
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, ben.wideman@gmail.com 215-859-0037

Elders:

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

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

Faith King, faithyk33@gmail.com 814-571-5666

Cong. chair: Cathy Bresee, cbs4@psu.edu 814-933-8005

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

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

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

December 11, 2022, 10 am

(in-person and Zoom)

Third Sunday of Advent - JOY



SPARROW OF JOY

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Dawn Chorus – bird song while we enter the sanctuary for worship

Songbirds all over the world know a thing or two about singing into the dark. In the wee hours of the morning, before the sun appears over the horizon, they begin a great symphony that scientists call the “dawn chorus.” Birds can sing at any time of day, of course, but in that deep blue space between darkness and light, their songs are louder, livelier, and passionately clear. Advent is the church’s dawn chorus. It starts in the silence, in the shadows, and looks to the light. Each week, we gather together to listen and sing (sometimes quietly at first) straight into the deepening darkness, proclaiming that in the end, the night will give way to the day; winter will give way to spring; despair to hope, war to peace, grief to joy, violence to love – and God will come again, like the morning star in the east, or a mother hen gathering in her brood.

Prelude – *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* rendition from The Soil and the Seed Project, and *We Come* rendition by Carolyn Arends

Lighting of Advent candles – Sarah Jeh and Hoyeon Hwang

Call to worship – Connor Huxman

Psalms 115:9-15 (translation by Wilda Gafney)

One: Israel, trust in the HOLY ONE of OLD!

Many: Their help and their shield is she.

One: House of Aaron, trust in the HOLY ONE of SINAI!

Many: Their help and their shield is she.

One: You who revere the HOLY ONE, trust in the HOLY ONE!

Many: Their help and their shield is she.

One: The FAITHFUL ONE remembers us; she will bless;

Many: she will bless the house of Israel;

She will bless the house of Aaron.

One: She will bless those who revere GOD,

Many: both small and great.

One: May the GENEROUS ONE add to, increase, you all, both you and your children.

**Many: May you all be blessed by the AGELESS ONE,
Maker of the heavens and the earth.**

Singing – accompanist – Meredith Wideman

Voices Together 225 – *We Come*

Voices Together 217 – *Hark! The Glad Sound!*

Voices of the congregation – Faith King

Jesus taught us to consider the birds of the air.

What’s one thing the birds teach you about joy?

Children’s time – Luke 1:46-56 read by Lily Prins Glenna

Scripture – Judges 13:2-7

Sermon – Pastor Kate Heinzl

Musical response – *Creator of the Stars of Night*

rendition by Ross Hardison

Sharing time – Pastor Kate

Announcements/birthdays/introduction of visitors

Benediction – Bethany Spicher Schonberg

Voices Together 241 – *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Come forward and get an ornament while singing!

Announcements

Masking protocol – Centre County is currently in the **low** community transmission level for COVID-19 and masks are **optional** for attendance in church.

Our next fellowship meal is on Sunday December 18 right after Sunday school activities. Everyone is welcome!

Caroling in the Courtyards, Friday, December 16 at 6 pm – Join us again this year on Friday December 16 as we partner with UBBC and Faith UCC to carol at Foxdale and gather around fire pits for fellowship. Meet at 6 pm in the Foxdale upper deck parking lot. UBBC will lead an hour of caroling in the courtyards. Then we’ll sing our way to UMC for cookies and hot chocolate around the fire for fellowship. Bring a snack/cookies to share and a willingness to make a joyful noise.

Christmas services at UMC – Join us at 5 pm on Christmas Eve (in-person and on Zoom) for a special service. There will be no Sunday morning service on Christmas day. Meredith Wideman and Bethany Spicher Schonberg are planning an informal afternoon gathering. More details to follow on these gatherings.

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/20f0e4daeae28a0ff2-2022>. 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!

MCC Updates

Uniting for Ukraine webinar - In response to the displacement of people in Ukraine, the U.S. government developed the Uniting for Ukraine community sponsorship program. Join Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and Church World Service on **December 20 at 2 pm EST** to learn more about the Uniting for Ukraine program and how the faith community can walk alongside Ukrainians as they seek refuge in the U.S. Visit mcc.org/webinar/ukraine to register.

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

Your offerings support UMC – Remember 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/>

Listen for the Dawn Chorus!

