



Welcome to our morning worship service at Alexanderwohl! Scripture gives many names and images for God, who we know as Father, Son, and Spirit. This week we explore the scriptural names and images for Jesus. Jesus is the image of the invisible God - the flesh and blood person of Jesus reveals God's character and heart to us, inviting us to also become restored and whole image-bearers of God.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Bel Canto Program

Hope ~Ysaye M. Barnwell

The Song We Sing ~Jacob Narverud

We Can Mend the Sky ~ Jake Runestand — Anna Banman, soloist; Ethan Klassen, djembe

Way Over in Beulah Lan' ~Traditional Spiritual, arr. Stacey V. Gibbs

Blessed Lamb, On Calvary's Mountain ~Beach Springs, arr. K. Lee Scott — Kelly Miller, piano

He Was Wounded ~Craig Courtney — Alyssa Nolt, piano

Early in the Morning ~A. P. Van Iderstine

The Ground from Sunrise Mass ~Ola Gjeilo

Lift Every Voice and Sing ~John Rosamond Johnson, arr. Jon Nicholas

Welcome and Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Pastor Lois Harder

Call to Worship

All: We believe in you, Jesus Christ, Son of God. In your name we find life. **John 20:31**

Leader: We worship you, Wisdom who was the first of God's acts long ago, **Prov 8:22**

Word who was in the beginning with God and became flesh to dwell among us. **John 1**

People: We serve you, Human One, who came to serve and give your life as a ransom for many. **Mark 10:45**

People: We follow you, Light of the world, who gives us the light of life. **John 8:12, 6:35**

We come to you, Bread of life, so that we will never be hungry.

Leader: We make you our Way, you who are the way, the truth and the life **John 14:6**

People: We trust you, Emmanuel, God-with-us

Leader: We hear your voice, Good Shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep **John 10:11**

All: We accept your command of love, Friend of sinners, **Matt 11:19**

who has chosen us, and called us friends. **John 15:12**

Gathering Songs

A wonderful Savior is Jesus (v 1-3)

HWB 598 (VT 626)

A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord,

a wonderful Savior to me.

He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock

where rivers of pleasure I see.

A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord;

he taketh my burden away.

He holdeth me up, and I shall not be moved;

he giveth me strength every day.

*He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock
that shadows a dry, thirsty land.*

*He hideth my life in the depths of his love,
and covers me there with his hand (repeat)*

With numberless blessings each moment he
crowns, / and filled with his fullness divine,
I sing in my rapture, "Oh glory to God
for such a redeemer as mine!"

Jesus, stand among us

HWB 25

Jesus, stand among us In your risen pow'r.
Let this time of worship be a hallowed hour.

Breathe the Holy Spirit into ev'ry heart. Bid the
fears and sorrows from each soul depart.

Children's Story

Ann Hiebert

Morning Prayer

Pastor Lois

Worship Music

Psalm of Life ~Craig Hella Johnson

Bel Canto

Hymn of Faith

O Power of love

HWB 593

O Pow'r of love,
all else transcending,
in Jesus present evermore,
I worship thee, in homage bending,
thy name to honor and adore.
Yea, let my soul,
in deep devotion,
bathe in love's mighty
boundless ocean.

Thou art my rest;
no earthly treasure
can satisfy my yearning heart,
and naught can give
to me the pleasure
I find in thee, my chosen part.
Thy love, so tender,
so possessing,
is joy to me, and every blessing.

To thee my heart
and lift be given;
thou art in truth my highest good.
For me thy sacred side was riven,
for me was shed
thy precious blood.
O thou who art
the world's salvation,
be thine my love and adoration.

Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings

First Fruits Giving

***Prayer of dedication**

Pastor Caleb

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Colossians 1:15-20

Tammy Flaming

Message

"Image of the Invisible God"

Pastor Caleb

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Song of Response

Jesus, Rock of Ages

HWB 515 (VT 622)

Jesus, Rock of ages, let me hide myself in thee.
Jesus, living Water, let me drink from your flowing stream.

Benediction

Cornerstone ~Shawn Kirchner

Bel Canto

Alexandra Miller and Kara Longenecker, soloists; Anna Banman, Alyssa Nolt and Kara Longenecker, trio

Song Leader: Russell Adrian, Hesston College

Keyboard: Marcia Brubaker

Worship technology: Steve Unruh and Delton Voth

Questions for Reflection – Colossians 1:15-20

1. What names and images of Jesus are new to you? How do they impact your relationship with Christ?
2. How do you see Jesus reconciling all things to himself, "making peace" though his life, death, and resurrection? Where do we enter into this?

