

Shalom Mennonite Church

December 4, 2011

Changing the Landscape

Advent 2

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome and Announcements

Jennifer Szambecki Benninga

Gathering Music

Woza nomthwalo wakho (Come, bring your burdens to God)

Call to Worship

Lift up your heads to hear tender words of forgiveness.

We have long waited for God's liberation.

Prepare a way in the wilderness.

We will make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Plow the landscape and prepare the mountains.

We will level the rough places to make ready for God's glory.

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn HWB 176

Comfort, comfort O my people

Proclaiming the Word

Children's Time & Song

Anna & Joe Sawatzky

Masibulele kuYesu/Let us all give thanks to Jesus

Verse 1

Let us all give thanks to Jesus

for he gave his life for us

lovingkindness shown among us

when he died upon the cross

Chorus

Thank you, Father

for your grace and mercy to us

Thank you, Father

for your grace and mercy to us

Verse 2

Black and white together

let them serve the Lord as one

sharing the good news of Jesus

singing to the Lord this song

First Reading

Genesis 22:1-19

Second Reading

Matthew 13:44-46

Quiet Reflection

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

Meditation

“for the sake of joy”

Anna & Joe Sawatzky

Quiet Reflection

Choir Anthem

Of the Father's love begotten

Responding to the Word

Offertory & Prayer

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

Hymn STJ 23

Slowly turning, ever turning

(over)

Blessing

Go into the world, knowing God's peace.

We pass on the peace we have received.

Go into the world, carrying God's grace.

We share the grace we have been given.

Go into the world, knowing that Jesus is Lord!

We testify that Jesus is the Christ, the Holy One of God!

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

For the Lighting of the Advent Candle

Light bearer: We are awake and watching. . . .
 We see a flicker of light and want to share it!

*All: Thanks be to God for giving us light!
 And thanks be to all who share the light,
 and who do not quench the Spirit.*

God's Unexpected Deeds



Changing the Landscape **Advent 2**

Cover photo provided by Joanna Fenton Friesen.

Greeters: Chuck & Cindy Regier, David & Mary Duerksen

Musicians: Brett Prothro, Children's Choir directed by Joan Woodward,

Adult Choir directed by Karen Schlabaugh, Zachary Hague

Candle Lighter: Maureen Entz

Visual Arts: Joanna Fenton Friesen, Beth Burns

Sound and Closing: Jeffrey Graber

Pastor: Eric Massanari

Associate Pastor: Sara Dick

Administrative Assistant: Grace Wenger

Youth Ministry Intern: Allison Schrag

Church Moderator: Matt Schmidt

Sunday, December 4, 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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