

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIII

April 3, 2022

No. 14



Welcome to our service of worship at Alexanderwohl! On this fifth Sunday of Lent, we will hear the story of Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus. In a lavish act of love she anointed Jesus' feet with expensive perfume. Mary showed a deep understanding of God's extravagant love and grace. She didn't try to put it into words; she merely acted it out.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music

Rondo Giocoso ~Wagner

Jared Janzen

Welcome

Karl Brubaker

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Invocation+

Leader: Together we seek the way of God,

People: who makes a way in the sea and provides rivers in the desert.

Leader: God fills our lives with love and beauty as sweet fragrance fills the air.

People: We live in God's abundance!

Leader: So let us laugh and shout for joy

All: as we worship God together.

***Gathering Hymn**

We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer

VT 34

Peace Prayer

Rosi Reimer

Children's Story

Eric Schrag

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 believing the myth of scarcity. Help us live into your abundance.

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

Seasons Turn ~Keesecker

Chancel Choir

Morning Prayer

Pastor Caleb

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

First Fruits Giving

Offertory

Arioso ~Handel

Jared Janzen

***Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Caleb

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

John 12:1-8

Karl Brubaker

Message

"Discipleship Defined"

Pastor Lois Harder

Song of Response

Come, Ye Disconsolate

VT 643

Responding to the Gospel (Open sharing)

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Sending Song

My Hope Is Built

VT 621

***Benediction**

Pastor Lois

***Postlude**

Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord ~Lau

Jared Janzen

*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 – Tim and Judy Goertzen

South – Myron and Ann Hiebert

Visual Arts: LaNae Unruh

Nursery Staff: Susan Nafziger, Emma Schroeder, Beth Yoder

Worship Technology: Myron Goertzen, Levi Schrag, Delton Voth, Steve Unruh

March 27 Attendance: 140 In person, 7 Zoom households

Questions for Reflection – John 12:1-8

1. To which of the characters in this story do you relate most closely?
2. Was there anything new or different that you heard in the story this morning that might encourage you on your discipleship path?

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 is Palm | Passion Sunday and will be led by our youth. Our selected scripture verses will be from Luke 22:14 – 23:56.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Karis (Janzen), Joel and Jackson Hill and Sheri and Marlin as they anticipate the birth of baby Ezekiel in Kansas City tomorrow.
- ❖ We continue to pray for Di and Lee Suderman. Di returned from the Rehab facility to their home at 21 Lakewood Circle, N. Newton on Friday. She'll receive home health and ongoing physical and occupational therapy. They hope to move to Assisted Living at Kidron-Bethel soon but don't know when yet.
- ❖ We offer prayers for all who are grieving losses of loved ones or friends – knowing that grief doesn't go away, but changes and goes with us throughout our lives.
- ❖ We pray for those in Ukraine, in Russia, in other parts of the world where war and violence are dealing deadly blows to those who live there.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, April 4

2:00 pm Prayer Team

5:30 pm Board of Christian Education

Tuesday, April 5

9:30 am Staff Meeting

6:30 pm Children's Ministry Team

Wednesday, April 6

6:45–8:00 pm High School Youth

7:00-7:45 pm Adult Bible Study

NO Chancel Choir Rehearsal

7:00 pm Board of Trustees

Friday & Saturday, April 8 & 9

MCC Sale - Hutchinson

Sunday, April 10 – Palm Sunday

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

COMING EVENTS

- Apr 11 Goessel Blood Drive (see announcement sheet for details)
- Apr 14 Maundy Thursday Service
- Apr 15 Good Friday
- Apr 17 Easter Sunday
Sunrise Service on the east church yard at 6:45 am. Coffee and rolls served afterwards near the Shelter House
- Apr 22 Senior Coffee, 2:00 pm
- Apr 24 Mennonite Education Sunday
Junior High Noon Fundraiser at Goessel High School, Camp 412
- Apr 28 VBS Staff Night – Fellowship Hall

--**Today during Sunday School** we invite everyone to come prepared to listen and share on *Being The Church Together*. Coffee, donuts 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 pm. 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.

--Mennonite Church USA is holding a Special Session of the Delegate Assembly in Kansas City on May 27-30. If you would like to be considered as a delegate, please contact John Fast, moderator, by April 10. Financial assistance for delegates is available from our church.

--Thank you for your generous support of our College Scholarship Fund Raiser last Sunday. Your contributions totaled \$3,340 and are greatly appreciated. ~MCSMT Committee

Seasons Turn by Delores Dufner, OSB

Seasons turn, austere to tender, dying leaves to final splendor,
Barren trees to greening glory -- nature tells the human story:

Though the darkness overtake us, God will not, will not forsake us.
Eyes of love shall still behold us, arms of mercy yet enfold us.

Flesh to dust and joy to weeping -- death, a myst'ry, silence keeping.
Faith, by doubts and questions taunted, treasures nature's truth, undaunted:
(refrain)

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.
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Deacons:
Marilyn Unruh
Flaming
Ruth Goertzen
Jim Schmidt
Kris Schmucker
Sandy Banman