

Shalom Mennonite Church

December 7, 2014

**During this season of Advent,
we are invited to enter worship in silence,
actively opening our spirits to God's presence in our midst.**

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

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome Joe Smucker

Gathering Music & Procession *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*
-- J. Leavitt

We carry in a flame, the Bible and a prayer cloth. May we trust the Light to guide us, the Word to teach us, and prayer to knit our lives together with God as we begin our time of worship.

Opening Song STJ 1 *Praise with joy the world's Creator*

Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation

Confession and Assurance
The periods of silence will begin and end with the ringing of a chime.

Sung Response STJ 8 *Somos pueblo que camina*

Proclaiming the Word

Adult Choir *Three Songs for Christmas – Grundman*

Children's Time Beth Burns
Nursery care for young children is available after Children's Time till the end of the service.

First Reading Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
Scripture passages are read in English and Spanish to reflect the community in and around Shalom.

Hymn HWB 176 *Comfort, comfort, O my people*

Second Reading Isaiah 40:1-11

Quiet Reflection

Meditation "We Are For Giving" Sara Dick

Quiet Reflection

Responding to the Word

Hymn of Response HWB 299 *New earth, heavens new*

Offertory and Prayer *Pastorale -- J.S. Bach*

Sharing Time and 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

Announcements

Sending Song HWB 174 *Bless'd be the God of Israel*

Benediction

In the early evening we see the stars begin to appear as the sun disappears over the horizon. The light of day gives way to the darkness of night. A stillness, a healing quiet comes over the landscape. It's a moment when some other world makes itself known, a numinous presence beyond human understanding. We experience the vast realms of space overwhelming the limitations of our human minds. As the sky turns golden and the clouds reflect the blazing colors of evening, we participate for a moment in the forgiveness, the peace, the intimacy of things with each other.

-Thomas Berry in *The Great Community of Earth*

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 am - Sunday School 10:45 am – Worship
800 E. First St., Newton, KS 67114
Phone: (316) 283-7395 office@shalomnewton.org
Web site: www.shalomnewton.org

Greeters: Mary & Dave Duerksen, Chuck & Cindy Regier
Musicians: Greta Hiebert, Yvonne Bontrager, Karen Schlabaugh,
Shalom Choir
Visual Arts: David Kaufman
Sound & Closing: Greg Nickel

Pastor: Sara Dick
Transitional Pastor: Rob Burdette
Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger
Church Moderator: Barth Hague

Second Sunday of Advent

Oh, that you would reveal your peace!



The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

- *Mark 1:1-4*

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