



**Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings** First Fruits Giving  
**Offertory** *This Is My Father's World* ~Dalton Mary Schmidt  
**\*Song of Dedication** *In My Life, Lord* VT 754

### HEARING GOD'S WORD

**Scripture Readings** Mark 12:41-44; 2 Corinthians 8:1-14 Megan Duerksen  
**Message** "The widow's mite, the goal is equality" Pastor Lois  
**Song of Response** *Beauty for Brokenness* VT 712  
**Responding to the Gospel** (open sharing)

### SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**\*Sending Song** *God, Whose Giving* VT 745  
**\*Benediction** Pastor Lois  
**\*Postlude** *Fanfare* ~Otterstad Mary Schmidt

\*You are invited to stand in body or in spirit.

+ 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.

This series uses the Everence curriculum by Beryl Jantzi, "But it's only a story: What Jesus' stories teach us about money," adapted in *Leader* Spring 2020. See [everence.com/resources/stewardship-education](https://www.everence.com/resources/stewardship-education)

**Song Leader:** Kyle Unruh

**Greeters:** North – Gary Lyndaker and Darla Banman  
South – Steve Goertzen and Rosi Reimer

**Visual Arts:** Anita Boese

**Nursery Staff:** Maryanne Esau, Myra Peters, Kim Voth

**Worship Technology:** DJ Flaming, Colby Nafziger, Delton Voth

**February 12 Attendance:** Sunday School – 109; Worship -- 131 in person, 9 Zoom households

**February 12 Offering:** Sunday School -- \$41.84; First Fruits – \$6,502.55

**Questions for Reflection** (Mark 12:41-44 and 2 Corinthians 8:1-14)

1. Identify a time when you were very motivated to give. Why were you so motivated?
2. Have you ever been the recipient of a generous gift?
3. What principles or guidelines for giving have you found helpful?

**Next Sunday** is the first Sunday of Lent. Pastor Caleb will preach from Matthew 4:1-11 (Jesus tempted in the desert). We will take Communion together as we begin the journey with Jesus to the cross. Start the season with receiving ashes as a sign of humility on Ash Wednesday.

## *Praying for our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We're grateful for those who use their time and energies to serve on boards and committees. We ask for God's blessing this week on the

- Board of Worship as they plan and prepare our worship services.
- ❖ We hold in prayer the family of Jim Dunn, former pastor at Alexanderwohl, who passed away February 13. A memorial service is planned for April 1 at Whitestone Mennonite Church.
- ❖ We're grateful for the strong and committed leadership of Laura Unrau and Michelle Unruh for Camp 412 since 2016! We pray for guidance and wisdom as new leaders are sought for this leadership role.
- ❖ O God, we continue to pray for those suffering from the violence in Ukraine; may your presence be a source of comfort and wisdom as the war rages on.
- ❖ As we continue to hear stories of search and rescue efforts in Turkey and Syria, we pray for those who have survived, that the world would respond with compassion and generosity. We pray especially for Syrian refugees who have been displaced multiple times in their search for safety and peace.
- ❖ We pray for family and loved ones who have been killed or injured in any of the 72 mass shootings that have occurred in 2023. May their cries of grief and anguish be heard and honored.
- ❖ Grant health and well being, O God, as we continue through these winter weeks with the presence of viruses and other illnesses in our community.

## **THIS WEEK**

### **Sunday, February 19**

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

### **Monday, February 20**

7:00 pm – Mennonite College Student Ministry Team Meeting

### **Tuesday, February 21**

9:30 am – Staff Meeting

7:00 pm – Board of Worship (postponed)

### **Wednesday, February 22**

5:45 pm – Fellowship Meal

6:45–7:15 pm – Ash Wednesday service

Midweek Activities

### **Thursday, February 23**

5:30 pm – Board of Deacons

### **Sunday, February 26**

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship with observance of Communion

## **COMING EVENTS**

- Mar 1-4    Serve at New Hope Shelter
- Mar 4     Leadership Retreat
- Mar 5     JH Fundraiser Meal for Camp Tawakoni – High School
- Mar 6-8   MCC Comforter Blitz
- Apr 9     Easter Sunday
- Apr 14-15 Kansas MCC Sale – Hutchinson

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Caleb and his family are away this weekend (February 17-20).

**We are excited to announce plans for our upcoming Leadership Retreat. This retreat will occur on Saturday, March 4, 8:30-1:30.** We have invited Keith Harder, presenting "Curious, Clear, Calm, Connected: A Systems Approach to Congregational Life." The latter half of the retreat will be devoted to the visioning process. All who have interest in the direction of our church's ministries are invited to come. We especially encourage those serving on the church boards to attend. Please RSVP to Ruth by February 27 as we will need to know a number for lunch. John Fast, Council Chair

### **Registration for Summer Camps is Now Open!**

The Board of Education at Alexanderwohl is offering a \$100.00 scholarship to each camper who calls Alexanderwohl their home congregation. This is for all children Grade 3 – Grade 12 (fall of 2023).

Register at [www.campmennosch.org](http://www.campmennosch.org) for Camp Mennoscah (look for the **Register on Line** button at the top of the page) and [www.RMMC.org](http://www.RMMC.org) for Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. As soon as you have your child(ren) registered and have received your confirmation from camp, let the church office know what dates your child(ren) will be attending camp. You will be reimbursed \$100.00 per child from the Board of Education. We would also like to know if you are planning to volunteer as a director, cook, counselor, nurse to other staff position and the dates you will be volunteering. If you have questions, please contact Janine Peters at [petersjd@mtelco.net](mailto:petersjd@mtelco.net) or 316-284-4170. Early registration deadline is March 1.

**If you found a note from one of the midweek kids** in a *Voices Together* hymnal, please write back and turn in your note to the church office by the end of February. Thank you.

**Camp 412 Fundraiser Meal** -- In order to help cover the costs of camp, we will be having a **fundraiser meal on March 5** at Goessel High School. We will be serving pancakes, sausage, applesauce and dessert beginning at 11:30. The meal is by donation with \$8 per person being suggested. We're excited to be able to go to camp again and appreciate your support!

**Mennonite Central Committee is accepting donations to support people affected by the February 6 earthquake in Türkiye (Turkey) and Syria.** MCC is working with long-term partners in Aleppo and surrounding areas to provide emergency food, shelter, hygiene, sanitation supplies and trauma counseling. In a country already vulnerable from years of conflict, this was a devastating blow. You can share God's love and compassion with our global neighbors by providing a gift online at [mcc.org/earthquake](http://mcc.org/earthquake), by calling (888) 563-4676 or by sending a check earmarked for "Syria and Türkiye earthquake" to MCC, PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.