Next Sunday we continue our series on "Names of God," focusing on the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity. The scripture reading will be John 14:15-27. Pastor Caleb will preach.

Praying for our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We're grateful for Steve and Sandy Banman's safe trip home and for the wonderful medical care Steve received at the Mayo Clinic in Phoenix. We continue to keep them in prayer as his treatments are now carried on by his doctors here.

- ❖ We pray for Megan, Chrystiana and all who are planning and preparing for VBS; we ask for your blessing on their work.
- ❖ We pray for our own congregation and for all churches who are navigating the process of “opening up” from the pandemic. Continue to guide and give wisdom to the Task Force and to us all.
- ❖ As we are increasingly aware of racial inequity, God, we pray for your Spirit to work through the tension and beyond the violence.
- ❖ We are grateful for this amazing Earth, the Garden home that you have created and provided. We pray for mercy, God, that humanity will steward the Earth and its resources carefully.

Coming Events

Sunday, April 25	10:00 am	Hesston Bel Canto outside (weather permitting)
	10:30 am	Outdoor worship service
	12:00 pm	Final Faith Ex session with mentors
	4:00 pm	Grand Porch Visit – Board of Mission & Service
Monday, April 26	2:00 pm	Prayer Team
	6:30 pm	Children’s Ministry Team
Wednesday, April 28	6:45 pm	Final evening of Faith Formation Activities this spring
Sunday, May 2	10:30 am	Worship Service in the sanctuary and via Zoom
Monday, May 3		Pastor Caleb’s sabbatical begins – through August
	4:30 pm	COVID taskforce
	7:00 pm	Board of Christian Education
Sunday, May 9		Mother’s Day and Child Dedication
Monday, May 10	5:45 pm	Board of Mission and Service
	7:00 pm	Church Council
Monday, May 24	7:00 pm	VBS Staff Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Hesston College Bel Canto Singers, under the direction of Dr. Russell Adrian and accompanied by Ken Rodgers. We thank God for the gift of music and for each of these students and their willingness to lead us in worship. Bel Canto members are:

Sopranos: Anna Banman, Bethany Masters, Kelly Miller, Adaylia Powers, Rachel Teeter

Altos: Meg Beyer, Alyssa Burkholder, Madison Higdon, Natalie Ladd, Kara Longenecker, Alyssa Nolt.

Tenors: Luke Allison, Alexander Miller, Isaac Tice

Basses: Xavier Jang, Ethan Klassen, Caleb Oesch, Aidan Swartzendruber

Today at 4:00 pm -- The Board of Mission & Service is inviting you to a Grand Porch Visit on the church campus at 4 pm. Please bring your lawn chair. This is planned to be a time of casual visiting (no topic or agenda). Masks and social distancing encouraged.

Graduation is soon approaching! Please share with us the name of your graduate, the grade or institution they’re graduating from and the degree they’re graduating with as well as the date of graduation. We’d like to acknowledge these accomplishments and celebrate together!

Nicole Hein was very strongly affirmed for the Alexanderwohl Board of Education position Sunday April 18, 2021.

Save the dates! June 16, 23, 30, July 7, 14 and 21. These are the dates of your Board of Mission and Service and Peace Committee’s **book study for summer, 2021**. These groups are encouraging further study and conversation around the topics of **care for the earth, racial and wealth inequity and the connections between them**. Specific resources are still being discerned, but rest assured, they will be substantive and thought-provoking! Bring your lawn chair, water bottle and discipleship convictions as we continue to learn together how to follow Jesus more faithfully.

As with many things this last year, camp for our 7th and 8th graders will look different as well. After cancelling camp last year, we are excited to be able to gather in a new way this year! Here is our plan: three "day camps" from 3:00 PM-9:00 PM on May 29, June 26, and July 31. Each month, we will be hosted by a different Goessel area church: May 29 (Tabor Mennonite), June 26 (Goessel Mennonite), and July 31 (Alexanderwohl Mennonite). Be looking for more details via email the week leading up to the event! Our goal is to provide a camp experience for our junior high youth. And even though we aren't going to camp this year, we are excited to be able to bring camp to our community! See the attached brochure for more information!

