

Grace Hill Mennonite Church

March 9, 2025

Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am

First Sunday in Lent “Christ Collides”

GATHERING

Prelude

Greetings & Announcements

Call To Worship

One: Christ collides with our bias. Who will follow Christ?

Many: We will follow for sure, but we will choose who to call our neighbor.

One: Jesus says “Follow me.”

Many: We will follow, choosing to whom to show compassion.

One: Christ collides with our preconceived notions of who our neighbors are.

Many: For your reign, O God, help us better understand your teaching.

All: Guide us as we worship you and as we confront our biases.

*Hymn *Renew your church* HWB 363

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Offering for My Coins Count Valerie Klaassen

Children’s Story Melinda Taylor

Scripture Luke 10: 25-37

Sermon “The Impartial Heart of God”

Confession and Words of Assurance

All: Loving and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you.

One: We have not loved you with all our thoughts, words and actions.

Many: We have sinned through what we have chosen to do and what we have chosen to neglect.

One: We have not fully accepted your love for us. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Many: We cling to our assumptions and insist that our point of view is the correct one.

All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God. Please help us open our hearts to your love. Help us shake free from our biases and assumptions so we may better share your peace in your world, rejoicing in your name. Amen.

One: Now hear these words of assurance: God tells us that we are created in God’s image. God created us for relationship with God and each other. In this, we know that God will never break our relationship. God’s steadfast love endures forever.

*Hymn of Response *There is a place of quiet rest* HWB 5

RESPONDING

Offering and Offertory Local Church Missions
Offertory

* *Doxology* HWB 119

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer

SENDING

*Hymn *Take my life* HWB 389 verse 1

Benediction

Postlude

*Indicates those comfortable in doing so, please stand.

Guest Pastor: Karen Andres Worship Leader: Roberta Harms

Scripture Reader: Donna Balzer

Keyboard: Ellen Youngman Usher: Doug Hiebert

A bucket offering for My Coins Count will be taken today for the Mennonite Relief Sale, which is **April 11-12** in Hutchinson. This collection goes to support Mennonite Central Committee and the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. An offering will be taken on the first Sunday of each month leading up to the sale.

For Sharing and Prayer

What a great Sunday! Thank you to everyone who contributed in so many ways - in the worship service, music, sharing, and kitchen crew. And especially striking was the incredible display of food at the carry-in meal and the amazing "churches, books, maps, and globes" decorating the fellowship hall. Simply a great way to conclude as pastor at Grace Hill. You are an awesome congregation. May God carry you forward.

- Weldon & Jenny

Thank you for providing such a wonderful selection of food for the lunch last Sunday. We have great cooks at Grace Hill. Also, thanks to all those who helped clean up afterwards.

The prayers, food, cards, and visits were much appreciated while I was recuperating from knee replacement surgery. Thank you for caring.

Kathy Balzer

Karen Andres will be available to the congregation for critical pastoral care and funeral needs in the short term. Please contact Care Council Chair Doug Claassen with any care needs during this time of transition for our congregation. Doug's number is 316-204-3220.

Karen Andres will be filling the pulpit throughout Lent – Sunday, March 9 through Easter Sunday, April 20.

Western District Conference: Pray for WDC Commissions meeting this month, as they provide ministries to support congregations and leaders in the conference.

Mennonite Mission Network: Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for the Ecuador partnership meetings that are being held in Quito this week. Linda Shelly, regional director for Latin America, and Andrew Suderman, director of global partnerships, have joined representatives of the Colombia Mennonite Church and Central Plains Mennonite Conference in meeting with Ecuadorian partners to discern how to best carry out God's vision in their communities.

Church Events

Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday evening fellowship meal. Suggested donation for the meal is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children. It's pizza and game night! All are welcome! The last Wednesday evening fellowship meal will be on March 19.

Wednesday at 7:45 p.m. Easter Choir practice will begin on Wednesday, March 12. The cantata will be performed on Easter Sunday morning. All adults are welcome to join the choir for weekly practices. Upcoming practices: March 19 at 7:45 p.m., March 26 at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Worship Council meets

Sunday, March 30 at noon Trivia with a Twist and Lunch

WAVES OF WONDER, a VBS experience, will take place at Grace Hill Mennonite Church on June 2-5, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for all PreK 3-year-olds to 6th graders. Hosted in conjunction with Zion Mennonite Church, we are looking for volunteers to have a successful VBS. We need adults to assist with Music/Worship, Bible Beach (Bible story activity), Creators Coast (art/science activity), Seaside Games (motion activity), PreK3/4/5 classroom teacher, group leader K-2, group leader 3-4, group leader 5-6., and infant nursery (for children of staff). All 7th-12th grade youth will have a place to assist if they are able to attend. Please contact Deb Regier to volunteer or if you have any questions.

Et Cetera

Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale is April 11-12 in Hutchinson.

Verenike Making day is April 5 at Parkview Mennonite Brethren Church in Hillsboro. Sign up to volunteer on the Sign-Up Genius. The plan is to make 17,000 verenike in 6 hours! Come be part of the fun! **Quilter's Corner** Used/unused/unfinished/ items no longer needed in your quilt/sewing/linen closets will be sold to generate funds for MCC, see suggested items listed on Relief Sale bulletin board. **Run for Relief** is April 12 at 8:00am at Rice Park. Go to the website to register or forms are available on table in foyer. **Items are needed to sell at the sale.** Need good to excellent quality items: cars, collectibles, sports memorabilia, experiences, farm equipment, golf carts, power tools, mowers, new furniture.

For more information about the sale, go to www.kansas.mccsale.org. Also check out the Facebook page Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. To volunteer, go the website and click on the volunteer tab to see all the options! Pick your choice slot now! If you have questions, talk to Mike, Kathy, Kim, Debbie or K. John.

Announcements

Debbie Claassen is planning to participate in the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale 5K Run on April 12. If you would like to sponsor her and help raise money for Mennonite Central Committee, please give donations to her by April 9. Checks should be made to KMRS and labeled "Run for Relief" on the memo.

Offering Next Sunday: Mission Partner Fund

Bethel College Choir Tour Send-off Concert, directed by Dr. Henry S. Waters, March 9 at 4 p.m., Memorial Hall. The concert has the theme "Unity & Hope" and includes performances by the Chamber Singers, Woven and Open Road.

The Hartzler Bible Lecture Series at Bethel College presents Doug Miller, professor emeritus of biblical and religious studies at Tabor College, "The Book of Isaiah"; 7 p.m. Sunday, March 9, Ad Building chapel; 11 a.m. Monday, March 10, Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center.

Men & Boys Retreat is April 4-6, at Camp Mennoscah! Claim a place to sleep in the cabins, bunkhouses, or sleep in your own tent under the stars. Meals can be purchased for Saturday night, Sunday morning, and Sunday lunch. Online registration will be available by March 15; registration can also be completed at camp. Contact Kevin at 316-322-5515 for more information.

Lent-at-Home: Christ Collides, a free downloadable Lenten devotional from Mennonite Education Agency -[Download it for free](#)

Western District Conference invites you to visit their website at <https://mennowdc.org/> to read the latest news, stories and announcements.

Church Offices

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