

# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXX

March 10, 2024

No. 10

## The Wisdom of Abigail



## Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

Today is the fourth Sunday in the season of Lent. We welcome Peter Goerzen as he brings the message this morning - the story of Abigail and her peacemaking skills. Peter will also bring greetings from Bethel College where he teaches Bible and Religion.

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**Gathering Music**      *Contemplation on "Davis" ~arr. Cobb*      Mary Schmidt  
   *How Firm a Foundation ~arr. Boyd*

**Welcome**      Lynel Unrau

## Opportunities for Celebration and Service

**Call to Worship and Opening Prayer+**      Based on Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

One: Give thanks to God, for God is good!

**Many: God's love endures forever.**

One: Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.

**Many: God's love endures forever.**

One: We may make careless choices and lose our way.

**Many: God's love endures forever.**

One: We call out to God when we are in trouble.

**Many: God's love endures forever.**

One: God rescues us from our anxieties and fears.

**Many: God's love endures forever.**

One: God's word sets us free to walk in newness of life.

**Many: God's love endures forever.**

One: God gathers us in, from the east and the west, from the north and the south.

**All: For God's unfailing love, we give thanks to the Creator of all that is good.**

**\*Gathering Hymns**      *We Give Thanks unto You*      VT 117  
   *Sing to God a New Song*      VT 93

**Children's Story**      Eric Schrag

**Morning Prayer**      Pastor Lois Harder

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

**Scripture** I Samuel 25:2-35 Readers' Theater  
Lynel Unrau, Brianna Combs, Lois Harder  
**Message** *The Wisdom of Foolishness* Peter Goerzen

### Prayer of Confession

One: Merciful God, we forget that you are the light of the world.  
**Many: Forgive us for our short memories.**  
One: Remind us that you are rich in mercy  
**Many: when we wander away from you.**  
One: Loving God, convict us of your immense love  
**Many: that shines brightly on us.**  
**All: Merciful God, light of the world, we come seeking new life in you.**

**Song of Response** *We Are People of God's Peace* VT 797

### Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

**Offertory** *Morning Has Broken* ~arr. Bock  
**\*Prayer of Dedication** *You Are All We Have* VT 701

## SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**\*Song of Sending** *God of Grace and God of Glory* VT 716

**\*Benediction** Pastor Lois

**\*Postlude** *Lead Me to Calvary* ~arr. Berry Mary Schmidt

\*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.

**Peter Goerzen teaches Bible and Religion at Bethel College**, where he previously served as campus pastor. Prior to coming to Bethel, Peter and his wife, Katherine, co-pastored Grace Hill Mennonite Church. Katherine, who grew up at Alexanderwohl, currently pastors at Tabor Mennonite Church, where Peter grew up. They have two elementary-age children.

**Song Leader:** Braden Unruh

**Greeters:** North – DJ and Marilyn Unruh Flaming  
South – Lois Janzen

**Visual Arts:** LaNae Unruh

**Nursery Staff:** Travis Duerksen, Erica Stoltzfus

**Worship Technology:** Steve Unruh, Lynel Unrau, Delton Voth

**March 3 Attendance:** Sunday School – 88; Worship -- 135 in person;  
10 Zoom Households

**March 3 Offering:** Sunday School -- \$80.12; First Fruits – \$3,287.04

**Next Sunday is the fifth Sunday in Lent.** Pastor Lois will preach from the lectionary Gospel text, John 12:20-33. Christ came among us, bringing God's New Covenant of surrender, death and new life.

## *Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We thank God for the arrival of Tate Matthew Miller on Monday night, March 4. Tate is born to Chrystiana and Bryant; his big brothers are Emmett and Nolan and grandparents are Delton and Janice Voth and Jaynette Miller. We celebrate and give thanks with the whole family!
- ❖ We pray for safety and rest for all who have a spring break this week.
- ❖ On this 59th year after "Bloody Sunday" in Selma, Alabama, we continue to pray that the civil and human rights of all people will be honored.
- ❖ As wars continue to rage in many places around the world we continue to pray for the inbreaking of the Holy Spirit's power to bring peace.

*+This week pray for: Michael and Staci Claassen family, Nicki Bartel and Kevin Nolasco, Robert and Becky Klassen, Marc, Tiffani, and Sterling Knowles, Jerah Schmidt, Larry and Kela Schmidt, Darrell and Judy Unruh, Diane Voth*

### **THIS WEEK**

#### **Sunday, March 10** – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Daylight Saving Time Begins – Set clocks ahead 1 hour

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

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

#### **Tuesday, March 12**

9:15 am – Staff Meeting

#### **Wednesday, March 13**

NO Midweek Activities – Spring Break

#### **Friday, March 15**

10:00 am – Senior Coffee

#### **Sunday, March 17** – Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

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

### **COMING EVENTS**

Mar 20	Final Midweek Session
Mar 24	Palm Sunday
Mar 28	Maundy Thursday service in Fellowship Hall, 6:30 pm
Mar 29	Good Friday
Mar 31	Easter
Apr 5	Heritage Dinner at Tabor Church – Fundraiser for Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum
Apr 7	KMMC concert, 4:00 pm, Memorial Hall, Bethel College
Apr 12-13	Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale, Hutchinson
Apr 19	Senior Coffee

Apr 21 KMMC concert, 4:00 pm, Tabor College  
May 1 Daughters of Grace Spring Salad Supper

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today -- Exploring The Immigration System** -- 4:00–5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall with faspa. Led by the Peace Team. Plan to join us as we explore and discuss various aspects of immigration and migration.

**MCC Central States is coming to Senior Coffee on Friday, March 15!** Brocia Mueller and Maynard Knepp will be our special guests. Brocia will tell us about what happens in the MCC Work Room and Maynard may tell us about the warehouse, or his development work, his recent travels or... who knows!? Come join us at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Alexanderwohl for a slideshow presentation, snacks and fellowship.

**The families of Norman and Leona Schroeder request a card shower in celebration of the couple's 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on March 20.** Please send well wishes to: PO Box 37, Goessel, KS 67053.

**There is a collection container in the south lobby for “Bags to Benches”.** See poster for more information.

**Join museum supporters for the Heritage Dinner, April 5, 6:30 pm, at Tabor Mennonite Church**, after which Mayleen Thiesen Vinson will share an entertaining and insightful portrayal of Fru Schmidt's dilemma—what to pack for her family? Each adult ticket-holder was allowed to pack 27 cubic feet of baggage and freight. Consider that the Schmidts have ten children! Would you have packed a waffle iron, an anvil, or corncobs? Come find out! Tickets are on sale now! Contact the museum by April 1 (620.367.8200 or email [goesselmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:goesselmuseum@gmail.com)) to reserve your tickets for the Low German sausage meal catered by Goessel Grocery & Deli. Prices are \$75 per person, ages 12 and under are \$15, and first-time attenders are \$40. This event will be recorded, but not live streamed.