

Shalom Mennonite Church

February 26, 2012

Signs of the Covenant

And the Spirit immediately drove Jesus out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Mark 1:12-13

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome and Special Announcements

Jeremy Kindy

Opening Psalm Reading *Psalm 25*

Ardy Woodward

Gathering Music

Call to Worship

We come, trusting in God's mercy and love,
longing to know and learn more
about God's ways.

**We come, to be guided in the ways of God's truth—
to experience the joy of God's salvation.**

We come, at the beginning of the Lenten journey,
aware of God's steadfast love helping us to
overcome the trials and temptations of our lives.

*Lead us, O God, to do what is right in your eyes
and teach us to follow the humble way of Christ,
your beloved son, our crucified and risen Lord. Amen.*

Hymn HWB 26

Holy Spirit, come with power

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading

Genesis 9:8-17

Children's Time

Karen McCabe-Juhnke

Hymn HWB 163

Obey my voice

Scripture Reading

Mark 1:9-15

Quiet Reflection

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

Meditation

“freeing up and centering down”

Eric Massanari

Quiet Reflection

Prayer of Confession and Hope

Gracious God, as we begin our Lenten journey, we do want to follow Jesus but we confess our reluctance to face all that the journey might hold for us. We confess that we are sometimes tempted to wish for miracles which would make life easier, rather than more stressful. We admire the difficult journey Jesus took, challenging systems which put conditions on God's love, but confess that we don't want our journeys to be too daring or threatening. We cherish the faithful humility of Jesus, yet we confess our fear of treading Jesus' way of surrender and obedience—the way of the cross.

(silent reflection)

God of mercy, save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. Forgive us our sins and fill us with the love of Christ that we may forgive those who sin against us. Grant us the peace and joy of your salvation, wherever our journey might lead. Amen

Hymn HWB 445

Come, Holy Spirit, Dove divine

Responding to the Word

Offertory & Prayer

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

Sending Hymn HWB 411

I bind my heart this tide

Blessing

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

The Growing Edge

Look well to the growing edge. All around us worlds are dying and new worlds are being born; all around us life is dying and life is being born. The fruit ripens on the tree, the roots are silently at work in the darkness of the earth against a time when there shall be new leaves, fresh blossoms, green fruit. Such is the growing edge! It is the extra breath from the exhausted lung, the one more thing to try when all else has failed, the upward reach of life when weariness closes in upon all endeavor. This is the basis of hope in moments of despair, the incentive to carry on when times are out of joint and people have lost their reason, the source of confidence when worlds crash and dreams whiten into ash.

- Howard Thurman, from *Meditations of the Heart*

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Greeters: Brett & Marathana Prothro, Lela Mae & Tim Sawatzky,
Kristen Mayhue

Scripture Readers: Ardy Woodward, Megan Tyner

Musicians: Greg Nickel, Chris Dick

Sound & Closing: Russ Neufeld

Pastor: Eric Massanari

Associate Pastor: Sara Dick

Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger

Church Moderator: Matt Schmidt

Signs of the Covenant



First Sunday of Lent

Sunday, February 26, 2012

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

800 E. First St., Newton, KS

Phone: (316) 283-7395 office@shalomnewton.org