

# West Zion Mennonite Church

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

Vol. LV                      December 20, 2020                      No. 51

*Due to the coronavirus pandemic, worship services will be online on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/westzion/>).*

## ADVENT 4

Words for silent meditation: *I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever (Psalm 89:1)*

Prelude                      “Angels We Have Heard on High”                      Carla Stucky

Welcome                      Pastor Brad Roth

Call to Worship, “O Antiphons”  
Response: **Come, Lord Jesus!**

Lighting of the Advent Candle - Hope

Celebrating in Song  
*It came upon a midnight clear (vss 1,2,5)*                      HWB 195  
*What child is this*                      HWB 215

Scripture, Luke 1:46b-55

Meditation                      “My Soul Magnifies the Lord”                      Pastor Brad

Song for meditation                      “Lo, how a rose” Bethel College Concert Choir  
(used with permission)

Offering (*Please remember to continue supporting the church during this time.*)

White Christmas Offering - *During the season of Advent, we're collecting items and offering for Mt. Hope Sanctuary. See announcements for current needs.*

Prayers of the People (*Joys and concerns can be shared in the “comment” bar on the Facebook live stream*)

Sending Song                      *My soul cries out*                      STS 124

Blessing and Sending

## Sermon Notes

My Soul Magnifies the Lord  
Luke 1:46b-55

### Theme

God turns the world upside down in Jesus.

### Key Verse

(Luke 1:51) He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

### Notes

### A Question

Where has God been upending your expectations and challenging your fixed beliefs about yourself?

**Services are livestreamed on the West Zion Facebook page**  
**Sermons are online @ westzionmc.org**  
Streaming license # 20084674

## **Christmas Sunday, December 27, 2020**

**Worship Service online at West Zion Facebook page**

**9:30 AM:** Sunday School (Join us online at

<https://meet.google.com/bxs-bixi-vbi>

**10:30 AM:** Worship Service (live on WZ Facebook page)

**Message:** Pastor Brad

### **Coming Events**

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve online service in the evening  
5:45 Prelude  
6:00 Program  
7:00 Candle-lighting & singing outside of West Zion  
(weather permitting)

**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 Cell: 620-386-4838

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

#### **Secretary Carla Stucky's hours:**

Thursdays 1:00-4:00 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. Due to the sharp rise in COVID-19 cases, **Church Council has decided to return to online-only worship.** Bulletins will still be printed, and you can pick one up in the foyer or find it on the West Zion website. Join us on our Facebook Live page each Sunday morning for worship at 10:30 AM.
2. The **announcement deadline** for the December 27 bulletin is Wednesday, December 23. The bulletin will be printed on Thursday morning, Dec. 24.
3. Our **Christmas Eve** (Dec.24) service will be online this year: prelude @5:45 PM and main service @6:00 PM. We'll follow up by gathering outside (weather permitting!) in front of the church @7:00 PM for a brief service of singing and candle-lighting.
4. Our White Christmas Project this year is **Mt. Hope Sanctuary of McPherson!** Mt. Hope Sanctuary is a Christian organization that provides transitional housing, life-changing programming, and support services to single mothers and children. Items we'll be collecting are listed below. CDT is placing a basket in the foyer. You can learn more on their website: <http://www.mthopesanctuary.org/>. You can also see a short PowerPoint presentation about Mt. Hope Sanctuary on our church website.
  - Tall kitchen trash bags
  - Paper towels
  - Boxed blue Nitrile gloves (medium)
  - \$25 gift cards to Dillon's or Walmart
  - Children's bedding: twin size
5. **Angel Tree** is wrapped up for this year! Thanks to everyone who participated! (All gifts need to be unwrapped and turned in by Dec.18). If you didn't get a chance to participate in Angel Tree, we are still collecting items for the Mt. Hope Sanctuary.
6. **Missionary letter:** A Christmas letter from the Larsons is on the bulletin board. *"How do we summarize the last year – but with GRATEFUL THANKS to the Lord for his hands in our lives and the ministry we are part of. Most importantly we want to thank you for your friendship and partnership. We do really value our relationship with you and have very much appreciated the calls and contacts. Please*

*drop us a line. May you be blessed with God's presence, peace, and protection going into the New Year!"*

