



Parables of Jesus

January 28, 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

*The chime is rung as a call to set aside distractions to find rest in God,
who welcomes us here.*

Prelude

Opening Sentence: *For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:10-11)*

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Leader: Listen!

ALL: WHAT ARE WE MEANT TO HEAR?

Leader: Stories of how God works...

ALL: IN SEEDS AND SOIL,

Leader: in the darkness of the earth,

**ALL: IN THE UNEXPECTED CONSEQUENCES
OF GROWTH,**

Leader: in people whose methods surprise us.

ALL: WHAT IF WE DON'T UNDERSTAND?

Leader: Listen again!

**ALL: THANKFULLY, NOTHING IS HIDDEN FOREVER ...
WE COME TO HEAR.**

Opening Prayer*

HYMN *Now the Green Blade Riseth* VT 353

Passing the Peace & Fellowship Greeting

HEARING GOD'S GOOD NEWS

HYMN *In the Bulb There Is a Flower* VT 670

Scripture Reading *Mark 4:1-34 (The Message)*

Children's Time

HYMN *I Saw a Tree by the Riverside* VT 514

Sermon

Music for Meditation

SHARING OUR STORIES

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

LIVING GODS' GOOD NEWS

HYMN *Go Now in Peace, Worship Continues* VT 829

Benediction*

Postlude ... *receive the postlude as a musical blessing*

If you need a hearing assist device, please ask at the sound booth in the back of the sanctuary.

The Nursery is typically staffed with a volunteer care provider during worship (and Sunday School as needed). Children are also welcome to remain in the sanctuary! Worship bags with drawing/coloring materials are provided at the back of the sanctuary.

If you'd like to be added to our all-church email list to receive prayer requests and announcements (typically 2 emails/week), please contact the church office or Pastor Tonya.

Artwork on front of bulletin: JESUS MAFA. The parable of the sower, from

Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

*Call to Worship, Opening Prayer and Benediction written for BibleWorm by
Rev. Teri Peterson (used with permission)

Sound: Murray Reimer
Livestream: Jonathan Wenger
Ushers: Russ Gaeddert & Diane Ziemer
Nursery: Russell and Julie Goering
Organist: Pauline Buller
Worship Leader: Anita Kehr
Song Leader: Tonya Ramer Wenger
Children's Time: Julie Goering
Scripture Readers: Hilda and Lucia Iwashige
Sermon: Pastor Tonya Ramer Wenger

Welcome!

We are so glad you all are here!!

*Your offerings are received, with gratitude, in the offering box on the table at the back of the sanctuary.
You can also now donate electronically on our website.
Thank you for your generosity shown in many ways!*

TODAY: Fellowship Time after worship & Sunday School @ 11:00

Sunday School classes for all ages

- **CHILDREN (all ages + nursery care):** *Jesus Brings Good News*
- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** Salt and Light Bible Study
- **ADULT DISCUSSION CLASS:** *"Cost of Discipleship"* DVD Study
- **YOUNGER ADULTS CLASS:** meets in the library

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- **Feb 3** – Hymn sing @ Community Church of the Brethren 2:00pm
- **Feb 11** – Pick up your Super Bowl Subs from the youth group!
- **Feb 14** – Ash Wednesday Worship: 6:30pm in FMC basement fellowship hall (and livestream) with Community Church of the Brethren
- **Feb 18** – First Sunday of Lent
- **Feb 28** – Choir rehearsals begin for Lent/Easter – Wednesdays at 5:30pm
- **March 4-6** – MCC Comforter Blitz – Journey Activity Center, Yoder

VALENTINE'S DAY CONNECTION WITH OUR COLLEGE-AGE YOUTH

Valentine's Day cards are available in the foyer for you to take and send to some or all of our college age young adults listed on the address sheet provided. *In addition, the Faithful Community Coordination Team has decided to return to sending a small gift from the church to each student to spend on a cup of coffee or something that brings them joy.* If you'd like to contribute toward these gifts, please put your donation in the Valentines box in the foyer by Sunday February 4.

SUPER BOWL SUBS – Senior Youth Fundraiser (\$10 each)

Sign up by February 8 for your Super Bowl Subs. Choose turkey or ham/salami. Every sub comes with a little baggie of veggies (but you provide your own condiments). Pick up on February 11.



First Mennonite Church

Hutchinson KS

Arms Wide Open: To Serve & Be Served

Phone: 620-662-9385

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9-2pm; Wed 10-1pm

Website: www.hutchfmc.org

Office email address: office@hutchfmc.org

Pastor Tonya Ramer Wenger: tonya@hutchfmc.org

Pastor Jim Unruh: jhunruh.ju@gmail.com
