

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

December 8, 2019

10:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

ORGANIST --- Dr. Scott Lehman ✦ WORSHIP LEADER --- Brent Hyman

Prelude *Once in Royal David's City*/Smith

**Sing Choirs of Angels* (congregation sing on cue) Johnson
Chancel Choir

Welcome Brent Hyman

*Advent Candle of Peace Stephanie, Jaidon, and Gracie Patterson

Isaiah 9:6-7

*#250 [brown] *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

*#251 [brown] *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* (vs. 1,3,4)

Special Music: *O Holy Night*

Daniel Doty

Offering Prayer Greg Meyer

Offertory: *The Lamb* Tavener

Palestrina Ensemble

Guests, please fill out the cards in the pew and drop in the offering plate.

#178 [blue] *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Children ages 4 – Grade 4 may walk to Children's Church.

Elementary children's church will be in the spotlight room today. Please pick up your kids there following the service.

Message Brings Us Peace/Pastor Jeff Linthicum

**Light of the World*

Prayer and Share Milly Fox

*#210 [blue] *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (v. 3)

*Benediction Pastor Jeff Linthicum

*Postlude *Caroling, Caroling*/Bish

If you would like someone to pray with you following the service, please go to the chapel, as someone is waiting to pray with you.

TODAY AT FIRST MENNONITE

On the scanner and TV today is the Helping Hands Class .

The rose on the organ is in honor of Carrigan Marie, daughter of Patrick & Tara Lehman, born on November 28.

The flowers on the organ are in honor of Dave & Lona Shuey's 11th wedding anniversary.

The large white poinsettia in the east hallway is in loving memory of Dale, Elaine & Maxiene Lantz & Susie Baumgartner, and has been provided by the Dick Lantz family.

11:20 a.m. Listening Group – Pastor Jeff's office.

3:00 p.m. **Handel's *Messiah*** (Christmas section only) will be presented by the Mennonite Choral Society under the direction of Brent Hyman. An offering will be received. Come and let *Messiah* be a part of your Christmas preparation.

Offering envelopes for the New Year will be available today. If you would like to begin using the envelope system in 2020, you may pick up a box of envelopes after the worship service in the west walkway above the patio.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

TUESDAY – December 10

6:30 p.m. Sunshine Hour
6:30 p.m. Prayer in the Prayer room

WEDNESDAY – December 11

5:00 p.m. Grace Notes Bell Choir
5:45 p.m. Fellowship Meal
6:10 p.m. Little Notes of Praise – Rm 17 (4 yrs.– 1st grade)
6:10 p.m. JAM Choir – Rm. 7/8 (1st/2nd grade SS room) (2nd-5th grade)
6:10 p.m. Mennonotes – Choir room (grades 6-8)
7:00 p.m. Chapel– *The Purpose of Christmas*, Darren Kloepper, speaking
7:00 p.m. Service Project - *Night in Bethlehem* setup. Participants of all ages will assist in the setting up for Sunday evening's activities.
7:00 p.m. Prayer Group – Prayer room
8:15 p.m. Chancel Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Tuesdays for the month of December, Class 96 will be responsible for setting up tables for the Wednesday evening meals.

The menu for December 11: Ham loaf, scalloped potatoes, peas, roll, cookie sheet cake, (hot dogs for kids), and beverages.

You're invited to come and cheer on our quizzers today at Hope Missionary Church in Bluffton at 2:00. Our quizzers appreciate your encouragement!

Teacher Appreciation gifts - The Disciple Commission would like to say THANK YOU to all Sunday School teachers, children's church teachers, and their helpers. Please stop by the table in the foyer today to pick up your gift!

All commission nominees were affirmed in the balloting last Sunday. Thank you for serving.

New flower calendar for 2020 has been placed on the bulletin board by the church office. You're invited to sign up for Sundays at your convenience.

Attention Snowbirds! If you are one of those fortunate beings heading south to beat the cold, please remember to leave your address with the church office.

If you're new to First Mennonite, please stop by the Welcome Center out in the foyer, and find out more information about First Mennonite.

This Wednesday, December 11, we will have a FAMILY SERVICE night to help set up for Night in Bethlehem following our fellowship meal. Meet in the patio at 6:45 p.m. to get instructions. Please come and serve together!

Night in Bethlehem - There are several spots still open on the chapel wall for food donations and participants - please sign up TODAY!!! If you have already signed up, costumes are available today to pick up.

DO YOU SEW? We are needing a few more costumes for Night in Bethlehem sewn for our December 15 event. If you would be willing to help convert old choir robes to Bible costumes, please see Chris.

Sunday, December 22, is our annual music Sunday. Due to Night in Bethlehem, there is NOT a separate kids' music program, so ALL KIDS ages 2-grade 5 will be participating in this service! Kids will not need to be picked up after Sunday School, but will be dismissed to their parents after they sing in the service.

Anyone interested in attending Lancaster Conference's annual "Celebration of Church Life" in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, April 3-4, please call the church office to express your interest.

Gym Chaperones are needed for the winter quarter (December-February). Quiet room: inside room playing games and basically loving on kids after dinner before class from 6-7 pm on Wednesday nights. See Chris or Debby if you can help!

God calls us to encourage each other. Here is a list of December birthdays for missionaries and church staff. A basket will be placed in the foyer in which you may place cards for them, and these will be sent for you.

12 Josh Linthicum 17 Lillian Meyer 18 Bonnie Flueckiger
19 Megan Linthicum 22 Gordon Claassen 26 Mary Hope Stucky
28 Brent Hyman 29 Camden Hyman

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Van & Sharon Wulliman, Michael & Michelle Sprunger, and other family members in the death of Matthew Sprunger on November 28.