

# Grace Hill Mennonite Church

Worship – 9:30am / Sunday School – 10:45am

April 9, 2017

## "Restore Us, O God! We Hope!"

### Palm Sunday

PRELUDE

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"*

HWB 237

CHILDREN PALM SUNDAY PROCESSIONAL

- GATHERING INTERLUDE -

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Who is this who comes, humble and riding on a donkey?

**People:** *Hosanna! Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!*

Leader: Who is this who comes, free from pride and vanity?

**People:** *Hosanna! Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!*

Leader: Who is this who comes, celebrated by the weak and the powerless?

**People:** *Hosanna! Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!*

Leader: Hosanna! Come! Join in the celebration of hope!

\* GATHERING SONG *"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"* HWB 238

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Jesus, our Lord, you came to us humbly—riding on a donkey. In peace, you showed us the way of your kingdom. We confess that our vision of the kingdom is not pure. It is stained with our own selfish desires.

**People:** We shout hosannas to praise you — yet often out of our need to survive. We lay down our cloaks and palms to adore you—yet often we strip your garments away and humiliate you.

Leader: Forgive us, O Lord, when our mouths that seek to praise you often deny and defy you.

**People:** Renew in us an obedient spirit, that we may fully accept and follow your will.

*(Pause for silent confession)*

Leader: God, our true Hope,

**People:** *restore us.*

Leader: Our times are in your hands, O God. Let your face shine upon your servants who pursue your will, and save us in your unfailing love. Amen.

OFFERING TO GOD

LOCAL CHURCH

Offertory

\**Doxology* (Psalm 100)

HWB 119

CHILDREN'S STORY

SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

*"YOU ARE ALL WE HAVE"*

STJ 29

\* SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 21: 1-11

SERMON

*"Who is This?"*

\* HYMN

*"THE LORD IS KING"*

HWB 69

LENTEN RITUAL: STRIPPING THE CHURCH

\* BENEDICTION

\*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

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- After the Children's Story children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for childcare.
- 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.
- The Adult Sunday School classes will begin 10 minutes after the service is over. Everyone is welcome!

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**Serving in Worship**

Pastor	Weldon Martens
Scripture Reader	Josh Patterson
Keyboard	Joel Brejda
Song Leader	Bonita Schroeder
Greeters	Marianne Eichelberger & Judy Janzen
Ushers	Doug Hiebert & David Janzen
Nursery	Tammy Regehr & Bethany Regehr

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**For Sharing and Prayer**

**Western District Conference:** Pray for the WDC Annual Assembly planning team as they prepare for our annual gathering August 4-6 in Dallas, TX.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Praise God for Mark and Mary Hurst's years of service with Anabaptist Association of Australia and New Zealand through Mennonite Mission Network. Pray that the couple will be filled with God's wisdom as they respond to seekers' questions about prayer, faith, forgiveness and healing.

We want to thank all of you who contributed to the success of the MCC sale, to help those in need. Those who baked peppernuts, zwieback, cookies, pies, bread. Those who made, fried and served verenike and sausage, made Bohne Beroggi. Thanks to those who worked in various booths, ran for MCC, gave coins, donated items for sale, and fried New Year's Cookies. Thank you to those who purchased items, attended the sale, and prayed for the safety of workers and for the success of the sale. The My Coins Count offering from Grace Hill was \$265.

- Mennonite Relief Sale Committee

## Church Events

**This evening at 7:00 p.m.** All are invited to a special Palm Sunday worship service at Zion Mennonite in Elbing this evening at 7:00 p.m.; we will consider some of the artifacts of Passion Week, with associated scripture and song. Light refreshments and fellowship will follow.

**Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.** Choir practice.

**Thursday at 8:00 a.m.** Senior Breakfast at Curtis C's, Newton.

**Thursday at 7:00 p.m.** On Maundy Thursday at 7:00 p.m., we will gather in worship with Zion Mennonite Church at Grace Hill for the Lord's Supper - the night our Lord Jesus Christ was betrayed. I will also give spiritual reflection regarding Good Friday and the crucifixion of Jesus. - Pastor Weldon

**April 30** Bethel College Sunday with carry-in meal. Woven, a women's singing group, will share with us during the service.

## Announcements

**Mennonite Church USA Convention 2017** will be July 4-8 in Orlando, Florida. Grace Hill does not have any delegates at this time. If you are interested in being a delegate, please talk to Tim Harms by April 30.

**Nursery Next Sunday:** Courtney Nethercot and Lauren Graves

**Greeters Next Sunday:** Russ and Kris Janzen

**Ushers Next Sunday:** Mike Balzer and Kendall Claassen

**Offering Last Sunday:** Mennonite Church USA \$1,012.00

**Offering Next Sunday:** Scholarship Fund

## CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Wednesday - Afternoon, Friday - day off

**Pastor: Weldon Martens**

Email: [weldon.martens@gmail.com](mailto:weldon.martens@gmail.com)

**Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen**

Secretary's E-mail: [secretary@gracehillmc.org](mailto:secretary@gracehillmc.org)

## Et Cetera

**Putting in the Dam! Camp Mennoscah** is putting the dam back in on April 9 at approx. 2:30 p.m. All are invited to help or watch the process. Regardless of the weather, we will be in the river unless it is determined to be unsafe. Wear clothing to fit the weather and your choice of activity. Come for whatever amount of time you'd like! Contact us at 620-297-3290 with questions.

**The Annual Corporation Meeting of the Community Playschool** is Monday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 14 of the Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton. Our church is a sponsor and supporter of the Playschool and its mission to the Newton area community.

**Seminars simplify Medicare and Social Security** Everence Financial will provide information about Medicare and retirement income at three upcoming seminars. The *Medicare* seminars will be held on April 17 and May 1 and will include what Medicare covers, the differences between plans that supplement Medicare, and enrollment deadlines. The *retirement income* seminar, held on June 5, will help you determine if you have enough money to retire, what to do if the market doesn't cooperate and how to know if your savings will last. Seminars are held at 7 p.m. at the Everence office in Hesston. To reserve your spot, contact Michelle Ramer at (620) 327-4043 or [michelle.ramer@everence.com](mailto:michelle.ramer@everence.com).

**The Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace Tour** will be on the Bethel College campus, with Jonathan Kuttab, a Palestinian Mennonite and human rights lawyer, and Laura Tillem of Jewish Voice for Peace and the Peace and Social Justice Center of South Central Kansas. April 18, 7 p.m., Administration Building chapel; April 19, 11 a.m., weekly chapel service, Ad Building chapel.

**Stories of courage, stories of faith, stories of fun!** Retirees of all ages are invited to join us for **Retirees Relaxation Retreat at Camp Mennoscah** from April 24-26. We'll hear stories from a number of different people, have Bible study, do some singing, and have coffee breaks. Register online at [www.campmennoscah.org](http://www.campmennoscah.org) or call us at 620-297-3290. We'll see you there!

**Men and Boys Retreat is at Camp Mennoscah**, April 28-30. The first meal provided is Saturday supper, so if you come sooner than that, bring your own food. Saturday evening will feature a performance by the Flannelbacks, a bluegrass band from the Bethel area. Michael Unruh will be our speaker for the weekend. No pre-registration is necessary, but if you have questions contact Kevin Neufeld at [kevinneufeld2@gmail.com](mailto:kevinneufeld2@gmail.com) or 316-322-5515.