

GRACE HILL MENNONITE CHURCH

December 27, 2015

Whitewater, Kansas

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Musician: Ellen Mosiman

Song Leader: Bonita Schroeder

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

Christmas Sunday *Freedom Bound: the Path of Servanthood*

Gathering Music Ellen Mosiman
Welcome and Announcements Randy Smith
Prelude to Worship

Candle Lighting
Isaiah 61:1-9 Josh Patterson
Joy to the world (verse 1) Hymnal 318
Silence

*Call to Worship

We waited in trouble. The Lord has come.
We waited for the Light, and that Light has burst forth
into our darkened world.

We gather in the Light of Christ.

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

Freeing God, because of your faithfulness,
today we are freed –
freed by One who humbled himself and
became a servant,
That we ourselves might become his servants.
So bound, we may be freed.

Christ has set us free.

Today we have joy and follow - freedom bound.

*We worship God, who blesses the earth,
“Peace on earth. Good will to all people,
on whom God’s favor rests.”*

*Caroling

Good Christian friends, rejoice Hymnal 210
Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming Hymnal 211
O little town of Bethlehem Hymnal 191

God’s Faithfulness, Our Trust

Philippians 2: 5b-8
Silence
Colossians 3:12-17

Prayer
Offering and Offertory

Children’s Story Travis Harms
Children to age 5 may be dismissed to the library for child care

Scripture K. John Klaassen
Luke 2:1-20

Sermon
Insignificance

The Light of Christ Has Come

The light of the Christ Candle proclaims the reason for our hope –
The hope of Christ. Hope revealed.

We have hope with reason and confidence.

The Light of the World has come.

In him was life, and that life was the light of all people.

Hope, that in the midst of this world of sin, God sets us free
from the chains that bind us –

Freed by the Light shining in the darkness,

And that darkness has never overcome it.

Freed to greatness through servanthood.

We will walk in that light –

In the freedom of servanthood. Bound in Christ. Freed from sin.

Hope is a candle

Sing the Story 15

Sharing and Prayer

*Benediction

*Sending Song Hymnal 318
Joy to the world

Postlude

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

This morning’s offering is designated for Western District Conference.

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!

“Our vision at Grace Hill Mennonite Church is for a revitalized ministry seeking authentic community that honors Christ by:

discerning our gifting;

developing a leadership team;

deepening our core ministries of

care, education and hospitality.”

For Sharing and Prayer

Next Sunday we mark the beginning of the new year and Epiphany with communion. Christ has come to us, now, as did the magi, we come to Christ.

Western District Conference: Give thanks to God for all who contribute generously of their financial gifts, prayers and volunteer time to support the work of WDC.

Mennonite Mission Network: Alisha and Joshua Garber of MMN request prayers for wisdom for LCC International University in Lithuania and for all Mission Network personnel in Europe as they try to find appropriate and Christ-centered responses to the massive influx of refugees.

Et Cetera

Scrapbook and Crafts Retreats open for registrations! Online registration for the Spring Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat is ready. Go to www.campmennoscah.org and click on online registration to sign up. And look! We've added Crafts to this retreat, so if you are a crafter of amazing stuff, you're welcome to join us!

It's for the Youth! Camp Mennoscah is offering a Youth Volunteer Weekend for youth in grades 7-12 on March 11-12, 2016. Counselors and camp staff will lead the group in various tasks and activities. Patrick Loganbill and Rachel Miller will lead in activities and worship. Online registration now available at www.campmennoscah.org. Limited space.

Apply for 2016 Everence college scholarships. If your family uses Everence faith-based services, you are eligible to apply for college scholarships for the 2016-2017 school year. Submit your application by Feb. 29, 2016. Learn more at everence.com/scholarships or see Tim Harms for a copy of the application.

Nursery This Sunday: Marge Harms and Quinn Dove

Nursery Next Sunday: Katherine Claassen and Courtney Nethercot

Ushers Next Sunday: Terry Klassen and Dean Patterson

Offering Last Sunday: Kidron Bethel Health Care Center \$1,095.00

Offering Next Sunday: Mennonite Church USA

CHURCH OFFICES

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Thursday 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Transition Pastor: Randy Smith

Email: transitionpastor@gmail.com

Director of Youth Ministry: Joshua Janzen

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Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen

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