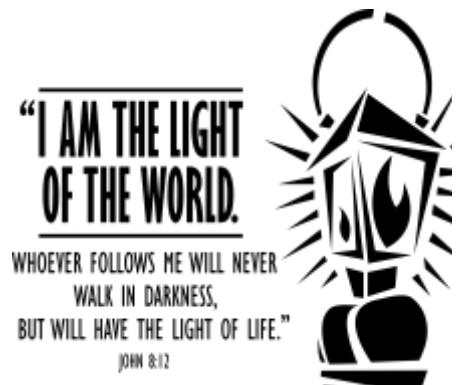


Welcome!

Today we continue the series on the "seven deadly sins" and the "seven holy virtues". This is the fourth pair we'll consider - lust and chastity; not ideas we generally associate with worship! Let's see where Jesus leads as he meets the woman caught in adultery, as told in the Gospel of John. Also in today's service we welcome Heidi Regier Kreider, the Western District Conference pastor, as she leads in the ritual of installation for Pastor Lois in her position as Associate Pastor here at Alexanderwohl.



GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Pre-Service Worship Music – 8:40 am

The Flannelbacks

Welcome

Pastor Caleb Yoder

Call to Worship

(Lighting of the peace lamp)

Our hearts are steadfast, O God, our hearts are steadfast.

We will sing and make melody. Awake, my soul!

Awake, O harp and lyre! We will awake the dawn.

**We will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples,
and we will sing praises to you among the nations.**

For your steadfast love is higher than the heavens,

And your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

Gathering Prayer

Loving God, our gaze is drawn from you each day by things that distract us, things that attract us, things that tempt us. For this time, this day, our attention is focused on you. In this time of worship, draw our eyes toward your loving gaze, pull our attention to your loving message, move our spirits to live out your loving call. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn

Immortal, invisible God only wise

HWB 70

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible, hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might, thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small. In all life thou livest, the true life of all. We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
4. Great God of all glory, great God of all light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight. All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

Children's Story

Aileen Esau

Morning Prayer

Pastor Caleb

Hymn

Lord, listen to your children praying

HWB 353

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place,
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Litany of Installation of Lois Harder as Associate Pastor

Heidi Regier Kreider
WDC Conference Pastor

Lois, as God's Spirit calls and the church commissions, we accept your service to and through this congregation. We pledge our support to you, as you in turn, support our ministries. We join with you in seeking first the reign of God. May you be given a deep love for the church, for each of us, and for each life you touch on our behalf. May Christ be known in you and through you. Our prayers will continually support you.

NAMING THE SIN

Scripture Reading

2 Samuel 11:1-27

Judy Goertzen

Reflection

Lust/Distracted

Pastor Lois

ORIENTED TOWARD GOD'S LOVE

Spiritual Practice

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we are a people filled with desires.

Some desires draw us closer to you; others pull us further away.

Some desires satisfy; others leave us wanting.

We live in a world of unlimited, untamed, and unbridled desire where around each corner there is a temptation to satisfy our own selfish desires.

We confess that we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, and lost sight of what we truly long for; intimacy and communion with you.

Forgive us, loving God, when we misplace that longing;

help us to see your face, feel your presence, hear your voice.

Words of Assurance

**Your steadfast love is higher than the heavens, O God,
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**

Song of Faith

Step by Step

SWJ 42

Oh, God, You are my God, and I will ever praise you. (2x)

I will seek You in the morning, and I will learn to walk in Your ways,

and step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow You all of my days.

And I will follow You all of my days, and I will follow You all of my days,

and step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow You all of my days.

EMBRACING THE VIRTUE

Scripture Reading

John 8:2-14

Judy Goertzen

Reflection

Chastity/Focus

Worship Music/Worship with our Tithes and Offerings

Eternal Light, Shine in My Heart

Irene Zacharias Moon

Braden Unruh and Jill Siebert

+ The peace lamp serves as a visual reminder for us that we follow Jesus the Prince of Peace and believe in uncertain times that God's shalom will prevail.

We welcome Heidi Regier Kreider, our Western District Conference Pastor this morning!

Special thanks to Steve Unruh, Delton Voth, Dwight M Flaming, Brendon Nafziger, David Esau, Marlin Janzen, Braden Unruh, Jill Siebert, the Flannelbacks (Matthew Graber, Tim Regier, Braden Unruh), Eric Schrag, Renae Schmidt Peters, Judy Goertzen, Aileen Esau, Karl Brubaker and Marilyn Unruh Flaming for their help with making this outdoor drive-in worship service possible.

