

## Luke 1: 26-38

### The Birth of Jesus Foretold

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup> The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

#### CHURCH OFFICE

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Tom Harder, Pastor <a href="mailto:pastor@fmchillsboro.com">pastor@fmchillsboro.com</a>	Office hours: Mon 1:30-4, Tues, Wed, Fr 9:30-4 C: 316-617-9755
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\*The church office will be closed Christmas Day.



# FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

In Christ -  
Making Disciples through  
Loving Relationships.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 20, 2020**

**“On the road to revelation”**

***On the road to revelation, if we have faith and a willing spirit, God will show us the way. God’s word to us is “I am with you; do not be afraid.”***

## **GATHERING**

Gathering Music

Shirley Baltzer

Welcome, Announcements, Greeting

Hank Unruh

Lighting the Advent Candle

“Longing for Light,” vs 1-4

Gray 1 (VT 715)

\*Call to Worship (Adapted from Psalm 89: 1-2, 26)

Hank

*We will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;*

**We will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.**

*We declare that your steadfast love is established forever;*

**Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

*You are our Father, our God, and the rock of our salvation.*

\*Prayer of Invocation and Confession

*God, you come to us with the words “Do not be afraid.”*

**Yet we cower and live in anxiety and fear.**

*We lack faith and trust in your ways.*

**We want to respond like Mary, “I am your servant.”**

***Give us humble willing hearts to follow your call.***

Hymn

The angel Gabriel

No. 180 (VT 221)

**SHARING**

Sharing and Prayer		Pastor Tom
Hymn	My soul proclaims with wonder	No. 181 (VT 222)

**LISTENING**

Scripture		Luke 1: 26-38
Message	Nothing Will Be Impossible	Pastor Tom

**RESPONDING**

Hymn	Here I am, Lord	No. 395 (VT 545)
Benediction		Pastor Tom
Postlude		

***A WARM WELCOME TO ALL*** *who are gathered to worship, wherever you are, and whenever you are able to watch this service!*

**Christmas Eve at FMC:** Throughout the years, First Mennonite folks have looked forward to our Christmas Eve Service. This year, especially, we realize how meaningful it is to "Welcome the Light" together. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. Come early for prelude music at 6:10 p.m. We want to make it possible for families with kids and youth, along with close relatives, to be able to attend. And, of course, musicians and worship leaders will attend. Currently there is also room for others of you who have already contacted Maura or Judy about attending. Masks will be required. However, as much as we have hoped to not limit of people attending this year's service, we are making plans to do so in the spirit of caring for each other. For those who cannot or who choose not to attend, we are planning to stream the service. Going forward, we will begin a waitlist. Those who let us know of your interest in being on the waitlist will be called as we learn of cancellations. As we stay alert to local COVID numbers, it is possible that we will need to reduce the maximum number who can attend. Keep watching for updates and praying for wisdom, grace, and hope. May God's face shine upon us and our world!

**Poinsettias** shared with the church during this Christmas season may be placed near the windows in the Fellowship Hall.

**MCC Hygiene Kit** donations may be placed on the table in the Narthex.

**Kauffman Museum at Bethel College** is partnering with Humanities Kansas to host the Smithsonian traveling exhibit “Crossroads: Change in Rural America” through Jan. 17. Accompanying it is a local companion exhibit, “Of Land and People: Our Community at the Crossroads,” created from the museum’s permanent exhibit “Of Land and People.” The museum is open 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Tues.-Fri (early close at 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24, and Thursday, Dec. 31); 1:30-4:30 p.m., Sat.-Sunday; and closed Mondays and major holidays (Friday, Dec. 25, Friday, Jan. 1). Admission to the “Crossroads” exhibit is free on Saturdays.