

UNIVERSITY MENNONITE CHURCH

Sunday Service December 15, 2019

Third Sunday of Advent

Focus Statement - *O Lord, what am I waiting for? Why am I afraid? I see my need for your strength in my weakness and my need to be filled with your courage in the midst of all my fears. I long for an awakening, for a renewed trust, and for patience in the coming of the Lord.*

Prelude – Becky Kephart

Call to worship – Matthew Rooke

One: O God, my God, I cry out to you.

**Many: Asking, when will I start rejoicing that you are coming?
Will I trust your faithfulness to your creation?**

One: Can I be patient enough to trust in your time, instead of my own?

All: God, what am I waiting for?

Lighting of Advent candles

Opening prayer

God of creation, we hear your call to rejoice and to be redeemed, your call for awakening and action. You continue to wait patiently for us and to call us beloved, yet still, sometimes, God, we are afraid. Help us in our fear and unbelief. God, we know you are always present and ever faithful; help us to put our trust in you.

Singing – Sam Yoder

STS #14 Prepare the way of the Lord – Sister Song

HWB #178 Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Welcome of visitors

Children's time with Nel Kopp

Children are welcomed forward while congregation sings

HWB #20 Come and see

Offering

Scripture - Responsive reading (from Isaiah 35:1-10)

Leader: The Lord our God will come and save us.

People: We will let go of our fears.

Leader: God will strengthen the weak hands
and make firm the feeble knees.

People: We will find our strength in the Lord.

Leader: The redeemed shall walk in the way of the Lord.

**All: We shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God!**

Matthew 11: 2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Sermon – Kate Heinzl

Hymn HWB #172 O come, O come, Immanuel

Sharing – Kate Heinzl

Announcements

Benediction

Sending Hymn STS #1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness

Pastor: Kate Heinzl

Greeter: Amy Sattler

Accompanist: Krista Weidner

Ushers: Rodney Brubaker, Jim Rosenberger

Church Information: www.universitymennonite.org

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DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN INCLUSION: Fridays at 7 am

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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 by sending an email to:

university-mennonite-sharing-list+subscribe@googlegroups.com.

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

December

Dec 15 Children's Christmas program 11 am

Dec 16 Worship committee meeting 7 pm

Dec 20 Women's fellowship breakfast, Foxdale 8:30 am

Dec 24 Men's fellowship breakfast, Corner Room 7 am

Christmas Eve service 7 pm

Dec 29 Sunday worship hymn sing

January

Jan 8 Leadership team meeting 6:30 pm

Elders meeting 7:30 pm

Jan 12 Potluck fellowship meal, noon

Jan 14 Men's fellowship breakfast, Foxdale 7 am

Jan 17 Women's fellowship breakfast, Foxdale 8:30 am

Jan 20 Worship committee meeting, 7 pm

Jan 28 Men's fellowship breakfast, Corner Room 7 am

Announcements

Good Day Cafe closes early for the next several weeks, so I, Kate, will not be holding 'out of the office' visitation there again until January. I'm flexible and welcome scheduled visits. Feel free to call, text (717-606-2909), or email me at kate@universitymennonite.org to set up a time.

Everyone is invited to the Children's Christmas Program today 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 11:15), 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, pickled eggs, or cookies. (Anything with nuts will need to be labeled.) Cider will be provided.

3rd Way Collective Highlights - 3rd Way Collective would like to thank you for your support during another meaningful semester! Penn State students begin finals week on Monday - please hold them in your prayers during this stressful time of year. Study spaces will be available this week in the Pasquerilla Spiritual Center, Campus Libraries, and our friends at Abba Java Coffee House, Albright Bethune United Methodist, and State College Presbyterian. Also consider attending the weekly Standing at the Gates vigil on Monday at 4 pm.

If you would like to host a home-cooked meal, join us for a pub night, or help plan or coordinate some other event or activity, please contact Ben directly! For our full schedule and to find out how to support this ministry, please visit 3rdWayCollective.org or contact ben@3rdwaycollective.org.

Park Forest Preschool annual Christmas dinner donations are due at church today.