

UNIVERSITY MENNONITE CHURCH

Sunday Service December 10, 2017 9:30 am

Greeter: Carolyn Brubaker	Worship Leader: Dale Kephart
Pastor: In Transition	Song Leader: Faith King
Hosts: Fellowship Meal	Ushers: Nel Kopp, Rodney Brubaker, and Jim Pierce
Childcare (0-4 years): available in the nursery	

Second Sunday of Advent

First, Hope: our Light will come!

Now expectations rising, dawning light:

Come soon, Prince of Peace!

Our promise: be we like unto Mary, saying: "Let it be so!"

Prelude – Becky Kephart

Call to Worship (bulletin insert)

Lighting Advent Candle the Second, the Candle of Peace

Welcoming

Gathering Hymns

HWB 178, *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

HWB 395, *Here I am, Lord*

Confession (bulletin insert)

Words of Assurance (bulletin insert)

Children's Message – Becky Kephart and Vonda Yoder, Children

Offering

Offertory – Special Music, *My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord*

(Evelyn Bartsch, Karen Brandes; accompanist – Krista Weidner)

Prayer

The Word

Isaiah 40:1-11 (p. 581); Mark 1:1-8 (p. 812)

The Message – Ben Wideman, "Waiting in the In-Between"

Hymn of Response – STJ 54, *Longing for Light*

Petitions and Praises, Birthdays – Ben Wideman

Introductions: an invitation for those who feel comfortable so doing

Benediction

Sending Hymn – STS 57, *Go, my friends, in grace*

Announcements

Sunday School (second hour) – see announcements insert

Prayer Requests

MMN: Join Mennonite Mission Network in praising God for the recording of the entire New Testament in the Toba-Qom language, and for the 33 readers from eight denominations and 12 communities in the Argentine Chaco who volunteered to make this possible. Pray that God's word will find open hearts when it is aired on the radio.

MEA: The light of Christ has come into the world — join the Bethel College community in praising God for the gift of the Son, as students, faculty, staff and friends observe the 32nd annual Lighting of the Green.

Church Information: www.universitymennonite.org

1606 Norma St., State College, PA 16801; (814) 234-2039

Submissions for bulletin or email announcements: umcbulletin@yahoo.com

DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN INCLUSION: Thursday, 12:00 noon

Pastor: In Transition

Campus Pastor: Ben Wideman ben@3rdwaycollective.org 215-859-0037

Elders: Gloria Horst Rosenberger ghr4870@gmail.com 814-234-2167

Jim Pierce jimpierce2015@gmail.com 814-303-2316

Bethany Spicher Schonberg micahandbethany@gmail.com 814-667-2756

Joel Weidner joelpsu82@outlook.com 814-777-4494

Cong. Chair: Karen Rath karenrath@gmail.com 814-880-5425

Asst. Chair: Doug Miller miller@eesi.psu.edu 814-883-1127

University Mennonite Church's safe-child policy demonstrates our commitment to the physical safety and the spiritual growth of all our children and youth, ages birth to 18, as well as to our volunteers who care for them. The complete policy is posted in the lobby entrances and in the nursery room.

To reserve space for your event or meeting in our meetinghouse, please contact Carolyn Brubaker, 237-6602. **To participate in the UMC email list, sign up at** university-mennonite-sharing-list+subscribe@googlegroups.com.

Upcoming Events: For more details, go to www.universitymennonite.org/calendar

December

Sun 10 Potluck Fellowship Meal 12:00 pm

Mon 11 Shape Note Singing 7:00 pm

Tue 12 Men's Fellowship Breakfast 7:00 am

Tue 12 Student Ministry Advisory Committee 7:30 pm

Sun 17 Children's Christmas Program 11:15 am

Sun 24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm

Tue 26 Men's Fellowship Breakfast 7:00 am

January

Wed 3 Leadership Team Meeting 6:30 pm

Wed 3 Elders Meeting 7:30 pm

Mon 8 Shape Note Singing

Mon 9 Men's Fellowship Breakfast 7:00 am

Mon 9 Student Ministry Advisory Committee 7:30 pm

Recordings of each worship service are available at
<http://www.universitymennonite.org/worship-service-reco>

Call to Worship

*All: We long for comfort, we long for change
Moving from uncertainty and fear
we call upon God to make things ready:
mountains leveled, paths made straight*

Leader: Awake!

