, March 12 and 19, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. There is no fee or obligation. Pre-registration by phone is required. Call Donna E. Becker at Central Homecare and Hospice, 283-8220 or 1-800-301-9499 by March 7 to reserve a place.

Sarah Melici, stage, film and TV actress, will perform a one-woman play, *Fool for Christ: The Story of Dorothy Day*, Tuesday, March 15, 7:30 p.m. in Krehbiel Auditorium at Bethel College, North Newton. The performance is free and open to the public and the last of the 2004-2005 Peace Lecture Series sponsored by the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR). Day, who died in 1980 at the age of 83, was considered a significant figure in the history of American Catholicism. In the hour-long play, Melici moves between Day (at various ages) and others coming into her story, giving balanced attention to Day’s loves, spirituality and politics.

Mennonite Women’s Spring Sunset Supper will be Thursday, March 17 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 S. Main. Aziza Hazan will be the special guest speaker. Wendy Miller of Whitestone will lead the devotions. A trio for Eden Mennonite Church will provide special music. The Hesston Mennonite Youth will serve a light supper as one of their fund raisers to go to Charlotte 2005. Cost of the meal will be \$5.00. Reservations are required. Please contact Mary Ann Wiebe or Agnes Harder to make reservations.

Mennotour: Mennonite Communities of South Central Kansas On March 31 Mennonite historian Robert Kreider will host a Kauffman Museum bus tour traveling through the south central Kansas

communities of Newton, Moundridge, Buhler, Hutchinson, Halstead, Elbing, Peabody, Hillsboro and Goessel. Participants will learn fascinating details about the historical lore and unique characteristics of the region with special emphasis on Mennonite ethnic groups. Stops will include: Eden Mennonite Church (rest stop and coffee break, Moundridge), Carriage Crossing Restaurant (lunch stop, Yoder), Pioneer Mennonite Adobe House Museum (tour, Hillsboro) and Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church (Faspa, Goessel). The cost of \$65 for Kauffman Museum members and \$80 for non-members includes all meals, all admission costs, travel on modern motor coach, and all gratuities. For more information, to request a brochure or to reserve your seat(s) using Visa, MasterCard or Discover contact Andi Schmidt Andres at Kauffman Museum at asa@bethelks.edu or 316-283-1612. A brochure is posted on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Mennonite Central Committee tsunami relief kits: Can you walk with us the second mile? Thank you for your generous response of relief kits for tsunami survivors. We are nearing our original goal of 1,000 kits but have been asked to increase to 2,100 kits from Central States. The deadline is extended until mid-March. Help us double the blessings as MCC partners with sisters and brothers around North America and Europe to fulfill our commitment to the Indonesian Mennonite churches who are assisting their neighbors in need. We encourage those at a distance to contribute cash designated “tsunami relief kits.” See www.mcc.org for more information and kit contents (or check the bulletin board), or call 316-283-2720.

Don’t forget to visit the Charlotte 2005 Web site at www.Charlotte2005.org. The site includes registration forms for all conventions, information about the hotels, daily schedules and updates on activities and events.