

# Grace Hill Mennonite Church

April 6, 2025

Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am

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## Fifth Sunday in Lent “Christ Collides”

### GATHERING

Prelude

Greetings & Announcements

Call To Worship

One: As we worship, Christ collides with our blinders.

**Many: We want to know you and follow you, O Christ.**

One: Will you cry to God? Will you climb a tree?

**Many: We will journey, scanning the horizon for signs of the kingdom. So much is hidden, and at times we do not grasp what God is saying.**

One: Jesus, show us mercy.

**Many: Seek and save us.**

**All: Jesus, show us mercy.**

\*Hymn *Open my eyes, that I may see* HWB 517

### HEARING GOD’S WORD

Offering for My Coins Count

Children’s Story Penny Hiebert

Special Music *Medley of Hymns* arr. by B.C. Dockery  
Penny Hiebert & Bonita Schroeder

Scripture Luke 18:31 –43

Sermon “Learning to See”

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 walk through our days with blinders on, unable to see or understand clearly.**

**All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God. Please help us open our hearts to your love. Help us walk with open hands and hearts 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 *We walk by faith* HWB 570

### RESPONDING

Offering and Offertory Mennonite Church USA

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: Valerie Klaassen  
Scripture Reader: Debbie Claassen Keyboard: Bonita Schroeder  
Song Leader: Penny Hiebert Usher: Mike Balzer*

**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.

## For Sharing and Prayer

Thank you to Cassandra for planning and leading the trivia afternoon last Sunday. Also, thanks to the Social Committee for serving the meal. We all had a good time!

**Western District Conference:** Pray for youth ministry in WDC congregations, as pastors, families, mentors and teachers support young people and nurture their growth.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Michael Oyer, in his new capacity as Mennonite Mission Network's program director for Service Adventure, has just completed a three-day visit to the unit in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Pray for wisdom for Michael and the unit leaders, Christian and Leigha Stoltzfus. Pray for a year of growing in faith for participants — Elisabeth Daudey, Alea Sagert, Sadie Sherman and Hannah Smith — and for their host congregation, Beth-El Mennonite Church.

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 through Easter Sunday, April 20.

## Church Events

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

**Next Sunday at 7:00 p.m.** Palm Sunday Service at Zion Mennonite.

**Thursday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m.** Maundy Thursday Service at Grace Hill.

**Easter Sunday, April 20** 6:45am Easter Sunrise Service; breakfast, activity and Easter Egg hunt to follow. Kids – please bring your own basket for the Easter Egg hunt.

## Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale - April 11-12 in Hutchinson *May Christ Rule Our Hearts!*

**Bakers - Pie tins and zwieback bags** are still available on the table in the foyer. Be creative in your pie flavors, unique flavors are always needed. Bake sale items are also needed – peppernuts, cinnamon rolls, poppyseed roll, mini pies all sell well.

**Cherry Moos making day is Thursday, April 10 from 8am-noon at Grace Hill;** Grace Hill Pie/Ice Cream/Cherry Moos Booth needs volunteers for Friday, April 11 & Saturday, April 12. See sign-up sheets for both of these on the table in the foyer. Talk to Sharon Schmidt if you have questions.

**We will take items to the sale** – please have pies, crafts and general auction items to the church by **Friday, April 11 at 8:00am** and pies by **Saturday, April 12 at 6:30 am**. Leave baked items in the kitchen. Please contact Kathy Balzer if pies need to be picked up in Newton.

**Volunteers are still needed for the weekend.** Go to Sign-Up Genius to sign up to help at the sale. <https://kansas.mccsale.org/volunteer/>

**Friday Evening – Live Music from 3:30-6:30pm** – weather permitting, will be performed on the new 1861 Club's Plaza. Buildings will be open 4-8:30pm on Friday. **General Auction** will be held in Sunflower North Building, 6:00 pm. Check out the featured items on KMRS website or Facebook.

**Saturday – Buildings open up 8:00am on Saturday.** Quilt Auction and General Auction begin at 8:45am. Silent Auction bids will start Friday at 5:00pm and continue Saturday. Kids Auction is Saturday at 10:00am. Check out website [www.kansas.mccsale.org](http://www.kansas.mccsale.org) for pictures of auction items.

**Feeding the Multitude** will be served cafeteria style and available for carry out or dine in. Offering verenike with ham gravy, sausage, bohne berroggi, borscht, cherry moos, and zwiebach. Serving times in Cottonwood Court: Friday 4-8pm & Saturday 10:30am-1pm.