Prepare your hearts!

Invitation to carry light comes from
the voice who cries out:

Make smooth the way through wild places!

All: O God, this call is uncomfortable

How can we who are weak

remove these rough and rugged places?

– silence –

Leader: Quiet our questioning souls.

All: Lead us into your presence

so all may see your way

Leader: Let it be so!

Confession

Leader:

Creator God, Lord of might

Of chaos, darkness, stormy seas, threatening skies

People:

Yet in Love, You declare, "Let there be Light"

Leader:

Stubbornly, we dwell in darkness

distracted, strangely fearful

Our lives whirl about, untethered, rootless

delirious as in a bad dream

We sleepwalk in your presence

like trees walking

People:

We turn away from Your call

Yet even so: we are drawn to your Light!

In Love and Forgiveness you see us

As potters' clay you fashion us

as Jesus

Beacons of hope to a hopeless world

Glowing lamps of peace and salvation

Reflecting Your Love

All:

Empower us Lord!

Let it be so for us

to do Your will!

Words of Assurance

Leader:

Oh God, Emmanuel,

In Jesus, the Christ

You come among us

You give us life

We ARE restored!

Announcements, December 10, 2017

Sunday School: There will be Sunday school at 11:10 following the service. There are classes for children in the basement, and adults have the option of a sermon discussion in the sanctuary or a Bible study on Mark in Room 3 downstairs.

There will be **no Sunday school** for children or adults on **December 17, 24, 31, and January 7**. Sunday school will resume on January 14.

We welcome all as we explore the Gospel of Mark this Fall, for an adult Sunday school option, downstairs to the right of the back stairwell. If visiting our Church, struck by a sudden impulse or curiosity, we encourage you to drop in! We plan to visit about one chapter per week. Questions, ask Dale Kephart at beckdale2@comcast.net or 814-466-2335.

Fellowship Meal Today at Noon

Everyone is invited to stay for a delicious carry-in meal. There is always enough for everyone and you are invited to stay whether you planned to or not. There will be labels for vegan, vegetarian, gluten free and especially any dishes containing nuts.

3rd Way Collective Highlights

Tomorrow begins the week of final exams at Penn State! Students are encouraged to check out study spaces in the Spiritual Center, Penn State library, or at Abba Java Coffee House. Blessings as you finish the semester and enjoy the break!

We encourage everyone to join the Standing at the Gates for Justice group on Monday at 4pm. Consider signing up to host a home cooked meal in the spring by visiting this webpage! - <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4daee28a0ff2-3wchome1>

For our full schedule and to find out how to support this ministry please visit [3rdWayCollective.org](http://3rdwaycollective.org) or contact ben@3rdwaycollective.org. A reflection is posted each month at <http://www.3rdwaycollective.org/category/blog/>

Announcements, December 10, 2017

December 17 Children's Christmas Program

Everyone is invited to the Children's Christmas Program during the Sunday School hour. After the worship service the adults will leave the sanctuary and go downstairs for coffee while the children dress. When the children are ready (at about 11:15am), adults will be given the signal to take their coffee to the sanctuary and enjoy the program.

After the program everyone will return downstairs to the fellowship hall for refreshments.

Please bring a snack to share, such as fruit, veggies, meat, cheese, crackers or cookies. (Anything with nuts will need to be labeled.) Cider will be provided.

As year-end approaches, **if anyone would like to contribute to UMC by gifting appreciated shares of stock**, please contact our treasurer, Jim Rosenberger.

The writing team for Journey Forward will meet this month to complete a draft of the Journey Forward identity document, incorporating feedback from the Future Church Summit, Executive Board, Constituency Leaders Council, and MC USA national staff.

This document is part of the visioning process of describing who we are and who God is calling us to be as 21st century Anabaptists. The writing team and a reference council will play an important role in gathering feedback and updating this draft over the two-year process to culminate at the 2019 MC USA Convention.

Read more and see the timeline for Journey Forward: <http://mennoniteusa.org/news/journey-forward-embracing-gods-hope-mc-usa/>