The link to register is <https://forms.gle/589UmVHBp14T3MNRA>

If you have any questions, please contact one of us!

Laura Unrau 620-386-4331 lauraelaine25@gmail.com

Michelle Unruh 620-747-0991 michellerunruh@gmail.com

Our church policy provides for pastors to have a three-month sabbatical once every four years. The sabbatical is our congregation's investment in the vitality of our pastoral leadership. Pastor Caleb is planning to be on sabbatical in May/June/July to pursue personal renewal, deepening spiritual practices, study that will enhance his ministry, and hopefully reconnection with Latin America communities where he has previously served. Please pray that this time away will be meaningful for Caleb and a blessing for our congregation when he returns refreshed to pastor us.

All aboard for VBS! It's time to register your children for **ROCKY RAILWAY VBS, taking place June 7-11, 2021, 9 a.m. - noon**, daily at Alexanderwohl. You may sign up several ways:

1. Through the church's website (alexanderwohl.org) - click on the "Register for VBS" button.
2. Follow this direct link: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/goesselvbs2021>
3. Grab a paper registration form from the church office or the Goessel Elementary School and turn it in there as well.

We are looking forward to welcoming children for this exciting week! Please contact Chrystiana Miller (620-747-2392) or Megan Duerksen (620-747-2592) with questions.

"Josie's Closet – Medical Equipment Loan & Recycling" loans gently used equipment to those in need. Items often requested include shower chairs, commodes, walkers, and transport chairs, so donations of those and other items are appreciated. Call Nancy Stucky at (620)747-9359 or email josiesclosetmedequip@gmail.com for a loan or donation appointment.

The nursery is looking for new toys! Are there toys around your house that your children or grandchildren have outgrown? The Alexanderwohl Nursery could be the perfect new home for these gently used toys. Please contact Kim Voth (620-367-2416) or Nicole Hein (316-217-5025) if you would like to donate toys.

I want to offer a word of thanks to the Alexanderwohl Church family for walking with me and celebrating the occasion of my ordination. I appreciate the beautiful gift of a bowl and pitcher symbolizing servant leadership. I am especially thankful for all those who participated in making the ordination service a meaningful milestone: the planning committee, quartet and musicians, technology, visual arts, and those who helped with the reception. Thank you! ~Pastor Caleb

Thank you for your generous support of our College Scholarship Fund Raiser last Sunday. Your contributions totaled \$3,815 and are greatly appreciated. ~MCSMT, Carol Duerksen, treasurer

Thank you, thank you for all the people that took part in the New Year's Cookie project. I enjoyed all of you coming to my apartment. Thank you for your donations! Together we raised \$750 for the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. ~Lois Janzen

An opportunity to help! Prairie View has sent an urgent request for new or gently used clothes for patients being served in their inpatient program who arrive on the Newton campus with only the clothes they're wearing. Prairie View **needs donations of new or gently used sweatpants (all adult sizes, no drawstrings preferred) and t-shirts (mostly larger sized XXL and XXXL) for both men and women.**

Bring your donated items to the church and put them in the tub in the north entrance marked "Prairie View donations" by the end of April.

The 2021 Church Yearbooks are available for pick up in the NE airlock entrance. Names are on them and they are sorted by family last name. Feel free to take the ones for your family or friends that you regularly see to help save postage costs.

Current and upcoming devotionals (*Upper Room & Rejoice!*) are available in the NE entryway for purchase. The May-June *Upper Room* and the March-April-May *Rejoice* are here.

Because No One Should Go Hungry: The purpose of the Tabor Church Food Pantry is to provide food at no cost for families in need in the Goessel area. If you are struggling during this time of pandemic, know that you are not alone. We are here to help! Please call to set up a time to get your food. 367-2318 - Tabor Church; 747-0408 - Kim Funk; 367-2747 - Janna Duerksen; 367-2437 - Laura Unrau. This is a ministry supported by the Goessel area churches and community.

The MDS Summer Youth Program has projects in each region to encourage more local travel. There is one at Camp Mennoscah, where wall sections will be built for the Tiny Home projects as a response to the homelessness in Denver. There will also be a unit rebuilding after the fire in Paradise, CA; and two after hurricanes in Bennettsville, SC and Jennings, LA. Contact Deanne Frey - dfrey@mds.org if you can work for a week this summer.

CONFERENCE PRAYER REQUESTS

Western District Conference

Pray for pastors, parents, teachers, and mentors in WDC congregations, as they guide faith formation for children and youth in the midst of challenging times.

