

GATHERING

Prelude to Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Interlude

* Call to Worship

Yes!

The invitation to carry Light

comes to each of us, no matter who we are.

O God, you choose to dwell within us.**You promise to move about with us****until we find our rest in you.**

Your call seems risky;

saying yes takes away our breath.

Yet we know your faithfulness and steadfast**love endure forever.**

You are our strength.

Yes! Let it be now.

* Lighting of Advent Candle

* Hymn *Oh, how joyfully*

HWB 209

Opening Prayer

PRAISING GODHymn *The angel Gabriel*

HWB 180

Offering

Special Music "Holy Is His Name"

PROCLAIMING

Woodworker's Visit

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Sermon

Reflection

RESPONDING* Hymn *My soul proclaims with wonder*

HWB 181

Confession

O God of blessing and joy,**your favor rests upon us, and our souls magnify you.****We sing of your steadfast love****and proclaim your faithfulness.****We confess we often lack complete trust,****walking in our own strength,****building our own houses****instead of joining you****in turning ruins into abundance.****We are terrified and overcome by fear,****wondering, "How will we know?"****and pondering, "How can this be?"****We are afraid to claim and proclaim****that nothing is impossible****when your power overshadows us,****when your Spirit comes upon us.****We find it hard to let go and say,****"Here I am, the servant of the Lord;****let it be with me according to your word."****Forgive us.***(pause for silence)*

Words of Assurance

O God, Emmanuel,

in Jesus, the Christ, you have come among us.

You have given us life, and we are restored.

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

SENDING* Sending Hymn *To us a Child of hope is born* HWB 189

* Benediction

Postlude

* *All who are able are invited to stand where indicated.**Our worship ends after the postlude; please remain seated.**HWB – blue hymnal STS – purple hymnal STJ – green hymnal**Preacher: Charles Bontrager Worship Leader: Megan Croyle**Accompanist: John Gamin**Special Music: Megan Croyle, Matthew Croyle***Advent 3 "Yes! Let It Be Now"** Infused with God's vision, we proclaim with confidence, "Let it be with us according to your word!"

TONIGHT you are invited to our sanctuary at 7pm for a Christmas Eve service in collaboration with Summit Mennonite Church featuring readings and special music.

Wednesday 6:00pm you are invited to a Fellowship Meal in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share as we become better acquainted in a casual setting.

Coffeehouse There is a sign up sheet in the back for anyone interested in sharing a talent or just anything for the FMC Coffeehouse next **Sunday, December 31st** after the service. This Wednesday after the potluck, anyone who is interested in planning or helping with the FMC Coffeehouse please stay after the meal.

The new **2018 usher calendar** for the year is posted on the back window. Please sign up for any month you would like to usher, we especially need ushers for January. Thank you for signing up and serving the church. ~Ray Miller

*Our **MISSION** is to welcome all to know Christ's salvation through worship and works of love, peace and justice in service for God.*

LOOKING AHEAD*

SUN 12/24 7pm Christmas Eve Service (at Trease Rd)

SUN 12/31 12pm Coffee House

WED 1/3 Soup & Games Night

TUES 1/9 Deacons Meeting

WED 1/10 Worship Team

WED 1/17 Steering Team

SAT 1/20 3pm Winterfest at the Newcomer farm

SUN 2/4 Annual Meeting and carry in lunch

🕒 MON 12/25 Mona Rohrer

🕒 SAT 12/30 Rhonda Landis

First Mennonite Church

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Charles Bontrager, Pastor

Direct (330) 969-9364

Sunday School 9:30 am

Worship Service 10:45 am

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First Mennonite Church

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA