

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIII

October 16, 2022

No. 42



Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

Jesus taught in parables to describe life in God's reign and how we might discover that life. Today we consider three related parables assuring us that God's reign is already present when you know what you're looking for.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering *Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now* ~ Manz Marcia Brubaker
Simple Gifts ~ Held
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come! ~ Callahan

Welcome Laura Voth

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Rosebud Blessing for Cody John Unrau, son of Laura and Jared Unrau

Call to Worship and Invocation+ (Psalm 139:1-4, 7-10, 23-24)

L: You have searched me, LORD, and you know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

**P: You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.**

L: Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely.

P: Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

L: If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,
even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

**P: Search me, God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.**

L: See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

***Song of Invocation** *Life-giver, Maker, God of All* VT 38

Children's Story Ann Hiebert

***Song of Welcome** *Mountain of God* VT 11

Morning Prayer Pastor Lois Harder

Worship Music *What Is the World Like* [VT 298] Chancel Choir

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings First Fruits Giving

Offertory *For The Beauty of the Earth* ~ Leavitt Marcia Brubaker

***Prayer of Dedication** Pastor Caleb Yoder

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading	Matthew 13:24-43	Laura Voth
Message	<i>"Living with weeds"</i>	Pastor Caleb
Song of Response	<i>Come, Ye Thankful People</i>	VT 123
Responding to the Gospel	<i>(open sharing)</i>	

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Song of Sending	<i>Open My Eyes</i>	VT 732
*Benediction		Pastor Caleb
*Postlude		Marcia Brubaker

*All who are able are invited to stand.

+ The peace lamp is a visual reminder that we follow Jesus the Prince of Peace and believe in uncertain times that God's shalom will prevail.

Song Leader: Renae Peters

Greeters: North – Jim & Mary Schmidt; South – Dan Bergen

Visual Arts: Tina Schrag

Nursery Staff: Maryanne Esau, Malorie Schroeder

Worship Technology: Dwight J. Flaming, Lynel Unrau, Delton Voth

October 9 Attendance: Sunday School – 92; Worship -111 in person, 11 Zoom households

October 9 Offering: Sunday School – \$56.75; First Fruits – \$8,539.82

Questions for Reflection

1. What common threads do you hear in these parables?
2. What do these parables mean for how we are invited to live in the present?
3. How can we live with the "weeds" or imperfections of life? How can we acknowledge, live with, or transform the "weeds" within ourselves?

Next Sunday, we continue with the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14). Pastor Caleb will preach.

Praying for our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Braxton Church as he and Amanda are in Boston this weekend for his treatments. We're grateful for safe travel and we ask for guidance and wisdom for Braxton's physicians. We pray for Kelsey and Natalie here at home.
- ❖ We are grateful for healing that has happened for Myron Goertzen this past week as he's been hospitalized. We pray for continued healing for Myron and wisdom for the doctors.

- ❖ We pray for all who are sowing and/or harvesting. We pray for safety in the fields and on the roads and we give thanks for crops that have been gathered.
- ❖ We pray for safety and positive experiences for our students in fall extracurricular activities.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 16

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Monday, October 17

7:30 pm – Board of Worship

Tuesday, October 18

4:30 pm – Prayer Team

Wednesday, October 19

Midweek Activities

Thursday, October 20

1:30-4:30 pm – HMC Mobile Unit at Goessel Church parking lot

Friday, October 21

10:00 – Senior Coffee – Deputy Kaylan Miles from the Marion Co. Sheriff's Office will bring us a presentation on scams.

Sunday, October 23

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship and Congregational Meeting to renew pastoral calls for Pastors Caleb and Lois

5:00 pm – Mentor/Mentee Olympics

COMING EVENTS

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| Oct 26 | Children's Midweek Fall Harvest Party |
| Oct 28 | Annual MCC relief meat canning –see announcement |
| Oct 30 | noon – Mennonite College Student Ministry fundraiser takeout meal – see announcement |
| Oct 30 | 7 pm – Professor Dwight Krehbiel - see announcement |
| Nov 6 | 5:30-6:30 pm – Bethesda's Annual Pillars drive through meal |
| Nov 13 | 5-6:30 pm – Goessel Community Thanksgiving Meal |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Bible Study led by Pastor Caleb will continue this Wednesday, as we delve deeply into one of Jesus' parables. We will gather in the conference room at 7:50, just after the dismissal of choir. You may also join on Zoom.

Mentor/Mentee Olympics will be happening on Sunday, October 23, at 5 pm. Please reserve the date! Meet in the Fellowship Hall for the light competition. Dress casually; supper is included!

Gifts Discernment Response Forms – The Gifts Facilitating Committee is seeking your input to discern the gifts of persons in the congregation to serve on our various Boards. The Discernment of Congregational Leadership forms were placed in church mailboxes last Sunday. Thank you for prayerfully completing the forms and placing them in the designated boxes in the church lobby by Sunday, October 23.

MCC Meat Canning will be October 28. Please consider helping. There is a sign up sheet in the South lobby with the work schedule. You may contribute through the Church offering or make your check payable to MCC, list Hillsboro Area Meat Canning in the memo. Checks may be sent to: Ken Koslowsky, 127 North Main Street, Hillsboro, Ks 67063

Mennonite College Student Ministry Fundraiser Meal – October 30 is your day to take home a delicious meal and give to a good cause! We have 8 students at Mennonite colleges this year and we provide scholarships to them each semester. Plan to give generously, and enjoy your meal!

Climate Change-Earth Care presentation – The AMC Peace Committee invites you! Professor Dwight Krehbiel of Bethel College, will bring a presentation at Alexanderwohl on climate changes and Earth care. Zach Kennell, student of Dr. Krehbiel, will share about his senior project on the ENROADS climate simulator. Sunday evening, October 30 at 7:00 pm.

Bethesda Pillars Banquet – November 6 at Tabor Mennonite Church – Drive Thru event from 5:30pm – 6:30pm. A homemade, delicious meal will be cooked by Elaine Unruh, Lynette Duerksen and Laura Unrau. All proceeds will go towards new linens and towels for the residents. Our goal is to raise 10% more than we did last year! Help us reach \$61,000!! Call 620-367-2291 for reservations. Reservation deadline is October 28. Thanks for your support of Bethesda Home! For more information, please see the flyer on the bulletin board. Thanks!