

Shalom Mennonite Church

December 11, 2011

Transforming our Sorrow

Advent 3

*When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.*

*Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy
then it was said among the nations,
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.*

Psalm 126:1-2

Gathering in God’s Presence

Welcome and Special Announcements

Senior High Youth

Gathering Music

Youth Flute & Violin Trio

Neil Smucker, Emma Bradley & Ardy Woodward

Call to Worship

We bring to God this day the truth of who we are,
our scarred and broken hearts,
our grief-filled, shattered dreams.

**We bring to God this day the truth of where we live,
our broken homes and wars,
our hungry mouths and fears.**

The One who called us here is faithful; God will bring us to the light.

We worship as we wait for the day when tears are turned to joy.

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn STJ 54

Longing for light

Proclaiming the Word

Children’s Time

Everett Bradley & John Hobbs

Hymn HWB 183

On Jordan’s banks the Baptist’s cry

Hebrew Bible Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Gospel Reading

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Quiet Reflection

The periods of silence in our worship will begin and end with the ringing of a chime.

Meditation

“Telling Stories”

Sara Dick

Quiet Reflection

Responding to the Word

Hymn HWB 594

Lord, you sometimes speak

Prayer of Confession

Choral Anthem

“On Christmas Night”

arr. Grams

Offertory & Prayer

Youth Brass Quintet

Isaac Penner, Kyle Wiens, Neil Smucker, Andrew Thiesen & Jacob Penner

During the offering time, the children are invited to help carry Harvest of Love food donations from the foyer to the front of the sanctuary.

Sharing Time & Introductions

During this time in the service we welcome visitors, invite responses to the worship service, and share prayer concerns and joys. Please sign the Welcome Pages (black books) in the pews so we can learn each others' names.

Prayers of the People

Sending

Choral and Congregation Hymn “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

arr. Liebergen

Blessing

Rejoice and be glad - the One we've waited for is coming! He will bring life from the desert and cities from the ruins. Faith will become sight, and hope will become truth as those who sowed with tears reap with shouts of joy.

Hearing devices are available from an usher or the sound booth.

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Cover photo provided by Joanna Fenton Friesen.

Shalom senior high youth: Shaye Bartel, Connor Born, Isaac Penner, Micah Smith, Chloe Woodward, Corey Helsper, David Montelongo, Abby Regier, Neil Smucker, Robi Kosa, David Jantz, Jacob Friesen, Dan Smucker, Andrew Thiesen, Ardy Woodward, Emma Bradley, Betti Fuhr, Marina Berger, Juan Francisco Torres, Kyle Wiens, Israel Giddens

Senior high sponsors and teachers: Mark Schmidt Andres, Becky Kindy, Tom Szambecki, Don Woodward, Melanie Zuercher

Greeters: Lola Schmidt, Stan & Marlene Smucker, Marathana & Brett Prothro

Musicians: Senior High Youth, Mark Schmidt Andres, Greta Hiebert, Tom Szambecki, Shalom Choir led by Karen Schlabaugh

Candle Lighter: Sid Fleming

Visual Arts: Joanna Fenton Friesen, Beth Burns

Sound and Closing: John & Andrew Thiesen

Pastor: Eric Massanari

Associate Pastor: Sara Dick

Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger

Youth Ministry Intern: Allison Schrag

Church Moderator: Matt Schmidt

Sunday, December 11, 2011

Our purpose is to worship and praise God together, to pray for and encourage each other to live our covenant with God and to share Christ's good news with others. As Anabaptist Christians we will reach out to others, welcome all people, be aware of our neighbors and respond to their needs, and give ourselves to service.

9:30 a.m.- Sunday School 10:45 a.m.- Worship

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