

Welcome!

Welcome to our worship service at Alexanderwohl!
 In a strange and challenging year and election season the Book of Revelation helps remind us that the Lamb who was slain is truly on the throne. We look to this sometimes-confusing book for inspiration to faithfulness while we learn to follow the Lamb wherever he goes. This Word of Truth frees us to leave the way of Empire and dominance and seek to live according to God's already inaugurated Kingdom. *(image from BibleProject.com)*



GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Dona nobis pacem ~Behnke (HWB 346)
How clear is our vocation, Lord ~Behnke (HWB 541)
For all the saints ~Hobby (HWB 636)

Karen Unruh

Welcome

Pastor Caleb Yoder

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Invocation

Revelation 19:1-2, 5-7

Leader: Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power to our God,

People: for God's judgments are true and just.

Leader: Praise our God, all you his servants, and all who fear him, small and great.

All: Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give God the glory!

Peace Prayer

(Lighting of the peace lamp)

Carol Duerksen

Hymn of Praise (instrumental)

Open now thy gates of beauty

HWB 19

Open now thy gates of beauty,
 Zion, let me enter there,
 where my soul in joyful duty
 waits for One who answers
 prayer.

Gracious God, I come before
 thee,
 come thou also unto me;
 Where we find thee and adore
 thee,
 there a heav'n on earth must be.
 To my heart, O enter thou,
 let it be thy temple now!

Speak, O God, and I will hear
 thee,
 let thy will be done indeed;
 May I undisturbed draw near
 thee
 while thou dost thy people feed.
 Here of life the fountain flows,
 here is balm for all our woes.

Oh, how blessed is this place,
 filled with solace, light, and
 grace!

Children's Story

Eric Schrag

Worship Music (recording) *I sing the mighty power of God* ~arr. Curnow

Mary Schmidt, violin

Morning Prayer

Pastor Lois Harder

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Congregational hymn (instrumental)

Lord, you sometimes speak (v. 3-5)

HWB 594

Lord, you sometimes speak in
 silence,
 through our loud and noisy day:
 we can know and trust you better
 when we quietly wait and pray.
(repeat first line)

Lord, you love to speak in
 Scripture:
 words that summon from the page,
 shown and taught us by your Spirit
 with fresh light for every age.
(repeat first line)

Lord, you always speak in
 Jesus,
 always new yet still the same;
 teach us now more of our Savior;
 make our lives display his Name.
(repeat first line)

Scripture Reading

Revelation 19:11-21

Marilyn Unruh Flaming

Message

“A Sword from the mouth”

Pastor Caleb

SENT AS GOD’S PEOPLE

Song of Response

The word of God

HWB 314

The word of God is solid ground,
our constant firm confession,
no source of freedom more
profound,
no purer a profession.
All steadfast strength,
all breadth and length
of truth, from God’s word
springing
shall we employ
to speak our joy,
this world our witness bringing.

What powers can our faith
constrain?
What ironclad restrictions?
No self - deceiving rule can
chain
our conscience and convictions.
Our God alone is on the throne,
and we are subjects willing.
Our lives obey God’s higher way;
our love God’s law fulfilling.

What God-word brings,
may we embrace;
success and suffering greet us;
confronting evil face to face,
as scorn and anger meet us.
For freedom’s sake we bend, we
break,
a sign to ev’ry nation
that we have found a solid
ground;
God’s word our sure foundation.

Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings

First Fruits Giving

Prayer of dedication

Pastor Lois

Benediction

Pastor Lois

Postlude

Holy, holy, holy ~Burkhardt

Karen Unruh

Sending Song (outside)

When peace, like a river

HWB 336

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."
It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul)
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Redeemed! Oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to his cross, and I bear it no more;
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Refrain

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should
come,
let this blest assurance control:
that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
and hath shed his own blood for my soul. *Refrain*

O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be
sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall
descend;
even so, it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

+ 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.

Special thanks to Karen Unruh, Mary Schmidt, Brendon Nafziger and ushers, Tina Schrag (visual arts), the AMC Covid Task Force, Steve Unruh, and Delton Voth.

Questions for Reflection – Revelation 19:11-22 (broader section chapters 19-20)

1. What do you think it means that the sword is coming out of the mouth of the rider of the white horse?
2. Have you’ve always envisioned Jesus returning some day to kill the enemies of God, or does God achieve victory over evil and brokenness in our world some other way?
3. How are we supposed to respond to passages of judgment such as Rev. 19:11-22?

Next Sunday we continue our worship focus through the book of Revelation. You are encouraged to read Revelation chapters 21-22 in preparation.

