

# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXX

February 25, 2024

No. 8

*He asked them,*

**“But  
who  
do you  
say  
that I  
am?”**

*Mark 8:29, NRSV*



## Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

This second Sunday of Lent we welcome Open Road, a Tenor Bass Ensemble from Bethel College to lead us in worship, along with participation from our high school youth. In Mark 8 we find Jesus teaching, performing miracles and coaching his disciples - including us.

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

### Gathering Music

*Here I Am, Lord ~Carter*

Jason Peters

*Christians, We Have Met to Worship ~Hayes*

### Welcome

Denise Duerksen

### Opportunities for Celebration and Service

### Call to Worship and Opening Prayer+

Based on Psalm 22:23-31

Youth: Come, you who seek God, proclaim God's glory!

**Cong: All you descendants of Jacob and Rachel,**

Youth: come.

**Cong: All who are isolated and feel alone,**

Youth: come.

**Cong: All who are hungry and all who wander,**

Youth: come.

**Cong: Come, from all the ends of the earth.**

**All: Come, you who seek God, proclaim God's glory, and walk in faith.**

### \*Gathering Hymns

*Praise with Joy the World's Creator*

VT 428

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

VT 419

### Children's Story

Aileen Esau

### Morning Prayer

Pastor Lois Harder

### Worship Music

*Rise Up, O Men of God ~Jennings*

Open Road

*Mornin' Train ~arr. Nickel*

*Poor Man Lazarus ~arr. Hairston*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### Scripture

Mark 8:1-38

Youth

# Prayer of Confession

One: Trustworthy God, we want to live with faith,  
yet we worry there will not be enough.  
We want to believe in your promises,  
yet we lose hope.  
We want to follow you,  
but sometimes the road is too hard.

**Many: We confess before you our unbelief, our worry, our hopelessness.**

One: Shape us into a people who will live in faith.  
Strengthen us so we can deny ourselves, take up your cross, and follow you.

**All: In your grace, Lord, give us faith to believe that you will call into existence the things that do not yet exist. Amen.**

## Song of Response

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

VT 540

## Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

**Offertory** *I Bind My Heart to Thee* ~arr. Zercher

Open Road

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Lois

## SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**\*Song of Sending** *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

VT 443

**\*Benediction** *Yes, Indeed!* ~arr. Moon

Open Road

**\*Postlude** *Somlandela (We Will Follow)* (VT 566)

Jason Peters

\*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.

*Leader Worship Resources* will be used throughout the Lenten season.

**Open Road Members:** Phillip Balzer – Freeman, SD; Seth Balzer – Freeman, SD; Eli Regier – Newton, KS; Benjamin Rudeen – Osage City, KS; Jacob Schrag – Goessel, KS; Timothy Schrag – Goessel, KS; Chris Strecker – Goessel, KS; Dylan Yoder – Hutchinson, KS

**Song Leader:** Kyle Unruh

**Greeters:** North – Steve and Sandy Banman  
South – Kevin and Bonnie Gaeddert

**Visual Arts:** LaNae Unruh

**Nursery Staff:** Kim Voth, Jayley Schmidt

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

**February 18 Attendance:** Sunday School – 106; Worship -- 153 in person; 13 Zoom Households

**February 18 Offering:** Sunday School -- \$19.95; First Fruits – \$8,528.64

**Next Sunday is the third Sunday of Lent.** We continue our journey toward Jerusalem and the cross as Pastor Luann brings the message from John 2:13-22 where Jesus “turns the tables” on accessing the temple and ultimately God.

## *Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We are grateful, God, for the ways your Holy Spirit moves and guides - through thoughtful words and actions, in the beauty of creation, in tangible and intangible ways. Help us to be alert and aware so we notice The Spirit in our lives.
- ❖ Thank you for healing for those who've been ill and are recovering. We pray for continued healing and wellness for those who are experiencing illness in body, mind or spirit.
- ❖ Bless the peacemakers of this world; continue to inspire and encourage their work.

*+This week pray for: Anita Boese, Brendon, Susan and Colby Nafziger, Edwin Reimer, Mark and Janelle Stockman, Harold and Jennifer Stultz, Austin and Lindsey Unruh family, Melvin and Barbara Wedel*

## **THIS WEEK**

### **Sunday, February 25** – Second Sunday of Lent

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Noon Potluck with Open Road and guests

### **Monday, February 26**

4:00 pm – Prayer Team

### **Tuesday, February 27**

9:15 am – Staff Meeting

5:30 pm – Board of Worship

### **Wednesday, February 28**

5:45 pm – Fellowship Meal Served

Midweek Activities

### **Sunday, March 3** – Third Sunday of Lent

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

11:30-12:30 – JH Camp 412 Fundraiser at the HS Cafeteria

4:00-5:30 pm – Exploring the Immigration System, Fellowship Hall

## **COMING EVENTS**

Mar 4-6	MCC Comforter Blitz, Yoder
Mar 13	No Midweek – Spring Break
Mar 20	Final Midweek Session
Mar 24	Palm Sunday
Mar 28	Maundy Thursday
Mar 29	Good Friday
Mar 31	Easter

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Camp 412 fundraiser is coming up next Sunday, March 3.** Chili, cinnamon rolls, relishes, and dessert will be served from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in the Goessel High School Cafeteria. This is our one and only fundraiser for the year, and donations will be gratefully accepted to help offset camp expenses and for camp scholarships. We hope you will join us!

**Any current 7th or 8th graders in the area interested in a fun weekend out in nature with good food and fun, we will be traveling to Camp Tawakoni on May 24 through the 27th for Camp 412.** This has been a long time tradition and we are excited to keep this going! We hope you can make it. More details will be sent out as we get closer to the date.

### Exploring The Immigration System

The Peace Team will lead four Sunday afternoon sessions beginning on March 3<sup>rd</sup> in which we will explore and discuss various aspects of immigration and migration. The format of the first three sessions will be to view two 10 to 15-minute videos, each followed by an open discussion. The legal, human, and structural challenges of our national immigration system are complex and frustrating. This series is an attempt to more fully understand what is really happening, in hopes that our attitudes and actions will be most appropriate. Each session will be from 4:00 – 5:30 pm with faspa.

**On March 6, the Elem., JH, and HS Midweek classes will be working on several joint service projects,** one of which is making care packages for our college students as they prepare for finals season. We are asking for donations of money and shoe boxes. Money will be used for purchasing snacks, gas gift cards, and other goodies. If you would like to contribute, students will be in each lobby February 25. Shoeboxes can be placed in Sunday School Room #14. Thank you for your support!

**Registration for Summer Camps Are Now Open --** The Bd of Ed is offering a \$125 scholarship to each camper who calls Alexanderwohl their home congregation. This is for all children Grade 3 – Grade 12 (fall of 2024). 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. When you have your child(ren) registered and have received your confirmation from camp, let the church office or Janine know what dates your child(ren) will be attending. You will then be reimbursed \$125 per child. We would also like to know if you are planning to volunteer in any staff position and the dates. If you have questions, contact Janine Peters at [petersjd@mtelco.net](mailto:petersjd@mtelco.net) or 316-284-4170.

**If you have previous years Church Yearbooks that you no longer want,** please bring them to church and put them in the box outside the office door. We can re-use the bindings and will recycle the pages. Thank you!