7. It is time to begin **updating addresses and contact information** for the yearbook. Please let Carla Stucky know if there are any changes on you or your family's contact information in the current yearbook. Address updates would need to be sent by January 17.
8. **Sunday School update:** Adult Sunday School for December will be advent reflections led by Ellen Kaufman. January through February will be from the new quarterly called Salt and Light with various teachers leading. The link to join is <https://meet.google.com/bxs-bixi-vbi> and is also on the website. Jr./Sr. High Sunday School will meet online and K-5 Sunday School is paused for the time being due to Covid.
9. Please remember to **continue supporting the church** during this time. You can give online through PayPal or mail a check.
10. A **greeter's list** will be distributed when we go back to in-person worship. When we do meet again, we will continue to ask greeters to wear masks, open the door for people, and to not shake hands. Please let Carla Stucky know if you are still willing to greet or if you would prefer to be taken off the list.

## General Announcements

11. **MCC Comforter Blitz update:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 Kansas Friends of MCC Comforter Blitz in Yoder, KS has been canceled. However, the Blitz committee still has a goal of collecting at least 300 comforters between February and April. Fabric kits and comforter sets to tie (top, back, and batting) are available to check out from MCC in North Newton. For contactless drop-off of completed comforters, the 24-hour donation room is always available. To arrange drop-off or checkout materials, contact Kate at [katemast@mcc.org](mailto:katemast@mcc.org), or 316.804.8432.
12. **Kauffman Museum** at Bethel College is hosting the Smithsonian traveling exhibit "Crossroads: Change in Rural America" through Jan. 17. A local companion exhibit, "Of Land and People: Our Community at the Crossroads," is also on display. The museum is open 9:30 am-4:30 pm Tues.-Fri and 1:30-4:30 pm Sat.-Sun. Admission to the "Crossroads" exhibit is free on Saturdays.

13. **Free resource from MCC: Learning about generosity!** Help children learn about generosity with MCC printable worksheets including activities, a story, a craft and Christmas gift ideas that benefit global neighbors with colorable greeting cards. Find it all at [mcc.org/generosity](http://mcc.org/generosity). Explore the full list of Christmas giving options from MCC at [mcc.org/christmas](http://mcc.org/christmas).

**West Zion Celebrations and Concerns**

Amanda and Braxton, Rosanne’s daughter and grandson, dealing with some ongoing health issues.

Frances’ nephew, Randy, as he has shown signs of improvement but still has many obstacles on his road to recovery.

**Prayer Request from Western District Conference**

As we celebrate Christmas, give thanks for the gift of multicultural diversity within WDC, and the many different ways congregations embody the presence of Christ.

**Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network**

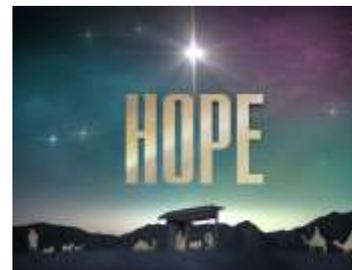
Join Mennonite Mission Network in praying for the peace witness of the *Meserete Kristos* Church in Ethiopia amid the conflict between the government of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and the Northern Tigray region.

<b>BUDGET SUMMARY</b>	<b>This Year</b>	<b>Last Year</b>
Regular collections – last week	\$ 1,210.00	\$ 1,424.00
Regular collections – year to date	\$121,964.80	\$136,181.26
Budget	\$163,471.00	\$162,552.00
Less: expended to date	( 144,055.84)	( 147,542.64)
Less: cash balance	( 7,265.68)	( 6,805.52)
Receipts needed to meet budget	\$ 12,149.48	\$ 8,203.84
Avg. offering per Sunday needed to meet budget	\$ 6,075	\$ 4,102
White Christmas	\$ 250.00	
Mission: Larsons	\$ 175.00	

**Mosaic Directory in pews**

**ADVENT PRAYER FOCUS**

***Pray for Mt. Hope Sanctuary*** as director Julie Holloway leads women and children to place their hope in the God who turns lives upside down.



We wish a “**Happy Birthday**” to:  
December 22: Carla Stucky  
December 23: Connie Kaufman, Mindy Hill

We wish a “**Happy Anniversary**” to:  
December 25: Richard & Glenda Golden