

# West Zion Mennonite Church

9:30 AM Sunday School                      10:30 AM: Morning Worship

Vol. LIII                      December 23, 2018                      No. 50

---

## \*\*\*ADVENT 4 \*\*\*

*During the prelude we invite you to prepare your heart for worship by meditating on the words for silent meditation which are taken from the psalm for the day.*

Words for silent meditation: *My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior (Luke 1:46-47).*

Prelude

\*\* Entrance song                      *Come light of the world*                      STS 3

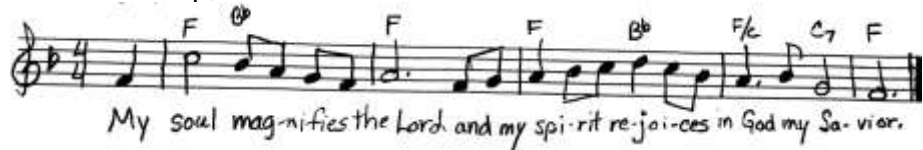
Lighting of the Christ candle

Welcome                      Pastor Brad Roth  
The Lord be with you / **and also with you.**

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship    *Star-Led and Wonder Bound*    Chancel Choir

Call to Worship, Luke 1:46b-55



My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spi-rit re-joi-ces in God my Sa-vior.

Greeting in Christ's peace

Children's time and lighting the Advent candle                      Connie Kaufman  
(kids come forward)  
*This week's prayer focus is for open hearts and open homes.*

\*\*Celebrating in song                      *My soul cries out*                      STS 124

Scripture                      Luke 1:39-45                      Daniel Kaufman

Special Music                      *Jesus, What a Wonderful Child*                      Chancel Choir

Message                      "Blessed by God"                      Pastor Brad

Song of Response                      *What child is this*                      HWB 215

Offering

Sharing of Joys and Concerns  
Prayers of the People

Music                      *Where Shepherds Lately Knelt*                      Chancel Choir

\*\*Sending Song                      *Come on ring those bells!*                      Words on screen

\*\* Hallelujah Chorus                      Donna Stucky and Kirk Stucky

\*\*Benediction

\*\*Postlude  
**\*\*please stand if able**

*Songbooks in pews: HWB-blue, STS-purple spiral, STJ-green spiral, S&R-green hardbound*

Greeter(s): Bob & Sharon Gehring  
Ushers: Clark Graber, Dave Wedel, Carl Duffman

## **Sunday, December 30, 2018**

**9:30 AM:** Sunday School      **10:30 AM:** Worship Service  
**Message:** James Wenger      **Scripture:** Connie Graber  
**Worship Leader:** Karen Loganbill      **Accompanist:** Donna Stucky  
**Greeter(s):** Leon & Virginia Guhr  
**Ushers:** Mel Becker, Norman Funk, Vicky Kessler

### **Coming Events**

Dec. 30: Pastor Brad out, James Wenger preaching  
Jan. 7: Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM in Conference Rm  
Jan. 13: Annual meeting and meal  
Jan. 14-16: Pastor Brad out to Eastern Mennonite Seminary  
Jan. 16: MYM and meals begin  
Jan. 19: SPACE women's fellowship 9:00 AM  
Jan. 24: Pastor Brad to Denver for Evangelical Covenant Church conference

**Our Mission:** God calls us into community to worship God and follow Jesus through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

#### **Pastor Brad Roth**

**Pastor's Office hours:** Tues. and Wed. 10 am -12:30 pm

Thurs. 1-4 pm

Pastor's Cell: 620-386-4838

Pastor Brad's email: [bradroth@westzionmc.org](mailto:bradroth@westzionmc.org)

**Secretary Carla Stucky's hours:** Thurs. 9-11, 1-4 PM

Church: 620-345-8143

Carla's cell: 620-386-0414

Church's email: [secretary@westzionmc.org](mailto:secretary@westzionmc.org)

Website: [www.westzionmc.org](http://www.westzionmc.org)

## West Zion Announcements

Please have all bulletin announcements to the office by Thur. noon.

