

# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIII

August 7, 2022

No. 32

## Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective



**Welcome to Alexanderwohl!** What do Christians believe? What does our church believe? How does belief relate to how we encounter God, follow Jesus or belong in the church? What if we disagree? Over the next weeks, the *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective* is a starting point for these questions, beginning with the teachings about God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**Gathering**

*Aria Tranquillo* by Vivaldi ~arr. Norris  
*Allegro* by Vivaldi ~arr. Norris

Jared Janzen

**Welcome**

Pastor Caleb Yoder

## Opportunities for Celebration and Service

### Call to Worship and Invocation

(Psalm 104, selected verses, CEB)

Leader: Let my whole being bless the LORD! LORD my God, how fantastic you are! You are clothed in glory and grandeur!

**People: You build your lofty house on the waters; you make the clouds your chariot, going around on the wings of the wind.**

Leader: The birds in the sky make their home, chirping loudly in the trees. From your lofty house, you water the mountains.

**People: The earth is filled full by the fruit of what you've done.**

Leader: You make grass grow for cattle; you make plants for human farming in order to get food from the ground.

**All: LORD, you have done so many things! You made them all so wisely! The earth is full of your creations!**

**Peace Prayer+**

Ann Hiebert

**\*Gathering Hymn**

*Holy God, We Praise Thy Name* (v. 1, 2, 4) VT 126

**Children's Story**

Suzanne Meier

**Hymn of Praise**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* (v. 1-3) VT 98

**Sharing from our WDC delegates**

Pastor Caleb, Delton and Janice Voth

**Morning Prayer**

Marilyn Unruh Flaming

**Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings**

First Fruits Giving

**Offertory**

*Bourree* by Telemann ~arr. Wolff

Jared Janzen

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Caleb

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Exodus 34:5-6, Colossians 1:15-20, John 14:15-17 Tammy Flaming
<b>Message</b>	"We believe..." Pastor Caleb
<b>Song of Response</b>	<i>Christ, We Do All Adore Thee</i> VT 138
<b>Responding to the Gospel</b>	(Open sharing)

## SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

<b>*Song of Sending</b>	<i>We Will Follow</i>	Lizzie Schmucker, djembe   VT 566
<b>*Benediction</b>		Pastor Caleb
<b>*Postlude</b>	<i>Allegro by Corelli</i> ~arr. Wolff	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.

**Song Leader:** Marcia Brubaker

**Greeters:** North – Craig and Jody Schmidt  
South – Arlin and Maretta Buller

**Visual Arts:** Shari Wiens

**Nursery Staff:** Chrystiana Miller, Jayley Schmidt, Nicole Hein

**Worship Technology:** Myron Goertzen, Lynel Unrau, Delton Voth

**July 31 Attendance:** Sunday School – 79; Worship --101 In person, 8 Zoom households

**July 31 Offering:** Sunday School - \$27.41; Worship - \$1,930.00

### Summary Statements from the *Confession of Faith ++*

1. We believe that **God** exists and is pleased with all who draw near by faith. We worship the one holy and loving God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit eternally. God has created all things visible and invisible, has brought salvation and new life to humanity through Jesus Christ, and continues to sustain the church and all things until the end of the age.
2. We believe in **Jesus Christ**, the Word of God become flesh. He is the Savior of the world, who has delivered us from the dominion of sin and reconciled us to God by his death on a cross. He was declared to be Son of God by his resurrection from the dead. He is the head of the church, the exalted Lord, the Lamb who was slain, coming again to reign with God in glory.
3. We believe in the **Holy Spirit**, the eternal Spirit of God, who dwelled in Jesus Christ, who empowers the church, who is the source of our life in Christ, and who is poured out on those who believe as the guarantee of redemption.

### Questions for Reflection

1. Why is it hard to talk about our beliefs? How do your beliefs impact the way you live?
2. What's the balance between clear language about who God is and allowing God to be mystery? What images, metaphors, or stories of God do you connect with most?
3. What about Jesus, or his life, teaching, cross, and resurrection, do you find most compelling?

Next Sunday, we will continue our series from the *Confession of Faith*, with the topics of Scripture and Creation & Divine Providence. Pastor Caleb will preach from 2 Timothy 3:14-17 and Psalm 19:1-6.

++ You can find the entire text of the *Confession of Faith* here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/who-are-mennonites/what-we-believe/confession-of-faith/>

There is a link to purchase a print copy, or you can let the office know if you would like a print copy.

## *Praying for our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We thank God for Phyllis Nickel as she celebrated her 90th birthday yesterday (August 6). Happy birthday, Phyllis! We pray God's blessings on you.
- ❖ We pray for Camp MennoScah as it concludes summer youth camps, and we give thanks for WDC campers, leaders, volunteers and supporters who have participated in camp this summer.
- ❖ We pray for all who are recovering from Covid or other illnesses. We pray for health and enjoyment of this time of summer.
- ❖ We pray for healing and recovery for Gene Hastings who has been hospitalized this week.
- ❖ We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine where the tragedy of war continues and many people are displaced from their homes.

### THIS WEEK...

#### **Monday, August 8**

2:00 pm Prayer Team

7:00 pm Church Council

#### **Tuesday, August 9**

9:30 am Staff Meeting

#### **Thursday, August 11**

6:45 pm Children's Ministry Team – Conference Room

#### **Sunday, August 14**

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

## COMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Aug 19 Senior Coffee at 10:00 am – Chris Allen, Outreach Coordinator for Health Ministries will join us to discuss their services right here in Goessel!
- Aug 24 Health Ministries Mobile Unit in Goessel, 1:30 – 4:30 pm
- Sept 5 Church Offices Closed for Labor Day
- Sept 11 Outdoor Concert sponsored by Board of Mission and Service on the church yard. Music by Kevin Gaeddert, Eric Schrag, and The Flannelbacks.
- Sept 16 Senior Coffee – Bring your Collections 2.0. We had such a good time learning about each other's collections we're going to do it again!
- Sept 18 Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk, 1:30 pm, begins at Tabor Mennonite Church
- Sept 24-25 AMC Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The New Hope Shelter is running low on their supply of toilet paper and paper napkins.** If you are able to make a donation this week they would be grateful. Place items in the box in the south lobby. Thank you!

**Would you like to receive email updates from the Alexanderwohl Peace Committee?** Receiving these emails would not obligate you to anything! It would simply be a way of staying informed and being able to participate in activities or discussions. Please let Pastor Lois know if you would like to be added to the Peace Committee email list.

**Pastor Lois is on vacation** August 5-11.

**Garden Produce** exchange is in the south lobby. Check it out.

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