

## Advent Week 2

THOSE  
WHO  
DREAM

*...prepare the way*

### UNIVERSITY MENNONITE CHURCH

Sunday December 6, 2020

#### Virtual Worship Service

**Welcome and intro to Zoom worship** – Ben Wideman

**Prelude video** – *Every Ditch, Every Valley* by Ordinary Time

**Call to worship** – Bethany Spicher Schonberg

#### Lighting the Advent Candles

The Candle of Peace – Paul & Amy McCormick  
music by Ruth Parrish Sauder

**Children's time** – Jess McCormick

**Scripture** – Isaiah 40:1-8 Susan Peachey

*Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.*

*Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the Lord's hand  
double for all her sins.*

*A voice cries out:*

*'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.*

*Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.*

*Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'*

*A voice says, 'Cry out!'*

*And I said, 'What shall I cry?'  
All people are grass,*

*their constancy is like the flower of the field.  
The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.  
The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand for ever.*

### **Offering prayer and offertory**

HWB 176 Comfort, comfort, oh my people

### **Sermon and scripture, Mark 1:1-8 – Pastor Kate Heinzl**

*The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.  
As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight" ',*

*John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'*

### **Confessional – Ieva Perkons & Pastor Kate**

Music by Ruth Parrish Sauder

### **Sharing time – Pastor Kate**

### **Announcements/birthdays/introduction of visitors**

### **Benediction**

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## **Announcements**

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Today at 11 am we'll hold a **church congregational meeting** (use the same worship Zoom link).

**Wednesday sharing and prayer time** - Join us Wednesdays at noon for a time of scripture, prayer, and an opportunity to share more fully with one another. The Zoom meeting link will be distributed via our email list.

If you're interested in attending the **mindful meditation sessions** on Monday evenings and Thursday or Friday mornings, contact [Kate](#), as times and dates vary.

### **Advent at UMC**

**Daily devotional** – Would you like to receive a daily devotional in your inbox every morning of Advent? Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

**Advent wreath** - Consider putting together your own Advent wreath this year. It can be as simple as four candles and a Christ candle on a platter, surrounded by a few evergreen cuttings. Bringing light into our homes, one candle at a time, reminds us that darkness does not overtake us - the light increases inside even as the days get shorter outside. New life is coming...

**Collecting and sharing treasures!** Notebooks and pencils are treasures for families who struggle to afford basic school supplies. School kits often are requested after disasters and help bring normalcy to children whose families have been forced to flee their homes. Last year MCC shipped 79,557 kits to Jordan, Lebanon, South Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, and the U.S.

The Children's Sunday School Committee is inviting you to collect school kit contents this month. Click [HERE](#) for **complete list of supplies needed**. Drop off supplies in the Rubbermaid container at UMC Norma Street entrance December 26-31. Questions: Call Laura Litwiller 717-543-2419.

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## Announcements (cont.)

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### Interfaith Human Services

If you would like to be on Interfaith Human Services' mailing list, please email or call Joyce Hall, and she will forward your information.

A number of slots are still available for bell ringers for IHS on Saturday, Dec. 19 at Meyer Dairy. Please sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0445a5ad22a64-bell>

Or you can email or call Joyce about your availability to ring the bell for HIS ([jeh21@comcast.net](mailto:jeh21@comcast.net), 814-360-5191).

**Gift cards** – We have many options to give this season. Each week, we'll highlight a local organization.

This week we ask you again to consider supporting the four families who gardened at UMC this summer by purchasing Weis or Sam's Club gift cards. Send your cards to Mary Derstein, 206 Pine Tree Ave, Boalsburg, PA 16827.

**MCC PA Relief Sale:** Celebrating 100 Years of Hope, Community and Healing is hosting a FREE LIVE online concert with "*Girl Named Tom*" and "*The Steel Wheels*," today, 8-9:45 pm. Click [HERE](#) to enjoy the show.

Today is the last day of the **Ten Thousand Villages Annual Fair Trade Rug Event**. We're open until 6 pm at 1341 S Atherton Street (right next to our store).

**University Baptist & Brethren Church** is holding their 38<sup>th</sup> annual **Alternative Christmas Fair** virtually this year. Make the season merrier by supporting the good work of thirty local charities. Check out the attachment sent with this bulletin or visit <https://ubbcwelcome.org/acf>

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## Announcements (cont.)

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**Need help?** We are a community with talents, tools, and a willingness to serve each other. If you need some extra help - gathering groceries, taking care of leaves, etc., let Kate know. There are some here who might be able to lend a hand.

**Financial struggles?** As you continue to live into the realities of COVID-19, please let Kate or one of the [elders](#) know if you are living with financial uncertainty and could use some help. UMC, in partnership with [Everence](#), has funds available to help those in need.

**UMC YouTube channel:** [Check out our YouTube channel](#) to see our worship services, short meditations by Kate, and more! We will regularly post new content, so stop by often to stay connected.

**Your offerings support UMC** – Don't forget to support UMC with your financial gifts during this time of remote gatherings. You can make your offering the following ways:

- Mail a check to the church to the attention of our treasurer, 1606 Norma Street, State College PA, 16801
- Set up an automatic payment with your bank (bill pay service)
- Use a service like Zelle

Questions? Contact Jim Rosenberger [JLRosenberger@gmail.com](mailto:JLRosenberger@gmail.com)

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## Church Information

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

[www.universitymennonite.org](http://www.universitymennonite.org)

Pastor: Kate Heinzl

**Submissions for bulletin:** [umcbulletin@yahoo.com](mailto:umcbulletin@yahoo.com)

Deadline for bulletin inclusion: Fridays at noon (for virtual services)

### Staff and Volunteer Leadership

Pastor: Kate Heinzl, [kate@universitymennonite.org](mailto:kate@universitymennonite.org) 717-606-2909

Worship Coordinator:

Ben Wideman, [benwideman@gmail.com](mailto:benwideman@gmail.com) 215-859-0037

Elders

Rosita Benner Derstine, [rderstine@gmail.com](mailto:rderstine@gmail.com) 814-360-8789

Leland Glenna, [lelandglenna@gmail.com](mailto:lelandglenna@gmail.com) 814-769-3313

Meredith Wideman, [meredith.wideman@gmail.com](mailto:meredith.wideman@gmail.com) 626-808-2306

Laura Litwiller, [1978lauraashley@gmail.com](mailto:1978lauraashley@gmail.com) 717-543-3419

Cong. Chair: Rick Stehouwer [rsc15@psu.edu](mailto:rsc15@psu.edu) 814-883-3503

Asst. Chair: Cathy Bresee, [cbs4@psu.edu](mailto:cbs4@psu.edu) 814-933-8005

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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.

**Our church maintains a Google Group email list to keep members informed about prayer requests and happenings in the community.** Join the email list by sending an email to:

[university-mennonite-sharing-list+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:university-mennonite-sharing-list+subscribe@googlegroups.com)

**Zoom church services** are being recorded and published on our [YouTube channel](#). You can also listen to audio recordings at on our web site at: <http://www.universitymennonite.org/worship-service-recordings-2020/>



Center Christ | Lauren Wright Pittman