Praying for our congregation and beyond

- ❖ We pray for teachers and students as they continue to struggle to teach and learn in the midst of this pandemic.
- ❖ We pray for those experiencing mental health struggles as well as loved ones during this challenging season.
- ❖ We continue to pray for folks connected to area long-term care facilities responding to the stressors of testing, restrictions for residents, and positive cases.
- ❖ We pray for those working in hospitals experiencing an increase in COVID patients.
- ❖ We celebrate with Tyler and Jenna Schroeder on the birth of Gavin Ray on Tuesday, October 27! Thanks be to God! Tyler is the son of Ray Schroeder (deceased), and nephew of Arlie Schroeder, Velma Hiebert, and Jan Schmidt.
- ❖ We pray for a Spirit of Peace to hover over our nation during the election, and that all citizens might honor the outcomes of elections and reject violence if there are disputed results.

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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

Sunday, November 1	2:00 am	Daylight SavingTime Ends (set clocks back 1 hour)
Today, Sunday, November 1	10:00 am	Worship service in the sanctuary
Sunday, November 1	5:30 – 6:30 pm	Bethesda Pillar's Banquet carry-out meal
Monday, November 2	7:00 pm	Board of Christian Education
Wednesday, November 4	6:45 pm	Faith formation for ages 3 through grade 12
Sunday, November 8	10:00 am	Worship service in the sanctuary
Monday, November 9	5:45 pm	Board of Mission and Service
Monday, November 9	7:00 pm	Church Council
Sunday, November 15	5:00 – 6:00 pm	Goessel Community Thanksgiving Meal
Monday, November 16	7:30 pm	Board of Deacons Zoom meeting
November 20 & 21		MCC Meat Canning, N. Newton

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Goessel Community Drive-Through Thanksgiving Meal - COVID can't stop our good work! The *meal will be catered this year by Keith Banman*. Drive-through will be from **5:00-6:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 15 at the Goessel Elementary School**. The meal is free; donations are welcome to help Goessel Ministerial Alliance (GMA) provide assistance for community families and the schools. Please help Keith to plan by sending an **RSVP by Monday, November 9** to tinyurl.com/Goessel-T-giving-2020

Christmas Giving Tree

Jesus' love was the greatest gift that God has ever given to humanity. That love continues to inspire us to gift each other with God's grace and love. The Goessel Ministerial Alliance and the Citizens State Bank are sponsoring a "Christmas Giving Tree" to do just that. This tree endeavors to help with some of the expenses of Christmas for those families in need. We invite all parents who feel they could use a little help to fill out an

application listing their children by name, age, and some gift suggestions with sizes, if clothing is listed. Besides parents, other people that are aware of needs for children should also fill out the application form.

Applications will be available at the Goessel Elementary and High School offices, the Goessel City Office, the Crossroads Credit Union and the Citizens State Bank. All applications will need to be turned in by **Friday, November 20** to the Elementary School office or in a sealed envelope marked "Christmas Giving Tree" at the Citizens State Bank. Each child's name turned in will get 2 tags on the tree with their age, sex and gift description. The names of the children will not be on the tag.

The tags will be available on the tree at the Citizens State Bank on **Monday, November 23**. All the gifts will need to be brought back to the Bank by **Monday, December 14**. The gifts should be wrapped and the bank personnel will assist with the "checking in" process. The gifts will then be distributed by the Ministerial Alliance.

It is our goal that everyone has a blessed and happy Christmas, both the giver and the receiver. We hope that each of our congregations may enter into this ministry opportunity. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of the pastors.

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

CONFERENCE PRAYER REQUESTS

Western District Conference

Pray for God's strength for chaplains and others in WDC caring for those facing pain, illness and death in the midst of the pandemic.

Mennonite Mission Network

Tuesday is election day in the United States. Join Mennonite Mission Network in prayer for the vote to take place without violence and that leaders will be elected who will lead the country in ways of justice and peace.

COMMUNITY & CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Camp Mennoscah

Gardell Stucky, dedicated Facilities Director for the past 7 and a half years at Camp Mennoscah, is retiring as of October 30, 2020. You are invited to celebrate his time at Camp Mennoscah with a card or email: gardell.stucky@campmennoscah.org or PO Box 65, Murdock, KS 67111. Belated greetings will be forwarded to Gardell, so send without fear! Camp Mennoscah's Board of Directors and staff thank Gardell for the many hours of work and the gracious kindness shared with everyone. Happy adventures, Gardell!

With great hope, Camp Mennoscah is planning for the 2021 Summer Youth Camps. Safety precautions due to the pandemic may require adjustments, but recruiting for summer staff will happen in the coming months. Put on your best camp outfit and get ready for fun! (Applications are not yet available. We're just making sure you're excited.)

