

## Summit Mennonite Church

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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 embrace December 5, 2021 – Second Sunday of Advent**

#### **Prelude**

**Welcome and Lighting of the Advent Candle** Mary Schwartz

#### **Candle Litany**

Leader: We light a candle of peace.

And we imagine:

**People: God's tender mercy, God's compassion.**

Leader: We light the candle of peace to feel God's embrace, God's nearness, God's breath.

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

**Call to Worship** Mary Schwartz

**Opening Song:** Hark! the Glad Sound! VT# 217

**Song:** Solemn Stillness, Weary Streets VT# 276 (Theme Song)

#### **Confession and Assurance**

**Scripture:** Luke 3:1-6

**Invitation to the *Dare to Imagine Table***

**Sermon:** The Awkward Embrace

**Song of Response:** Comfort, Comfort, O My People VT# 212

**Sharing Joys and Concerns** Mary Schwartz

**Congregational Prayer** Christine Nafziger

**Offering** Mary Schwartz

**Announcement/Welcome of Visitors & Virtual Attendees** Mary Schwartz

**Closing Song** Longing for Light VT# 715

**Sending Blessing/Benediction**

#### **TODAY**

Worship Leader: Mary Schwartz

Pianist: Dora Short

Worship Planner: Joanne Lehman

#### **LAST WEEK:**

Attendance: 45

General Offering: \$600

\$1,989 needed weekly to meet spending plan

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The mitten tree is up! Bring your donations of mittens/gloves, hats and scarves to be donated to local children through several organizations.

#### **Everence® to hold last Medicare workshops of 2021**

Everence will hold its final Medicare and Social Security workshop for the year. Topics will include when and where to sign up for Medicare, what Medicare does (and doesn't) cover, strategies to maximize your Social Security benefits and the best time to begin taking Social Security. The workshop will be held at the Hartville office on Tuesday, Dec. 7, at 5:30. To reserve your spot, and for directions, contact Kelly Troyer at 800-986-9988 or [northeastohio@everence.com](mailto:northeastohio@everence.com).

**Save the date for the Ohio MCC Comforter Bash on April 22-23!** A handmade comforter provides not only warmth, but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten. Join others of all ages for this two-day event in Kidron to knot comforters that Mennonite Central Committee will distribute around the world. We invite you to make comforter tops and backs (60" x 80") for use at the Comforter Bash. Comforter backs and tops should be dropped off at the MCC Material Resources Center in Kidron (4080 Kidron Road) between January 1 - March 1. For more information, visit [mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash](http://mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash).

**MCC seeking SWAP Location Coordinators in Hindman, Kentucky:** MCC Appalachia's SWAP (Sharing With Appalachian People) program coordinates week-long service opportunities for young people and adults, to provide housing repair for low-income individuals and families. The Hindman Location Coordinators will plan and direct all aspects of the SWAP ministry in Hindman, Kentucky. MCC is also looking to connect with other ministries related to economic development and/or food security and would welcome location coordinators with these interests and backgrounds. The Location Coordinators will report directly to the Appalachia Program Coordinator. Apply online for this opening at [mcc.org/swap-hindman-location-coordinators](http://mcc.org/swap-hindman-location-coordinators). For more information contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or [AmberFalcon@mcc.org](mailto:AmberFalcon@mcc.org).

**MENNONITE MISSION NETWORK PRAYER REQUEST:** Delicia Bravo Aguilar and Peter Wigginton, of Mennonite Mission Network, request prayer for the churches in Ecuador that have suffered the loss of many leaders and members, due to COVID-19. While they continue to lament their losses, pray for their strength and resilience, as new leaders come forward to continue the reconciling mission of Christ.

**December Birthdays:**

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

Call to Intercession

We pray to you, Lord; Our prayer rises with the sun.

***At dawn we plead our case and watch for you.***

God of our salvation, all our longing is known to you,  
our sighing is not hidden from you.

In your mercy,

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

You comfort us as a mother comforts her child.

We pray for ourselves and those dear to us.

*(open prayers)*

In your mercy,

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

You are God of astounding promises.

We pray for our community and for our neighbors.

*(open prayers)*

In your mercy,

***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Your peace guards our hearts and minds.  
We pray for the church in all places,  
that we may know the freedom of life in the Spirit.  
*(open prayers)*  
In your mercy,  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

You cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up. We pray for the world  
and for all who care for creation.  
*(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, holding tenderly all things human,  
you became one of us. Lighten our hearts  
with Mary's vision of your just mercy,  
that we may be gentled into joining you  
in the hard and holy work of releasing peace on earth.  
In Jesus' name we pray:

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

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