

Shalom Mennonite Church

December 1, 2013

Advent 1 – O the mystery of God's dwelling in our present!

Gathering & Special Announcements

Inviting the Mystery

Prelude and Procession

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.

Welcome and prayer

Call to Worship

Leader: As an expectant people, we are moving into this experience of “God with us.”

People: We do not know how or when or where the presence of God will come to us this season; but we come...with skepticism, with need, with hope.

Leader: Like the children of Israel, the people of the world...we know deep longing for peace we cannot create, for salvation we cannot manage, for healing we cannot imagine.

All: *O, the mystery of God's dwelling in our present!*

Hymn HWB 233 (verses 1 & 2)

Joyful is the dark

Engaging the Mystery

Scripture reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

Confession and lighting the Advent wreath

Leader: As we move into this time of Advent, we open our hearts to the hope of the coming Christ who brings light into our darkness. This hope calls us to release whatever separates us

from God and from each other for the transformation into that which sustains, strengthens, unites and gives peace. The first Advent candle is the candle of hope.

People: In this light, we receive forgiveness and rebirth, knowing that God dwells with us in the present.

Children's time

Euny Kerbs

Scripture readings

Matthew 24:36-44 and Romans 13:11-14

Quiet Reflection

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

Hymn

Celebrating the Mystery

Meditation

“Awake! Arise!”

Sara Dick

Response

Quiet Reflection

Hymn of response

Offertory and Prayer

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

Sending Hymn STJ 54 (verses 1 & 2)

Longing for light

Benediction

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

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Sunday, December 1, 2013

Greeters: David & Mary Duerksen, Chuck & Cindy Regier
Musicians: Shalom Band, Josué and Diego Coy Dick, Greg Nickel
Visual Arts: Marlene Smucker
Sound and Closing: Greg Nickel

Pastor: Sara Dick
Transitional Pastor: Rob Burdette
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 am - Sunday School 10:45 am - Worship
800 E. First St., Newton, KS
Phone: (316) 283-7395 office@shalomnewton.org
Web site: shalomnewton.org