

Shalom Mennonite Church

December 30, 2012

Flood of Mercy

Christmas: Rejoice in God's Rain

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience.

-Colossians 3:12-17

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome & Special Announcements Eric Massanari and Sara Dick

Candle Lighting and Gathering Music

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 148)

Praise the Lord,

sing praise all the heights!

Praise God, sun and moon.

Sing praise, all you shining stars!

Praise God, all the earth.

Sing praise, all fruit trees and hills!

Praise God, all you animals.

Sing praise, creeping things and flying birds!

Young men and women alike,

old and young together,

let all that has life and breath praise God!

Prayer of Invocation

Gathering Hymn HWB 189

To Us a Child of Hope is Born

Proclaiming the Word

First Reading Luke 2:41-52

Children's Time Megan and Toby Tyner

Hymn STJ #49 *Rain Down*

Second Reading Colossians 3:12-17

Quiet Reflection

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

Meditations on Noticing God in College Emma Regier
Jake Smucker
Laurel Woodward
Sam Smucker

Quiet Reflection

Affirmation of faith (in unison)

We believe that *this* One put a human face on God's love and longing: the One who was born as a human baby, lived as an immigrant, worked with his hands, hung out with the scum of society, laid down his life, and, on receiving it back, shared it with everyone.

Hymn HWB 208 *Love came down at Christmas*

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 Hymn HWB 318 *Joy to the World*

Blessing

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

Love Alone

The Child we seek
doesn't need our gold.
On love, on love alone
he will build his kingdom.
His pierced hand will hold no scepter,
his haloed head will wear no crown;
his might will not be built
on your toil.
Swifter than lightning
he will soon walk among us.
He will bring us new life
and receive our death,
and the keys to his city
belong to the poor.

Gian Carlo Menotti

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Greeters: Senior High Youth (Sara Dick), Melanie Zuercher
Musicians: Martha Unruh Szambecki, Merle Schlabaugh
Visual Arts: David Kaufman
Sound System Operator/Closing: Russ Neufeld
Cover photo: Yolanda Kauffman

Pastor: Eric Massanari
Associate Pastor: Sara Dick
Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger
Church Moderator: Matt Schmidt

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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