Questions for Reflection

1. Reflect honestly about the things or situations that cause you to lust...to lose your focus.
2. Can you identify some ways that you could re-focus your thoughts or attention to help maintain your commitment to Jesus?

Next Sunday

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 6:1-9; Galatians 5:13-26

Praying for our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for college students who are moving back to campuses and beginning a new school year with the threat/challenge of COVID-19.
- ❖ We continue to pray for all students, teachers, administrators (and their families), members of Boards of Education and all who are involved with schools, seeking the best and safest ways to educate.
- ❖ We pray for those in Iowa and Illinois who have suffered losses this last week to the Derecho wind storms, especially farmers with unprecedented crop losses.
- ❖ We pray for those struggling with their mental health with the underlying stress of the pandemic.
- ❖ We pray for governments and leaders locally, state-wide, in our nation, and throughout the world. Grant calm clarity and compassion in their decision-making and leadership. May they seek peace and the well-being of people and creation.

1304 K-15 Hwy, Box 8
Goessel Kansas 67053
Office: (620) 367-8192
email: alexmenno@mtelco.net
website:
www.alexanderwohl.org

Pastors:
Caleb Yoder
(319) 930-7754
alexcaleb@mtelco.net

Lois Harder
(316) 617-3497
alexlois@mtelco.net

Deacons:
Sandy Banman
Marilyn Unruh Flaming
Ruth Goertzen
Cindy Hastings
Bryant Miller
Jim Schmidt

If you would appreciate a porch visit or phone call from one of the pastors or deacons, please feel free to contact us!

Coming Events

Monday, August 17	7:45 pm	Board of Worship on Zoom
Wednesday, August 19	7:30 pm	Book discussion of <i>White Fragility</i> – Ch. 3-4
Sunday, August 23		Online Worship Service
	11:15 am	Congregational Sharing on Zoom
Monday, August 24	4:30 pm	Covid Task Force Meeting
Wednesday, August 26		Book discussion of <i>White Fragility</i> – Ch. 5-6
Sunday, August 30	9:00 am	Outdoor Service (weather permitting)

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Garden produce is available at the south end of our worship area today. Please bring your extra produce to share with others!

Join us! The second of a six-session study/discussion of “White Fragility” is Wednesday, August 19, 7:30 p.m. Bring your book, your questions and ideas and your chair so we can sit on the east side of the church building in the shade. We'll look at Ch. 3 & 4 this week. See you there!

The AMC COVID-19 task force continues to meet on a regular basis. We are monitoring the number of cases of COVID-19 in our area and will continue to wait for the situation to improve before we recommend worshipping together in-person in the sanctuary. A special task force is being formed to dream up what child and youth faith formation (aka Sunday School/midweek) will look like for the coming year at Alexanderwohl. Covid Task force members are: Nancy Stucky, Brendon Nafziger, Marilyn Unruh Flaming, Janine Peters, Tina Schrag, Renae Peters, Robyn Hartvickson Pastor Caleb and Pastor Lois.

Use of building for meetings: The COVID-19 task force continues to allow the church building, specifically the Chapel, to be available to boards/committees to use for in-person meetings if they so choose. Zoom continues to be an option for meetings, as well. If meetings happen in person, the following guidelines should be followed: maintain 6 feet distance throughout the meeting, masks should be worn and please limit the use of bathrooms to the ones on the main level of the church. Meeting organizers should be sure to communicate with the church office so that custodial staff are aware of spaces that need cleaning.

Current and upcoming devotionals (*Upper Room & Rejoice!*) are available in the NE entryway for purchase.

Pastor Caleb is continually updating our **Faith Formation** resource page (<http://alexanderwohl.org/resource-page/> or click the button from home page). Feel free to make suggestions of resources you are finding helpful.

THANK YOU NOTES

A heartfelt thanks for the great response at the blood drive! A total of 37 units were collected, with 29 regular and 4 power red donations. Red Cross uses additional safety measures, so as you make plans for the fall, include donating on Monday, October 12. Sign up at www.redcrossblood.org or call Rosi (367-2418) or Nancy (367-2610).

