

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIII

March 27, 2022

No. 13



Welcome to our service of worship at Alexanderwohl! On this fourth Sunday of Lent, we look again at the well-known parable of the "Prodigal Son." This parable challenges us to grasp the magnitude of God's love and live our lives by a different logic than entitlement.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* ~Behnke
As the Deer Runs to the River ~Uehlein

Karen Unruh

Welcome

Laura Voth

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

2022 VBS Preview

Call to Worship and Invocation+

Leader: Together we seek the way of God,

People: rejoicing that we are new creations in Christ.

Leader: From a human point of view, we demand what is ours,

People: but through Jesus we rest in sharing in God's inheritance.

Leader: Let us join God's feast,

People: where all celebrate together.

All: Let us live like the beloved children of God that we are.

***Gathering Hymns**

Amazing Grace!

VT 163

I Sought the Lord

VT 161

Children's Story

Karl Brubaker

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Pastor Caleb Yoder

Leader: Holy One, we seek you while you may be found.

People: We call upon you while you are near.

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, for our thoughts are not your thoughts and our ways are not your ways.

People: Forgive us for thinking we deserve special treatment. Transform us by your unearned love.

Leader: As we walk with Christ on this Lenten journey, let us see your way more clearly

All: and follow your way more faithfully.

(silence)

Song of Response *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling*

VT 544

Morning Prayer

Pastor Lois Harder

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

First Fruits Giving

Offertory *My Song Is Love Unknown* ~Burkhardt

Karen Unruh

***Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Lois

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Laura Voth

Monologue of the Prodigal Son

Bryant Miller

Message

"From entitlement to genuine relationship"

Pastor Caleb

Responding to the Gospel (Open sharing)

Song of Response

Far, Far Away

VT 300

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Benediction**

Pastor Caleb

***Postlude**

Karen Unruh

*All who are able are invited to stand.

+ 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.

This service made use of resources and ideas from *Leader*, Winter 2022.

Song Leader: Renae Schmidt Peters

Greeters: North – Kris & Blake Schmucker

South – Lynell & Vickie Hiebert

Visual Arts: LaNae Unruh

Nursery Staff: Myron Hiebert, Ann Hiebert, Brooke Nafziger

Worship Technology: DJ Flaming, Lynel Unrau, Delton Voth, Steve Unruh

March 20 Attendance: 116 In person, 9 Zoom households

Questions for Reflection – Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 | Prodigal Son

1. What do the actions of the father of the parable after his son's incredible betrayal communicate to you about God's grace?
2. When in your life have you identified with either the prodigal son, the older son, or the father?
3. How do we learn to live by the logic of being beloved rather than being entitled?

During the season of Lent, our Scripture passages will challenge us to change our way of thinking to begin to see the world and ourselves a little closer to how God sees. Next Sunday our primary scripture is from John 12:1-8, Mary anointing Jesus.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for our students and teachers as they head into the final 9 weeks of the school year. Grant them focus and stamina as they learn and teach.
- ❖ We pray for James Krehbiel and his family as they grieve the loss of his wife, Julie. Julie died on Thursday, March 24, after a 10-year struggle with cancer. They have two daughters, Halle and Jamie. James is the President and CEO of Bluestem Communities. He is also the son of Ronald Krehbiel, former pastor here at Alexanderwohl.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, March 28

2:00 pm Prayer Team

Tuesday, March 29

9:30 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, March 30 – Final Midweek Session

6:15-7:40 pm Child Care – Nursery

6:15-7:45 pm Children's Midweek Party

6:30-7:30 pm Junior High Midweek – Shelter House

6:45-8:00 pm High School Youth – Youth House

6:45-7:30 pm Chancel Choir – Sanctuary

7:40-8:20 pm Adult Bible Study – Chapel

Sunday, April 3 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:30 am Sunday School – Congregation-wide discussion

10:30 am Worship Service

2:00 pm Linda Deasy Memorial Service

4:00 pm Worship at Bethesda Home with Pastor Lois

COMING EVENTS

Apr 2 MCC Bohne Berroggi Making – Moundridge (sign up online)

Apr 8-9 Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale – Hutchinson

Apr 10 Palm Sunday

Apr 11 Goessel Blood Drive (see announcement sheet for details)

Apr 14 Maundy Thursday Service

Apr 15 Good Friday

Apr 17 Easter Sunday

Apr 22 Senior Coffee

Apr 24 Mennonite Education Sunday

Junior High Noon Fundraiser at Goessel High School, Camp 412

--Today's the day! (March 27) Take your dinner home and help support our students going to Mennonite colleges. Dinners will be at both doors. Donations gratefully accepted!

--The one-sheet summary of Sunday school class discussions, put together by the Vision Team is available in the lobbies. We hope Sunday school classes have had an opportunity to review that summary. We invite everyone to come next Sunday, **April 3**, prepared to listen and share. If

there is anything else you would like to add for the Vision Team to consider as we move forward with *Being The Church Together*, we're happy to hear it! Coffee, light refreshments and discussion will be in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30.

--**The Board of Deacons will host a soup and bread supper on Maundy Thursday** (April 14) as we remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples. This event, which will include singing, scripture, prayer and taking communion together, and will be held in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 6:30. Please sign up on either bulletin board by Sunday, April 10.

--**Easter lily plants may be shared on Easter Sunday** morning in memory of a loved one. These plants will be part of the Easter display in the sanctuary on April 17. Please call or email the church office by Tuesday, April 12, with the name of the loved one that you are remembering.

--**The children's midweek staff will be hosting a closing celebration party on Wednesday, March 30**, with a hayrack ride out to John and Jenny Fast's pasture. Supper and outdoor activities will be part of the fun! Please meet the hayracks at 6:15 pm at the church's southeast drive from 130th. We will return around 7:45-8:00 pm. **Remember to bring your signed consent form and wear warm clothes and closed-toe shoes.** If the weather is inclement, the supper and activities will be moved indoors to the Fellowship Hall/Foundation Room and will take place at the regular meeting time of 6:30-7:30 pm. We look forward to a great time together!

--**Mennonite Church USA is holding a Special Session of the Delegate Assembly in Kansas City on May 27-30.** It is not being held in conjunction with a convention. If you would like to be considered as a delegate, please contact John Fast, moderator, by April 10. Church Council will discern the delegates to represent our church. We hope to appoint delegates soon so they can begin preparing by reading materials and participating in webinars and education sessions about the resolutions to be presented. Delegate resources for the Special Session can be found at <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/special-delegate-session-22/>. Financial assistance for delegates is available from our church.

--I experienced how important our church families are during difficult times. Thank you for your many prayers, telephone calls, cards and concerns during my extended hospital stay. A special thank you to Pastors Caleb and Lois for their frequent visits, especially during the days in critical care. These visits were a tremendous support. ~Leona Schroeder

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.
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