

# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIII

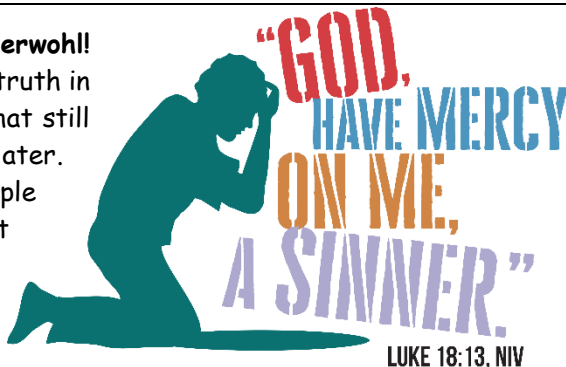
October 23, 2022

No. 43

## Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

Jesus taught profound truth in the form of parables that still challenge us centuries later.

Today we consider a simple parable about what it means to have humility and be justified in God's sight.



## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

### Gathering

*Assurance* ~Beck  
*This Is My Father's World* ~Payne  
*Praise Him! Praise Him!* ~McDonald

Mary Schmidt

### Welcome

Pastor Caleb Yoder

### Opportunities for Celebration and Service

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

### Call to Worship and Invocation+

(adapted from Psalm 51)

L: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion blot out our transgressions.

### P: Wash away all our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin.

L: Our sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

### P: Create in us a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within us.

L: Restore to us the joy of your salvation  
and grant us a willing spirit, to sustain us.

**All: Open our lips, Lord, and our mouths will declare your praise!**

### \*Gathering Hymn

*The Love of God*

VT 162

### Children's Story

Bonnie Gaeddert

### Morning Prayer

Pastor Lois Harder

### Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

First Fruits Giving

*Offertory* *When He Cometh* ~Shackley

Mary Schmidt

\*Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Lois

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### Scripture Reading

Luke 18:9-14

Eddie Gaeddert

### \*Song of Confession

*Create in Me a Clean Heart* (v. 1, 3, 4) VT 141

### Message

*"Who's righteous now?"*

Pastor Caleb

**SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**Congregational Meeting – Worshipful Work** John Fast

**\*Song of Sending** *The Lord Lift You Up* VT 832

**\*Benediction** Marilyn Unruh Flaming

**\*Postlude** Mary Schmidt

\*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:** Braden Unruh

**Greeters:** North – John & Jenny Fast; South – Karl & Marcia Brubaker

**Visual Arts:** Tina Schrag

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

**Worship Technology:** Steve Unruh, Colby Nafziger, Delton Voth

**October 16 Attendance:** Sunday School – 96; Worship -- 122 in person, 8 Zoom households, 6 YouTube views

**October 16 Offering:** Sunday School – \$35.41; First Fruits – \$5,487.90

**Questions for Reflection**

1. How are you like the tax collector? How are you (we) like the Pharisee?
2. What does it really mean to be "justified" or considered "righteous"?
3. If Jesus told this parable today, who might he have picked to be the characters?
4. How is humility and honesty about our shortcomings different than despising ourselves or carrying deep shame?

Next Sunday, we continue with the parable of the Widow and the Unjust Judge (Luke 18:1-8). Pastor Lois will preach.

***Praying for our Congregation and Beyond***

- ❖ We give thanks for the mentor ministry and pray for mentor pairs as they build relationships.
- ❖ We pray for Marvin Voth who fell on Friday morning and broke his leg.
- ❖ We give thanks for Myron Goertzen's recovery after hospitalization and pray that he might continue to gain strength.
- ❖ We pray for spiritual growth and knowledge of God's love for all children and youth involved in our Wednesday night activities.
- ❖ We pray for and remember the family and friends of Angela Base who passed away on Wednesday, August 12, following a long battle with a brain tumor. Angela is a niece of Lavina Schroeder.

## THIS WEEK

### Sunday, October 23

9:30 am – Sunday School

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

5:00 pm – Mentor/Mentee Olympics – Fellowship Hall

### Monday, October 24

6:30 pm – Children's Ministry Team

### Tuesday, October 25

9:30 am – Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, October 26

Midweek Activities – Children's Fall Harvest Party (see announcement)

### Friday, October 28

9:30–5:30 – MCC Meat Canning

### Sunday, October 30

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Noon – Mennonite College Student Ministry fundraiser takeout meal

7:00 pm – Climate Change-Earth Care presentation – Dwight Krehbiel

## COMING EVENTS

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 Lois 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.

**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 on October 9. Thank you for prayerfully completing the forms and placing them in the designated boxes in the church lobby by this Sunday, October 23.

**The children's and junior high midweek classes will be joining for a fun time together at our Fall Harvest Party** on Wednesday, October 26, from 6:30-7:45 pm. Activities will feature a hayrack ride in the country, singing around a campfire, and making s'mores. Each child must bring a signed permission slip to participate. Extra forms are available in the Sunday school office. Children will meet and be dismissed from their regular class locations: 3s, 4s, Kindergarten—Rm #15, 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grades—Foundation Room, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades—Shelter House. Please have your child dress warmly! If you have questions, contact Susan, Nicole, Aileen, Kevin or Bonnie.

**MCC Meat Canning** will be Friday, 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.

**“BUCKET OF THANKS”** ... Let's show our gratitude to God and help give hope to others by participating in MCC's "Bucket of Thanks." The Board of Mission and Service is encouraging the Alexanderwohl congregation to bring essential hygiene items (as many or as few as you want) to church by Sunday, November 20. MCC anticipates needing approximately 24,000 relief kits in the coming year. The goal for this Thanksgiving season is 1800 kits. Relief kits will be sent to places such as Ukraine, Iraq, and Syria. Working through MCC is a terrific intergenerational project; our children's Sunday school classes are gathering items and offerings this fall for school kits! See the list of items on the announcement sheet or bulletin boards.

**Bethesda Pillars Banquet – November 6 at Tabor Mennonite Church – Drive Thru event from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm.** 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!

**Community Thanksgiving Dinner!** The Goessel Ministerial Alliance is planning a sit-down Thanksgiving Dinner in the Elementary school gym on **Sunday, November 13 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.** It takes a community to make a community dinner happen! Please check the church bulletin board for food sign ups as well as sign ups to help with other tasks. If you're donating a turkey or ham, they're needed by Sunday, November 6.