Praise God for the tremendous turnout and support for the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum's carryout meal on August 1st! Donations received were nearly \$5,800. A huge thank you to the volunteers who prepared food (starting at 5 a.m.) and the serving crew who efficiently served 325 bierock meals and 70 dozen New Year's Cookies in 45 minutes (when supplies ran out). We are also deeply grateful for the First Fruits gift recently received from the Alexanderwohl congregation.

~Aileen Esau, on behalf of the MH&AM board and staff

CONFERENCE PRAYER REQUESTS

Western District Conference

Pray for WDC congregations in pastoral transition, as they discern God's direction for future leadership and priorities in the midst of the uncertainties of today's world.

Mennonite Mission Network

Nemi Chigoji provides leadership for the Nigerian Anabaptist Resource Center, a Mennonite Mission Network partner. Pray for Rev. Chigoji as he works in California and Nigeria, training Anabaptist pastors in peacebuilding, mediation, and holistic ministry.

COMMUNITY & CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Camp Mennoscah

Mental Health Spiritual Retreat at Camp Mennoscah will be a one-day event on Monday, September 7. This retreat is for those affected by mental illness, including friends and family. Activities will be outside. We will follow

social distancing and mask guidelines. Please bring a mask with you. Those interested in attending the retreat should contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290.

Men and Boys Retreat at Camp Mennoscah has been canceled for 2020. Men and boys (with adult supervision) and families are invited to contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 about overnight stays or day visits. We'll see you soon!

Camp Mennoscah welcomes guests! Camping areas and cabins are open to guests/groups for overnight stays and day visits. Spend time in the river, have a campfire cookout, and enjoy the open spaces of the tallgrass prairie and the Ninnescah River! Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 to make a reservation and to inquire about use of additional facilities. We can't wait to see you!

Camp Mennoscah's main phone number (620-297-3290) will be answered between the hours of 8:30am and 5:00pm on weekdays. Emails will also be answered within the same basic time frame, depending on staff work hours. Outside of these hours, you may be able to reach camp staff, but there are no guarantees. Please leave a message or send an email and we'll be in touch as soon as possible!

Western District Conference

Preschool Story Hour at the Conference Resource Library returns this fall with VIRTUAL LIVE story hours full of stories, rhymes, and craft ideas on Tuesdays at 10:00am and Thursdays at 3:30pm. Tuesday and Thursday sessions will be different, join us for one or both sessions each week. Story Hour will start Tuesday, September 8 and be geared toward ages 3-5. Story Hour will be led by Library Director Jennie Wintermote and will be shorter than our Summer Story Hour. Register at <https://forms.gle/vpk7DXRwwHAbSo5A7> and contact Jennie with any questions at crlib@mennowdc.org.

Mennonite Church USA

Due to the pandemic, Mission Network's Donor Relations team is not traveling to visit with our wonderful donors, but we are on the phone and writing notes! Please know you are appreciated, valued, and prayed for. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Service Adventure has open spots for the 2020-2021 term beginning this fall. If you are interested in taking a gap year to serve, live in community, and grow spiritually, contact SusanN@MennoniteMission.net or apply online at MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure.

Mennonite Central Committee

MCC is hosting *virtual* alumni gatherings for four of the world regions where MCC works: Latin America and Caribbean, Asia, Europe & Middle East and Africa. And you are invited! Join us for this special time to hear updates from Area Directors about current programming, share stories of service experiences and engage in small group discussions to connect with your MCC friends or meet others who served in the same world region. Find out specific dates, times and register at mcc.org/virtual-alumni-gatherings. Questions? Please contact heidhuber@mcc.org or call 316.283.2720.

Support MCC and celebrate MCC's centennial with a new shirt, hoodie, tea towel, bag or hat! Check out this online store set up by the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale to place your order today (pssst, it's never too early to start Christmas shopping!). Visit wearatomic.com/product-category/mcc/ and start shopping to support MCC!

Mennonite Life

The 2020 issue of *Mennonite Life*, Bethel College's online journal, is live at ml.bethelks.edu, with articles and reviews by Alain Epp Weaver, Ben Nobbs-Thiessen, Ben Woodward-Breckbill, Cheryl Denise, Christopher Reed, Emma Beachy, Jason Schmidt, Joanne Lehman, Joyce Zuercher, Julia Kasdorf, Keith Sprunger, Lisa Schirch, Marc Gopin, Melanie Zuercher and Raylene Hinz-Penner.