

# *First Mennonite Church*

*Making disciples through loving relationships.*

*Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.-Worship – 10:35 a.m.*

*December 13, 2015*

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## **Third Sunday of Advent**

### **Come Everyone Come!**

Gathering Music

Shirley Flaming

Welcome

Pastor Susan

Lighting the Advent Candles

Shirley Flaming

Call to Worship

Hank Unruh

We gather in the name of Christ our Savior,

Head of the church,

Foundation of salvation,

Hinge of human hope,

who chooses to be centered

at the margins,

with the downtrodden, the rejected, and the despised.

***ALL: We tell the story of God's mighty work in Christ,  
and offer our worship and praise.***

***Alleluia! Amen!***

\*Hymn Praise the One who breaks the darkness

Grey Sgbk 15

\*Invocation

Hank Unruh

God with us,

give us the joy of your presence and the wonder of your love.

**Catch us up**

**in the cause of your kingdom**

**already breaking into this world.**

Let your Spirit,

wild as the wind,

gentle as the dove,

move within us and among us,

to enliven our worship and strengthen our faith,

and send us out with anticipation and joy.

***ALL: Alleluia! Amen!***

\*Prayer Response Song Christmastime Alleluia!

Congregation

Hymn My soul is filled with joy

Grey Sgbk 12

Advent with the Children

Judy Harder

*You Gave Us Hope* Merrifield  
Sarah, Emily, Reese and Carson

Offering Shirley Flaming  
\*Offering this week will go towards the Local Budget unless otherwise designated.  
(Children dismissed to Children's Time)

Sharing and Prayer Pastor Susan  
Scripture Hank & Erin Unruh

Luke 1:39-41, 46-56 (back of bulletin)  
(Luke 1:46-55 is known as the Magnificat)

Meditation Pastor Susan w/ Glen & Susie Kliever  
Intercessory Prayer & Candle Lighting Pastor Susan

"God With Us" – God who . . .

supports the weak . . .  
comforts the afflicted . . .  
strengthens the tempted . . .  
raises the fallen . . .

God who . . .

watches over the lonely and those in danger . . .  
gives hope to the despairing . . .  
sustains the faith of the persecuted . . .

In you, God may we trust and proclaim together:

**Goodness is stronger than evil.**

**Love is stronger than hate.**

**Light is stronger than darkness.**

**Truth is stronger than lies.**

***ALL: The grace of God be with us all.***

\*Hymn Holy Child within the manger (on insert)  
Benediction Pastor Susan



***WELCOME TO ALL*** who are guests this morning. We hope you feel warmly received and experience a time of worship. Please feel free to contact Pastor Susan if you would like to visit.

**OFFERINGS DURING ADVENT** will include three avenues: our regular giving for our congregation, giving to local need (oranges for Main Street Ministries), and giving around the world (support of the Mennonite Central Committee Comforter Project).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS DURING ADVENT.** We will begin our worship services with candle lighting and not have a designated time for announcements. Please turn in written announcements for the bulletin by 9 am on Thursdays. We will continue to include our time of sharing and prayer during our worship each Sunday and look forward to hearing from each other how God is among us.

## Luke 1:39-41, 46-56

Mary didn't waste a minute. She got up and traveled to a town in Judah in the hill country, straight to Zachariah's house, and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby in her womb leaped. She was filled with the Holy Spirit. . .

And Mary said,

I'm bursting with God-news;

I'm dancing the song of my Savior God.

God took one good look at me, and look what happened –

I'm the most fortunate woman on earth!

What God has done for me will never be forgotten,

the God whose very name is holy, set apart from all others.

His mercy flows in wave after wave

on those who are in awe before him.

He bared his arm and showed his strength,

scattered the bluffing braggarts.

He knocked tyrants off their high horses,

pulled victims out of the mud.

The starving poor sat down to a banquet;

the callous rich were left out in the cold.

He embraced his chosen child, Israel;

he remembered and piled on the mercies, piled them high.

It's exactly what he promised,

beginning with Abraham and right up to now.

Mary stayed with Elizabeth for three months and then went back to her own home.

### CHURCH OFFICE

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**102 S. Ash, Hillsboro, KS, 67063, Phone 620-947-5662**

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Susan Jantzen, Pastor pastor@fmchillsboro.com	Office hours: Tues – Fri 9-12 C: 620-877-7923
Hank Unruh, Youth Pastor youthpastor@fmchillsboro.com	Office hours: Wed afternoon C: 316-842-0293
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Tim Unruh, custodian timu@tabor.edu	Office hours: Varies C: 620-947-1585

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*The church building is open from 9 a.m. to noon Mon. – Fri. except for holidays. For assistance outside of those times, please contact Tim Unruh at 620-947-1585. Please schedule all meetings & events at FMC through the church office.*

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