

# First Sunday in Advent

"Yes! Let it be!"

December 3, 2017

**Musical preparation for worship**

Erin

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

L: God, you have a surprising preference for people who are small and humble and who expect everything from you.

**P: You chose Mary, the unassuming virgin from Nazareth, to become the mother of your Son Jesus.**

L: Through your Holy Spirit may we be open to you and welcome you.

**P: May we be ready, like Mary, to serve you.**

**All: Come to us and give yourself to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Hymn** SS#12 "Magnificat"

**Children's Time**

Randy

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world. Every child in every land, Jesus holds them in his hand. Jesus loves the little children of the world.

**Announcements**

**Bringing our offerings, Advent Giving Jar (for Mennonite Disaster Service--**

**Puerto Rico), and donations for Glick Center**

**Hymn** #204 "Gloria"

**Choir** "Come, Emmanuel"

**Scripture** Luke 1:29-33, 38; Psalm 80:1-7

**Sermon** "Birthed Out of Darkness"

Shannon Dycus

**Hymn of response** SS#49 "I will come to you in the silence"

**Passing the Friendship Register**

**Sermon responses, sharing of joys, and introduction of guests**

**Congregational prayer**

Bob Brown

**Closing Hymn** SS#1 "Praise the One who breaks the darkness"

**Blessing**

**Postlude**

In lieu of applause, we encourage a hearty "AMEN."

**Co-pastors:** Bob Brown & Shannon Dycus

**Faith Formation Coordinator & Pastoral Intern:** Ben Tapper

**Trustees:** Gloria, Randy, Ralph

**Care Team:** Annette, Heidi, Ted, Linda, Robin, Mary, Kevin, Rachel, Ben

**Worship Leader:** Marj

**Song Leader:** Jana

**Greeters:** Erv & granddaughter

**Ushers:** De & Robin

**Ministers:** Each participant in the congregation

**Join us for a time of fellowship following the worship service. Coffee and hot tea will be available during this time.**

**Anabaptist Essentials [ends today]**

This is taught by Chuck Girard. What is fundamental to our identity as Anabaptists? How can these principles help us to identify creative and faithful ways to respond to injustice and life under an empire? We are using Stuart Murray's book *The Naked Anabaptist: The Bare Essentials of a Radical Faith* and Walter Wink's *The Powers that Be*. Meets in the multi-purpose room.

**Sunday school conversations on grievance policy and 2018 budget** will be today and next Sunday in the middle classroom.

**Adult choir** is meeting during the Sunday school hour in the sanctuary. Jana Miller is the director.

**Today and upcoming at FMC**

**Friday, December 2:** Women's Bible study meets each Friday at 8:30 a.m.

**Saturday, December 9:** Women's brunch and cookie exchange 9:00-11:00

**Sunday, December 17:** Vote on Grievance Policy and 2018 budget

**Sunday, December 17:** Children's Christmas musical program

**Sunday, December 24:** Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 p.m.

## **Birthdays**

**There are copies of a family Advent devotional guide available for you to pick up on the welcome table--one per household, please.**

### **PRAYER CONCERNS - December 3, 2017**

- Pray for neighbors of Leslie, Mohammed and NeNe and their five children, dealing with immigration issues.
- Pray for John recovering from back surgery.
- Pray for Lynn and Maurice and families. Maurice's father is in hospice. Lynn's brother-in-law, Tom May, has stage four lung cancer is also in hospice. Pray for comfort for all.
- Pray for Marie and family as her mother is in hospice care.
- Pray for Laurel who had a procedure for a retina problem.
- Pray for Donna who learned recently that she has breast cancer. Her surgery will be tomorrow morning.
- Pray for Erin who is struggling with severe anxiety. While there has been improvement, there are still concerns. Pray for both Erin and Mike as they work through this.
- Pray for Leslie as she continues to recover at home and receive therapy on a regular basis.

*Please note that all prayer requests should be given to one of the pastors by 9:00 a.m. Friday morning. For Sunday morning additions, please speak to the person doing the congregational prayer before worship.*

### **Luke 1:29-33, 38 (NRSV)**

But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

### **Psalm 80:1-7 (NRSV)**

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!  
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might and come to save us!

Restore us, O God;

let your face shine, that we may be saved. O LORD God of hosts,  
how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

You have fed them with the bread of tears,

and given them tears to drink in full measure.

You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

## ***First Mennonite Church***

A welcoming faith community committed to  
Making peace Seeking justice Serving as the hands, heart, and voice of Christ

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