
CHURCH INFORMATION

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

www.universitymennonite.org

Pastor: Kate Heinzl

Submissions for bulletin: bulletin@universitymennonite.org

Deadline for bulletin inclusion: Thursday end of day

Staff and Volunteer Leadership

Pastor: Kate Heinzl, kate@universitymennonite.org 717-606-2909

Worship Coordinator:

Ben Wideman, benwideman@gmail.com 215-859-0037

Elders:

Meredith Wideman, meredith.wideman@gmail.com 626-808-2306

Laura Litwiller, 1978lauraashley@gmail.com 717-543-3419

Doug Yoder, dv83yoder@gmail.com 814-933-6896

Cong. Chair: Cathy Bresee, cb4@psu.edu 814-933-8005

Asst. Chair: Terry Yoder, tkyoder93@gmail.com 814-321-4964

Treasurer: Jim Rosenberger, jrosenberger@gmail.com 814-234-2167

Masking protocol – To protect those who are vulnerable, masks should be worn in the building for worship.

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

Missed worship? Our church services are being recorded and published on our website at:

<http://www.universitymennonite.org/worship-service-recordings-current/>

Church Wi-Fi information – Connect to **umc**, password **mennosimons**



Sunday Worship
January 2, 2022, 10 am



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Prelude – *Another Way Home* by James Taylor

Call to worship – Pastor Kate

Leader: We come to this place—

All: each of us on our own path.

Leader: The path is winding,

All: and the path is not always clear,

Leader: and the path changes,

All: but we are here.

Leader: God is walking us home.

All: What a gift it is to not walk alone.

Leader: Let us worship Holy God.

Lighting the Advent candle – Anders and Scott Woods

Call to confession

Prayer of confession and words of forgiveness

God of changed plans,

*The Magi heard in a dream that they were to take a new way home—
a different path, an untraveled road. And to our amazement, they did
just that. The Magi packed their bags and went home by another way.*

*We wish that change could be easy for us, but more often than not,
when whispers of change come, we tend to clench our fists and hold
on tighter.*

Forgive us for resisting change that might be holy.

Forgive us for ignoring that there is more than one road home.

Forgive us for failing to hear your invitation.

Guide our steps to unfamiliar places.

Gratefully we pray, amen.

Silence

*Leader: No matter which roads we take in this one wild and precious
life, God walks with us. God never leaves our side. When the road
changes and we find ourselves on a new path home, God is always
there.*

So join me in proclaiming the Good News:

*All: No matter where we go, no matter what we do, we are claimed,
loved, and held by God. Thanks be to God for a love like that.*

Special music – *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen/We Three Kings*
rendition by The Barenaked Ladies & Sarah McLachlan

Voices of the congregation – Ben Wideman

Tell about a time when you experienced home in an unexpected way

Scripture reading – Matthew 2:1-12

*In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise
men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has
been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have
come to pay him homage.’ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened,
and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and
scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be
born. They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the
prophet:*

*“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.”’*

*Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the
exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to
Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you
have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’
When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went
the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place
where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were
overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary
his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their
treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And
having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their
own country by another road.*

Children’s time – John Murphy

Sermon – Leah Lumeya

Special music – *Lo How a Rose* rendition by Evelyn Bartsch

Sharing time– Pastor Kate

Announcements/birthdays/introduction of visitors

Benediction

Announcements

Tuesday sharing and prayer - Join us on Tuesdays 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.

Thank you for the rapid response on short notice to the request for food, clothing, kitchen supplies, and gift cards for an Afghan family coming to Centre County this week. The supplies were delivered Monday to a very appreciative hostess. These items will meet the immediate needs of a family eager to move from a crowded tent to a place of their own. Thank you again for all your support. --Mary Derstein

Last Call to join our Abolition study beginning January 5 - Find out more and sign up at: <http://www.universitymennonite.org/defund-the-police-an-abolition-study/> Share the link and invite your friends.

MCUSA and MCC Updates

Restoring Hope & Dignity: 5th Annual MLK, Jr. Service Day on January 17, 2022 - Join Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and the Kingdom Builders Network for the 5th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Service Day. On Monday, January 17, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. EST, join Anabaptist churches at The City School - Poplar Campus (910 North 6th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123) to learn about mass incarceration and restorative justice through a dialogue and Q & A session with local community leaders. Celebrate MLK's legacy of peace and nonviolence through artistic performances. Please bring complete MCC prisoner care kits to the event to bring hope and dignity to incarcerated people in Philadelphia. This event will be livestreamed. For event details and to see a full list of prisoner care kit contents, visit mcc.org/service-day.

Herald Press, Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada are encouraging Mennonites to read carefully selected books to equip the church. Join other North American Mennonites in reading the current CommonRead book, "Been in the Struggle: Pursuing an Antiracist Spirituality" by Regina Shands Stoltzfus and Tobin Miller Shearer. Learn more here: <https://www.mennomedia.org/commonread/>.

Announcements (cont.)

Volunteering at UMC - Ready to give worship leading a try? Have a good message to share with our children? We welcome any regular attender to help provide leadership on Sunday mornings. Ben and Kate can help you learn how to navigate hybrid worship. Sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4daeae28a0ff2-worship>. We work as a body with many members, learn as a body, offer grace and love to one another as the body of Christ. Join us!

Hybrid worship update - Leadership team decided to continue with hybrid worship, meeting in our sanctuary with the windows *closed*, heat on, exhaust fan running. We ask everyone in the building to continue to wear a mask to promote safety for all.

If you're interested in attending the **mindful meditation sessions** on Monday evenings and Thursday or Friday mornings, contact Pastor Kate (kate@universitymennonite.org) as times and dates vary.

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

Your offerings support UMC – Don't forget to support UMC with your financial gifts. Offering baskets are by the doors to the sanctuary or 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
- Donate on the church website at <http://www.universitymennonite.org/donate>
- Set up an automatic payment with your bank (bill pay service)
- Use a service like Zelle <https://www.zellepay.com/>

