

Gathered by God...

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements
Interlude

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: The darkness has ended. The Lord is here. Arise, shine, your light has come!

People: We have a story to tell the nations. Let us lift up our eyes and look around us; let us come, one and all, to worship our Lord.

Leader: Almighty and eternal God, Lord Christ, we thank you for your birth, for showing us the way back to God.

All: May all the world receive her glorious king with joy. Amen

*** Opening Prayer**

* Hymn *What child is this?* HWB 215

To hear God's word...

Scripture Reading Ephesians 3:1-12
Isaiah 60:1-6

Candle Lighting

Children's Time

Hymn *As with gladness, men of old* HWB 218

Message

*** Litany of Response**

Leader: Lord, on this celebration of Epiphany,
We rejoice in your presence with us and long for your return.
We pray with the Psalmist:

**People: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust.**

Leader: In the midst of uncertainty and fear, we pray:

**People: Do not let me be put to shame;
Do not let my enemies exult over me.**

Leader: We confess that we have tried many paths
And that our wandering has made us weary.
Sometimes the stars we follow are made by human hands.
Forgive us.

**People: Make us to know your ways,
O Lord; teach us your paths.
Like the magi, show us how to find the Savior.**

Leader: We come looking for your grace, not because we deserve it,
but because of your merciful love for all people. We pray:

People: May your kingdom come, O Lord!

Leader: May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
And the hills, righteousness.
May the Lord defend the cause of the poor,

Give deliverance to the needy,
And crush the oppressor.

**People: May righteousness flourish
And peace abound, until the moon is no more.**

Leader: Good and upright is the Lord;
For he delivers the needy when they call,
The poor and those who have no helper.
He redeems their life;

**People: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and
faithfulness. Praise the Lord!**

* Hymn *Holy Child within the manger* STS 28

Offering Prayer

Offertory

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Communion

Rejoicing, we go forth!

* Hymn *Arise, your light has come!* STS 30

* Benediction

Postlude

Our worship ends after the postlude; please remain seated for the postlude.

**All who are able are invited to stand where indicated.*

Hymnals used in worship: HWB – Hymnal a Worship Book (blue)

STS – Sing the Story (purple)

Worship Leader: Jan Althaus

Organ: Ryan Croyle

Children's Time: Mark Haas

Welcome to worship this Epiphany Sunday as we arise, shine and reveal the mystery!

The rosebud this morning is for **Iona Hostetter's** birthday Sat. the 9th.
Happy birthday Iona!!

GREETERS Today: Megan Croyle

Next Sunday: Mark Haas & Nathaniel Haas

USHER for JANUARY

Lois Chamberlin

THIS WEEK, January 4-10:

Thursday: 9:30 am Mennonite Women

Noon deadline for bulletin announcements

please email announcements to Rachel

3:15 pm Deacons meeting

Saturday: 10:00 am Worship Team meeting
Sunday: 9:30 am **Sunday School** for all ages
Elementary School Class:
Intergenerational: *The New Testament*
Pathfinders Class: *Prayer: Does it make any difference?*
10:45am **Worship**
Scripture texts: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22; Acts 8:14-17;
Isaiah 43:1-7

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

First Mennonite Church
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(330) 334-1863

Pastor: Rev. Rachel Siemens

Normal Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 8:30 am – noon

Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship Service 10:45 am
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*Bursting in &
breaking out*

