

Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LX

November 29, 2015

No. 47



FREEDOM BOUND: THE PATH OF JUSTICE

The prophets declare that God's justice is coming through the promised Messiah. On this first Sunday of Advent, we pray for God's Spirit to strengthen our hearts and lead us on pathways of justice. May we be freed from that which keeps us captive so that we can live in more caring and just ways.

GATHERING / PRAISING

PRELUDE	Marcene Entz
*WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP	Eric Litwiller
*GATHERING HYMN	"Come, thou long-expected Jesus" No. 178
*GATHERING PRAYER	
*HYMN OF PRAISE	"To us a Child of hope is born" No. 189
*PASSING THE PEACE	The Peace of Christ be with you ~ <i>and also with you.</i>
COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS	

PROCLAIMING

OFFERING OUR GIFTS	
CHILDREN'S STORY	Pastor Rosie Jantz
WORSHIP MUSIC	Adult Worship Team
SCRIPTURE	<i>Psalm 25: 1-10</i> Venita Schroeder <i>Luke 21: 25-36</i> Elton Nickel
The Word of God for the people of God ~ <i>Thanks be to God!</i>	
MEDITATION	Pastor Katherine Goerzen

RESPONDING

MOMENT OF QUIET REFLECTION	
SONG OF RESPONSE	"O come, O come, Immanuel" verses 1-3, 6 No. 172
LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE	Justice Johnson and Peter Goerzen
CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER AND CANDLE LIGHTING	
	"Nun ist sie erschienen" No. 52CS

SENDING

*SENDING HYMN	"Hail to the Lord's anointed" No. 185
*BENEDICTION	<i>I Thessalonians 3: 11-13</i>
*POSTLUDE	

Today

We are so glad you are here with us to worship God and experience God's love. This morning you were greeted by Russ, Sharleen, Tristan and Aubrielle Francis and Shannon, Carrie, Reed and Aleyx Friesen. *A special welcome is extended to all visitors.*

At the back of the sanctuary there is a quiet room for infants and mothers, as well as a toddler nursery for those age three and under, staffed today by Sarahanne Unruh.

On the table in the foyer are **Prayer Request Cards**. You are invited to fill one out if you have a request and return it to a pastor's box.

10:45 a.m.—Fellowship Time.

11:00 a.m.—Faith Formation for everyone.

This Week

Tuesday, December 1

10:00 a.m.—Staff meeting

7:00 p.m.—Church Council

Wednesday, December 2

Wednesday Evening Activities

5:20 p.m.—Faithful Fitness

5:45 p.m.—Supper *Please sign up for the meal.*

6:25 p.m.—Welcome for everyone

6:30 p.m.—Music for all ages (age 3-grade 8)

6:45 p.m.—Faith Friends, Faith Adventure, Youth Explorers, Adult Bible Study

6:50 p.m.—TMYF *leave to go Christmas caroling*

7:45 p.m.—Adult Choir

Thursday, December 3

12:00 p.m.—Newton Lunch Bunch

Next Sunday, December 6

9:15 a.m.—Prelude

9:30 a.m.—Next Sunday is the second Sunday in Advent. Our theme will be "Freedom Bound: The Path of Mercy." Our scripture focus will be Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Luke 3:1-6; Philippians 1:3-11 and Pastor Phil will be preaching.

Advent Offering: We will be collecting items for MCC's Infant Care Kits. During the offering next Sunday we will receive 2 undershirts/onesies (any sleeve length) and one pair of socks.

10:45 a.m.—There will be a congregational vote of affirmation for Ron Schroeder and Nathan Graber as deacons.

11:00 a.m.—Faith Formation for everyone.

Freedom Bound: The Path of Justice

Prayer Requests

The following requests were shared on Sunday, November 22.

- ★ Marcene Entz shared about her experience in learning about worship and gratitude at the Worship Symposium at Bethel College the previous Saturday. She invited the congregation to look for opportunities to give gratitude back to God.
 - ★ *Caring Quilt Locations:* The caring quilts are home.
- Remember to Pray for:
- ★ People being discerned for new deacon terms: Nathan Graber and Ron Schroeder.
 - ★ God's peace to reign in our world full of violence, hatred, and fear. Lord, hear our prayer.

Dates to Remember:

December 9: Wed. Evening fundraiser meal for Mennonite Heritage Museum
December 10: Stories and Stuff. Everyone is invited. Please sign up.
December 10: What's Cookin'?
December 13: Christmas Brass at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church
December 19: Tabor Mennonite Women and Girls Christmas Brunch
December 19 & 20: TMYF Night in the Barn
December 24: Christmas Eve Celebration Service
December 25: Christmas Day *Church offices closed*
December 27: Young Adult Sunday. No Faith Formation.

Announcements and conference prayer requests are on the announcements page, which was either emailed to you or can be found in your church mailbox. Additional copies can be found in the literature rack.

OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE November 22, 2015

Offering	= \$ 8,468.24	Attendance	= 176
Adult S.S.	= \$ 56.00	Attendance	= 60
Jr. S.S.	= \$ 36.84	Attendance	= 44

Annual Budget: \$269,143.00

Generous Giving through 11-22-15: \$257,376.16

1 Sunday left in fiscal year

Giving Needed Per Sunday to Meet Budget: \$11,766.44

There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. (Luke 21:25-26)

Trouble in the Text

Trouble in the World

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.' (Jeremiah 33:14-16)

God's Grace in the Text

God's Grace in the World



Tabor Mennonite Church

Prelude: 9:15am Worship: 9:30am
Fellowship Time: 10:30am Faith Formation: 10:45am

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As God's children and the body of Christ, we are called by God to offer hospitality, healing and hope in the name of Christ.

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