

Isaiah 61:8 (CEB) "I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery and dishonesty."

MT. CLINTON MENNONITE CHURCH

December 17, 2023

Blessings to you this morning! We welcome you to our Sunday School at 9:30. We have an adult Salt and Light curriculum Sunday School class that meets in the south west corner of the foyer, another Salt and Light curriculum class that meets in classroom 7 in the basement and children's classes also in the basement Sunday School rooms. We begin our worship service at 10:30.

Call to Worship Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Advent Candle lighting

Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices
 In God my Saviour!

High Voices: For the Mighty One has done great things for me,
Low Voices: and Holy is God's Name.

Leader: God has brought down the powerful and lifted up
 the lowly.

People: **What will God do next?**
 (Pause)

People: ***Together we wonder.***

Songs STJ #10 Spirit working in creation
 STJ #13 My soul is filled with joy

Scripture Revelation 11:19-12:1-12

Tithes and Offerings

Children's Lesson

Songs HWB #174 Blessed be the God of Israel
 HWB #186 Fling wide the door, unbar the gates

Scripture Luke 1:47-55

Sermon *Mary and the Magnificat: How to unleash a war*

Response Hymn STJ #75 Be still, God will fight your battles

Sharing and Prayer

Announcements

Closing Song VT #276 Solemn stillness, weary streets

Benediction

Prayer Focus: Let's pray this week for our students and teachers as they are finishing classes before the Christmas break. May God bless each of them in this season.

Announcements

Christmas Readers Theater tonight at 6 pm. If you are involved in the program please arrive at 5 pm for a "run through", preferably in costume. Please bring finger foods for the fellowship time after the service. Drinks will be provided.

Christmas Caroling this Thursday, December 21, 4:30 pm. Meet at VMRC Park Gables main parking lot. We will sing for folks at VMRC first, then go to some homes. If you are unable to make it by 4:30 and want to join in please message Sharyn 919-641-5876 or Lowell 919-452-5348 and we can tell you where to meet up with the group. Everyone is invited to the Tieszen's home afterward for a light dinner! An RSVP would help for our planning!

Inviting Children and Adults to add something, perhaps handmade, to the Nativity scene that reminds us of stories in the Bible. Depending on the item, they will be placed in the Nativity scene or around it on the table. If the item is light enough it can be hung on the small tree. Potted plants can also be brought to place on or around the table and platform. The Nativity display will continue to be present until January 7 when some visitors arrive to see Jesus.

If you would like to send a Christmas greeting to Branson Fink, send it via his sister: Doris Fink, 289 Harper Street, Weyers Cave VA 24486. As you may recall, the prisons do not allow Christmas cards, birthday cards, etc.

The church office will be closed Friday, December 22 – Monday, January 1. Please have all items for the December 24 and 31 bulletins to Sherry by Wednesday, December 20. Thank you!

Due to Christmas activities we will not have our normal prayer meetings in December.

There are hearing aids for those that desire them in our worship service. Please speak with those at the computers if you need this assistance.

There are printouts on the back table of reading through the Bible in a Year Schedules.

Worship Leader	Nancy Showalter
Song Leader	Les Horning
Prelude/Offertory	Eli Miller
Scripture Reader	Sonya Eberly
Preacher	Jim Hershberger
Candle Lighting	The Nafziger Family
Children's Lesson	Crystal Trost

WE WANT YOU TO KNOW

December 10

Offering: Budget – \$5,478.50
Kingsway Ministries – \$550.00

Attendance: Worship Service – Church 60; Zoom 8; Facebook 3; Total 71
Adult Sunday School – Total 30
Southwest Classroom – Church 8; Zoom, 1; Other 8
Downstairs Classroom – 13
Children's Sunday School – Children 6; Adults 6

December 17 Greeter: Chuck Eberly

December 24 Greeters: Wilmer & Mary Louise Lehman

Our Vision: God calls us to be a worshiping, welcoming and united family of faith, following Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and ministering God's salvation, healing and hope to the local community, the nation, and the world.

Mt. Clinton Mennonite Church Pastoral Team

Jim Hershberger, Pastor – 540-908-8005
Nancy Showalter, Elder – 540-421-7394
Conrad Heatwole, Elder – 540-230-0595
Chuck Eberly, Elder – 540-810-2770
Sharyn Tieszen, Elder – 919-641-5876

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**WELCOME TO MT. CLINTON
MENNONITE CHURCH**