**For more information about the sale,** go to [www.kansas.mccsale.org](http://www.kansas.mccsale.org). If you have questions, talk to Mike, Kathy, Kim, Debbie or K. John.

**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.

**Offerings received March 1-31, 2025**

Africa Inter-Mennonite Missions	1,150.00
Local Church	21,920.00
MCC	2,000.00
MCC Relief Canning	1,000.00
MCUSA	1,365.00
Mennonite Relief Sale	1,000.00
MVS	1,015.00
Mission Partner Fund	1,660.00
WDC	1,320.00
Total	\$ 32,430.00

**Offering Next Sunday:** Local Church Missions

**Et Cetera**

**Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus Concerts:** April 6 at 4:00pm at Tabor College, Hillsboro; April 13 at 4:00pm at Bethel College, North Newton. Open Road and Woven will be joining the choir at Bethel College. The concerts are free with an offering benefiting the global mission support work of Mennonite Central Committee.

**John Thiesen, "Re-membering the 1870s Migration,"** April 13 at 3 p.m., Kauffman Museum auditorium. This Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum program is in connection to the current special exhibit, "Unlocking the Past: Immigrant Artifacts & the Stories They Tell." Thiesen is co-director of libraries and archivist at the Mennonite Library and Archives at Bethel College.

**The annual meeting of the Community Playschool Corporation** will be held on Monday, April 14 at 7:15 p.m. at the Bethel College Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall. Interested members of the congregations supporting Community Playschool are invited to attend. Entrance to the building will be at the south side of the church and then make your way to the lower level of the church by stairs or elevator.

**Camp Mennoscah** is looking for kitchen helpers and other volunteers to make great camp experiences. Parents can receive a camper discount up to full camp fees as a kitchen volunteer. Contact Olivia at [Olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:Olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org) or 316-293-7313.

**Western District Women in Mission (WDWM)** invites women and girls to their annual potluck salad supper on Monday, April 28 at 6 p.m. at the Tabor Mennonite Church. Our theme is "For the Beauty of the Earth." After the potluck and a meditation on God's creation, Rebecca Schrag will lead a floral design workshop with flowers provided by Firebranch Farm and other sources. Each participant will make a small bouquet to take home. RSVP appreciated and required by April 15 at our website link: <https://www.westerndistrictwomeninmission.org/events-1> Please bring: a salad to share (table service will be provided); a small vessel to make a bouquet (a tea cup is ideal); several flowers from your garden if you have them to share; a kitchen or garden shear if you have one. An offering will be taken to help cover expenses. Questions: Email [westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com](mailto:westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com). Follow us on Facebook & Instagram.

**Music and Quilt Auction at The Hub on May 2!** Join Camp Mennoscah from 6-8:30pm for an evening of music, food and fellowship to benefit Camp Mennoscah. The Hub will donate 10% of all sales on May 2 to Camp Mennoscah. Musical groups include K81, Queen Jack Jericho, Brett and Caleb Klingenberg, and The Schrag Siblings. A Camp Mennoscah tee shirt quilt will also be sold through a silent auction. A picture of the quilt will soon be at [www.campmennoscah.org](http://www.campmennoscah.org) Contact [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org) for a bidding from a distance option. (The Hub, 100 S Christian, Moundridge, KS, <https://www.thehubbrickoven.com>)

**Calling all worship leaders, parents with young children, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and anyone who values passing faith values on to the next generation!** Join us on Saturday, May 3, from 11am-3pm at First Mennonite Church, Newton, (in-person or virtually) for a FREE launch event about the new grant-funded worship initiative Kids Meet Christ. Participants will enjoy a free catered lunch and be the first to receive a kit of ready-to-use materials for children in worship! Click [here to register](#).

**Now is the time to register for MC USA's Follow Jesus '25 biennial convention** in Greensboro, North Carolina, July 8-12, 2025! Register here: [mennoniteusa.org/registration/](http://mennoniteusa.org/registration/) View the PowerPoint slide here: [mennoniteusa.org/register-for-FJ-25\\_slide](http://mennoniteusa.org/register-for-FJ-25_slide) View the PDF here: [mennoniteusa.org/register-for-FJ-25\\_PDF](http://mennoniteusa.org/register-for-FJ-25_PDF)

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

**Church Offices**

**Church Secretary: Debbie Claassen**

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

Church Website: [www.gracehillmc.org](http://www.gracehillmc.org)

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