Camp Mennoscah is a year-round campground! Ask about winterized facilities or conquer the prairie wilds in a tent. It's a whole new world in the winter--and available for you! Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 to make a reservation.

Western District Conference

The **Tabor Church Mennonite Men** would like to invite everyone to the **annual chicken barbeque** on **Nov. 5** from 5-7 pm or until the food runs out. This year it will be a to-go pick up meal. The menu is bbq chicken, baked beans, coleslaw, dinner roll and ice cream and the food will taste great as usual. From the south end of the east parking lot please drive around the south side of the church under the overhang to place your donation and pick up your meal(s). The funds raised will go to Mennonite Central Committee and Bethesda Home in Goessel. The church is located 8 miles north of Newton to 90th then 1 mile east or 3 miles south and 1 east of Goessel.

Mennonite Central Committee

Mask ask! MCC is responding to a request from people on the Northern Cheyenne reservation in southeastern Montana for cloth face masks to help stop the spread of COVID-19. If you would like to sew masks, please use the following guidelines:

- Adult sized
- Use at least 2 layers of good quality cotton fabric (solid colors preferred)
- Elastic ear loops
- Nose wire/filter pockets optional

Please ship purchased or completed masks to the MCC Central States Material Resources Center (Attn: Kate Mast) at 121 East 30th Street, North Newton, KS 67117, or drop off in the 24 hour donation room at MCC by **November 15th**. They will all be collected and transported to Montana in time for the winter season. Questions? Please contact katemast@mcc.org.

Bethel College

The Organ Recital Series at Bethel College featuring Shirley Sprunger King, D.M.A., originally scheduled for Nov. 3, has been postponed until a date TBA.

The KIPCOR Film Series continues with *Cooked: Survival by ZIP Code*, a multiple-award-winning documentary that focuses on the deadly 1995 Chicago heat wave to illustrate how minorities and low-income citizens suffer the most negative impact from natural disasters. The film is an indictment of our nation's disaster preparedness, and forges a link between extreme weather, extreme disparity and extreme racism. **Note that watching the film and participating in the talk-back are two distinct, separate events. You must view the film between Nov. 8 and Nov. 14**, using this link and password: <https://vimeo.com/bullfrogfilms/kipcor-cooked>; password: KC30p0 (KC3-zero-p-zero). Then on **Sunday, Nov. 15, at 2 p.m., KIPCOR will host a virtual discussion of the film with Christy Miller Hesed**, Hesston, a postdoctoral associate in environmental anthropology at the University of Maryland. To **register for the talk-back**, go to kipcor.org, click on the event, and scroll down to the registration link. The Zoom link will be sent Nov. 13; **advance registration is required for the talk-back**.

After having to postpone its Peace Lecture with Sarah Smarsh twice, KIPCOR is now opening the event up to the world. KIPCOR (the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution at Bethel College) presents Sarah Smarsh, Thursday, Nov. 5, at 7 p.m., speaking via Zoom on "Bridging the Cultural Divide in Difficult Times." Smarsh is the author of two acclaimed books on poverty and class in America: *Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth* and, just released, *She Come By It Natural: Dolly Parton and the Women Who Lived Her Songs*. To register for the Zoom link, go to kipcor.org, click on the event and scroll down to the "Register Now" button. Also on kipcor.org: look for the link to KIPCOR's first-ever "KIPCORathon," taking place on Nov. 5 as well.

Mennonite Church USA

Pastor Sandy Drescher-Lehman and her husband, John, realized that when they stepped out of the way, God began a good work – right in their own backyard. Read their blog, "**Hosting Hipcampers: Is this missional? Or spiritual?**" at <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/hipcampers>.

Eastern Mennonite University welcomed students back to campus last month, and we've had a strong start to the semester despite the challenges that COVID-19 presents! As we continue to help students discern their calling after graduation, the best way to discover what a university has to offer is to visit. Our official visit programs allow students to hear from administration, faculty, staff, and students. In light of COVID-19, we are offering our 2020-21 visit events in a variety of on-campus and online formats. Our visit event dates for this year are:
Open House: **November 13**, At-A-Glance Visits: **November 5 & 19, December 3 & 17**, MLK Day At-a-Glance Visit: **January 18**, Scholarship Weekend: February **5-6**, Presidents' Day At-a-Glance Visit: **February 15**, Open House: **March 27**, Admitted Students Day: **April 17**
EMU has much to offer this generation's college students, a nurturing Christian atmosphere, attentive professors, rigorous academic programs, and cross-cultural opportunities. We hope you will partner with us by sharing this information with the youth of your congregation. To register, visit www.emu.edu/visit.