

Summit Mennonite Church

Web: www.summitmenno.org
Email: summitmenno@sbcglobal.net
Phone: 330-244-7530

Patrick & Christine Nafziger, Pastors
Deb Barry & William Troyer, Caring Team

Worship: 10:00 am

Welcome to all visitors! May you feel at ease with us and sense the presence of God.
We follow Christ, offering healing and hope as we serve our neighbors in need

Dare to imagine God's song!

December 19, 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Prelude *A Christmas Poem* by Michael Scott Hank Rossiter

Welcome and Lighting of the Advent Candle Hank Rossiter

Candle Litany

Leader: We light a candle of love, and imagine

People: the lowly lifted, fear met with love.

Leader: We light the candle and pray for God's face to shine on us, to save us, restore us.

People: Imagine that . . . we are God's wonders, blessed wonders.

Call to Worship Hank Rossiter

Opening Song VT # 221 The Angel Gabriel

Song VT # 276 Solemn Stillness, Weary Streets

Prayer of Confession

Leader: We notice, O God, that when you feed people, everyone has enough.

People: We notice that in our world, when we feed people, some have more than enough, and many are still hungry.

Leader: Teach us to love.

People: We notice, O God, that in your social, economic, racial, and gender orders, no one is greater, and no one is left behind.

Leader: We notice that in our world there are many ladders, and many are climbing.

People: Reorientate us to your vision of equality.

Leader: God of mercy, lower us, raise us, empty us, and fill us. Like an empty manger, we want to be ready to receive Emmanuel.

Words of Assurance (*adapted from Luke 1:46-49*)

All: Our souls magnify the Lord, our spirits rejoice in God our Savior. God has looked with favor on our lowliness. The Mighty One has done great things for us, and holy is God's name.

Scripture: Luke 1:39-55 Hank Rossiter

Sermon: "The Great Reversal" Marilyn Rossiter

Song of Response: VT#258 Love Has Come

Sharing Joys and Concerns Hank Rossiter

Congregational Prayer

Offering Hank Rossiter

Announcement/Welcome of Visitors & Virtual Attendees

Closing Song VT # 255 Love Came Down at Christmas

Sending Blessing/Benediction

The *Dare to Imagine Table* is a place for everyone, children and adults, to create! Express the meaning of this third Sunday of Advent by making a work of art using the supplies provided. Join in at any time during the service.

TODAY

Worship Leader: Hank Rossiter

Pianist: Marilyn Rossiter

Worship Planner: Joanne Lehman

LAST WEEK:

Attendance: 29

General Offering: \$1,020

\$1,989 needed weekly to meet spending plan

THIS WEEK:

All are welcome to a joint **Christmas Eve service** at First Mennonite in Wadsworth on Friday evening at 6:00. They will also be offering a Zoom option. Masks are required in their building. Hope to see you there!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Patrick and Christine will be traveling to PA to be with Christine's family December 17-21. Marilyn Rossiter will be preaching on Sunday morning, the 19th. If you have pastoral needs while they are away, please contact a member of the Care Team--Deb Barry or William Troyer.

First Mennonite in Wadsworth is inviting Summit Mennonite to a **Blue Christmas service** on Wednesday, Dec. 23 at 7 pm. A service to remember our losses in the past year but also realize a new dawn is coming. Please bring a candle to carry for the service. You are also invited to a 6 pm pot luck carry-in meal before the service. Please bring a dish to share.

MENNONITE MISSION NETWORK PRAYER REQUEST: Matthew and Toni Krabill, of Mennonite Mission Network, are serving as co-directors for the Paris Mennonite Center in France. Pray for their health, creativity and joy, as they welcome researchers, share Anabaptist resources and develop online classes for French-speaking theology students throughout the world.

December Birthdays:

- Pam Zook, December 3
- Jacob, December 23
- Mona Rohrer, December 25
- Hazel Boyle, December 31

Call to intercession

We seek you, Lord, while you may be found,
we call upon you while you are near.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

You take us by the hands and keep us.

We pray for ourselves and those dear to us.

(open prayers)

In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

You ask those who have plenty to share with those who have none.

We pray for our community and for our neighbors.

(open prayers)

In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Like a refiner of gold and silver, you refine and purify your people.

We pray for the church in all places, that we may speak boldly for Christ.

(open prayers)

In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Your word will not return to you empty, but will succeed in your purpose.

We pray for the world, for all who do justice and love mercy.

(open prayers)

In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

We offer you other concerns we carry in our hearts.

(open prayers)

In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Incarnate God,

you fill the deepest blue of world and soul.

Help us to claim the sturdy hope that Mary held in her heart and sang out in witness, that we too may rejoice to be disciples of the one coming as dawn from on high. We pray in his name:

Our Father... (using sins and those who sin against us)

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