

1 Corinthians 1:17-31 (NRSV)

Christ the Power and Wisdom of God

¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. ¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

In Christ -
Making Disciples through
Loving Relationships.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, February 6, 2022
“The Church of God, the Church of Christ,” Part 3
“The Two Ways of Wisdom”

GATHERING

Gathering Music		Shirley Baltzer
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting		Doug Miller
Prelude to Worship		Shirley Baltzer
*Opening Prayer	VT #862	Doug Miller
*Hymn	What is This Place	VT 22

Psalm 3 (adapted from *The Message*, by Eugene Peterson)

*Look! Enemies past counting! Enemies sprouting like mushrooms,
Mobs of them all around me, roaring their mockery:
“Hah! No help for him from God!”*

**But you, GOD, shield me on all sides; You ground my feet, you
lift my head high; With all my might I shout up to GOD, His
answers thunder from the holy mountain.**

*I stretch myself out. I sleep. Then I'm up again—rested, tall and
steady, fearless before the enemy mobs coming at me from all
sides.*

**Up, GOD! My God, help me! Slap their faces, first this cheek,
then the other, your fist hard in their teeth!**

Real help comes from GOD.

Your blessing clothes your people!

Hymn	To God Be the Glory	VT 84
Time for God's Children		Sue Buchholz

SHARING

Sharing and Prayer		Pastor Tom
Hymn of Dedication	You Are All We Have	VT 701

Committee Wichita resettled 350 families last month alone! They come with so little. Let's remember our own immigrant history and be the hands and feet of Christ, bringing good news to our neighbors. You may drop off donations of supplies at the WDC Office (2517 N Main, North Newton) 8 am-4:30 pm Mon-Fri or at Shalom Mennonite Church (800 E First, Newton) from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Mon-Thurs & Sunday mornings. Email office@shalomnewton.org if you cannot drop off supplies during daytime hours. For more information, click IRC Donations List for the Cleaning Supply Kit List and other needed items. To make a monetary donation, go to: rescue.org/united-states/wichita-ks. Thank you!

Everence® February webinar: Everence® will hold an informative Social Security and retirement income webinar on Tuesday, Feb. 15, starting at 6:30 p.m. Specifics will include Social Security strategies, including when to begin taking benefits, risks that can impact your retirement savings plus strategies to help your income last throughout retirement. There will also be plenty of time for questions. Information will be presented by staff from the Everence offices in Central Kansas. To register contact Everence at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or central.kansas@everence.com.

Western District Conference announces that Violeta Aquejay Suastegui began February 1 as a part-time Administrative Assistant for WDC, transitioning from the Interim Administrative Assistant role in which she served last year. She will work closely with Sandra Montes-Martinez, Associate Conference Minister (Texas-based), to support pastors and congregations in Texas, Hispanic ministries, and church planting in WDC. We welcome Violeta's ongoing service with WDC! Violeta also serves as Associate Director for Hispanic Ministries for Pastoral and Leadership Education, a program of Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) of Mennonite Church USA.