Mennonite Mission Network

Mennonite Mission Network praises God for the three-year ministry of Diana Cruz and Felipe Preciado at *La Casa Grande*, a children's home in Benin. Pray for Diana and Felipe as they transition back to living in and doing God's work in Colombia, their sending country.

COMMUNITY & CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Camp Mennoscah

Smorgasborg of volunteer opportunities for you! Starting with the **Work Day on April 24**, Camp Mennoscah has multiple opportunities to support the maintenance and upkeep of the campgrounds. **Get Involved and be part of the fun!** Email office@campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290 to volunteer.

Camp Mennoscah is seeking to fill a part-time custodian/housekeeper position. Hours average 10 per week and are flexible, dependent upon the camp schedule. For more information, contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org

Bethel College

TODAY (Sunday, April 25), 2 p.m. – If you registered for the Zoom link, don't forget to tune in to hear **award-winning syndicated columnist Leonard Pitts Jr. speak on "Is America Possible?"** part of the Peace Lecture Series from the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR).

Kauffman Museum's spring fundraiser is FaspBox – faspa in a box. *Faspa* is a light evening meal traditional among Low German-heritage Mennonites. Each box serves one and costs \$50. Reservations must be made by Monday, April 26 (for pickup or delivery on May 2), at www.kauffmanmuseum.org/faspbox or by contacting the museum with credit card information at kauffman@bethelks.edu or 316-283-1612.

April 29-May 1 (including Saturday matinee): Bethel College spring play, *I and You* by Lauren Gunderson, planned for Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. **Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. – and there is a livestream option!** Call or stop by Thresher Shop in Schultz Student Center, Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m., 316-284-5205, for tickets for either in-person or livestream. **Please note: This play has adult content**

and is not suitable for children. Face coverings must be worn and physical distancing will be enforced for in-person performances.

Sat., May 1, 7 a.m. – Kauffman Museum first-Saturday bird walks resume. Meet in the museum parking lot (corner of Main and 27th streets in North Newton) to join experienced birders for a walk of 1-1.5 hours in Chisholm Park and on Sand Creek Trail. Trails are mostly unpaved and sometimes steep or sloping. ***Please note that face coverings must be worn and physical distancing between non-family members practiced at all times.***

Sunday, May 2, 4 p.m. – Spring choral concert, featuring the Bethel College Concert Choir, Woven and Open Road on the steps of the Administration Building on campus. Bring your own chairs/blankets. *Please note that face coverings must be worn and physical distancing observed on the Bethel campus.*

Tues., May 4, 7 p.m. – Bethel College Steel Drum Band concert on the plaza in front of Luyken Fine Arts Center (rain location: Memorial Hall). Bring your own chairs/blankets. *Please note that face coverings must be worn and physical distancing practiced on the Bethel campus.*

Weds., May 5, 7 p.m. – Jazz on the Green, featuring Bethel College Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo (a little south of the usual location, on the slab to the east of the art gallery). Bring your own chairs/blankets. *Please note that face coverings must be worn and physical distancing practiced on the Bethel campus*

Now in the Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College: Senior Art Show, “Requiem Aeternam,” paintings by Adam Kroeker, through May 14. Gallery hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri. *Face coverings must be worn on the Bethel campus.*

Mennonite Church USA

Bethel College Women's Association invites donations to help purchase two earth-friendly water refill stations for the Bethel campus. The stations will accommodate water bottles, and cost \$890 each. Donate at bcwamarketonline.com by April 30, 2021. Thank you for your support!

Felipe Hinojosa, author of "Apostles of Change," shared stories about Latino activists transforming churches into staging grounds for protests against urban renewal and displacement, in a recorded webinar from Mennonite Church USA. View it here: mennoniteusa.org/webinars

Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference recently licensed Katerina Friesen for ministry at Wild Church Fresno (California), a Mennonite Church USA church plant that meets outdoors and feels a particular call to care for God's creation. Read more at <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/friesen-licensed-wild-church>

What are the causes of war? And what can we do to end war before it begins? David Lapp-Jost answers these questions in his blog, "Nurturing more life-giving community." Read more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/life-giving-community>

Pastor Graciela Tijerina listened when God called her to lead Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania (Bethany House Mennonite Church), in Newton, Kansas. Read her story here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/iglesia-casa-betania/>
En español: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menoticias-tijerina>