1. All are invited to come celebrate **Christmas Eve** together at West Zion tomorrow, December 24. A prelude by Donna Stucky will begin at 6:00 PM and a 6:30 PM program will follow. Hear how each “friendly beast” brought a gift to baby Jesus, along with beautiful Christmas music from youth and adults. **Invite a friend or neighbor!**
2. The bulletin board has **Christmas cards** sent to West Zion as well as other good information, check it out!
3. Yearbook reports and names of new committee members for appointed teams need to be to the secretary by January 14. Reports are needed from CDT, Homemakers, Deacons, Mission Team, Hospitality Committee (and funeral), Pine Village, Pastor, Treasurer, Trustees, and Worship Team. Thanks!
4. Thank you for your **special offering** for WDC’s Church Planting ministry at your joint mission festival Nov. 25. Your support will help provide coaching and mentoring for church planters, and encourage merging congregations to grow and reach out to their neighbors with the love of Jesus. – Heidi Regier Kreider, Conference Minister
5. The current **yearbook addresses** can be found in foyer. Please check your information (and family members who no longer attend) and make changes as needed, thanks.
6. **You’re invited to support the Camp Mennoscah Fund!** Council has established the Camp Mennoscah Fund as a way to give scholarships for kids to go to camp. Christian Discipleship Team offers a scholarship of ½ of enrollment for West Zion kids. Sometimes, families need a little extra help. The Camp Mennoscah Fund will cover the difference.
7. During the season of Advent, we’ll be collecting for our annual **White Christmas Project**, Mt. Hope Sanctuary in McPherson, a Christian organization that provides transitional housing, life-changing programming, and support services to single mothers and children. A list of items needed is in the foyer. You can bring items forward during the offering or leave in the back of the sanctuary. You can learn more about Mt. Hope at: <http://www.mthopesanctuary.org/>.

8. **Cradle to Crayons** provides loving childcare for the community and is developing a fresh supply of Christian resources to aid in its ministry. If you would like to give, go to [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and hover over the Account & Lists icon. Click on “Find a List or Registry” and search for Cradle to Crayons. You will find a wish list of quality faith-based toys and books to choose from for our local childcare center.

9. This holiday season the Associated Ministries of Moundridge will again be **selling coffee grown in Honduras** by the family of Moundridge native Julia Niehage Williams. This specialty, organic coffee is available in 1 lb. bags of either whole bean or ground. The coffee sales will support the work of the Associated Ministries of Moundridge. Order forms are available in the foyer through Dec. 30.

## General Announcements

10. This Christmas, consider giving alternative gifts through Mennonite Central Committee! With 25 ways to give, you can find something for everyone in your family. Give chickens, provide hope, education, and new skills to help build up communities. These gifts fit easily under the tree and within any budget, but have the power to bring joy for years to come! Visit [mcc.org/christmas](http://mcc.org/christmas) or call our office for details, 316-283-2720.

11. Join Offender/Victim Ministries (OVM) for our annual Reaching Out Letter Writing Events! Thursday, January 10 from 7-9pm at MCC Central States (121 E 30th Street, North Newton) and Monday, January 21 from 1-5pm at OVM (900 N Poplar, Newton). Letters and cards will be delivered to individuals incarcerated at Hutchinson Correctional Facility on February 14. If you are interested in Reaching Out Letter Writing materials for your church or small group, contact [ben@offendervictimministries.org](mailto:ben@offendervictimministries.org) to arrange for delivery.

12. Offender/Victim Ministries (OVM) presents The Prison Theater Project, a collaboration between Bethel College and Hutchinson Correctional Facility, on Friday, January 25, 7pm at HCF East Unit (400 S Halstead Rd, Hutchinson). RSVP to [ben@offendervictimministries.org](mailto:ben@offendervictimministries.org) by Friday, January 11 to attend. Preceding this event at 5pm, all are welcome to join us for OVM’s Annual Meeting at St. Teresa Church (211 E 5th, Hutchinson). Soup supper provided.

## Sermon Notes

Blessed by God  
Luke 1:39-45

### Theme

To be blessed is to encounter God and have God work in our lives.

### Key Verse

Luke 1:45 Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!"

### Notes

### A Prayer

God who blesses and redeems your people, may this celebration of Christmas instill in us a deeper awareness of the holy mystery of your birth.

*Sermons are online @ westzionmc.org  
Find us on Facebook!*

## **Prayers for Joys and Concerns**

Terry with ongoing heart concerns

Jeremiah's cousin, dealing with heart issues

Tracy and Carl at the passing of their friend Homer

### **Prayer Request from Western District Conference**

Give thanks for the gift of God's Word-made-flesh in Jesus, and for the many ways in which WDC congregations make God's love tangible in our world today.

### **Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network**

In this season of "Peace on earth, goodwill to all people," Nancy Frey and Bruce Yoder of Mennonite Mission Network request prayer for peace in Burkina Faso, where terrorist groups have become more active. May the Mennonite Church show the way to the Prince of Peace.

### Advent Prayer Focus

**Pray that each of us would have open hearts and open homes** during this Advent and Christmas season. Like Mary and Joseph who welcomed the infant Jesus, may we show hospitality to our neighbors, inviting them to our Christmas Eve worship service, church, and into our homes.



We wish a **"Happy Birthday"** to:

December 23: Connie Kaufman, Mindy Hill

December 24: Deanne Loganbill

December 25: Rachel Rupp

We wish a **"Happy Anniversary"** to:

December 25: Richard & Glenda Golden