



The Courage to Love

Peace Sunday
September 21, 2025
First Mennonite Church

WE GATHER & PRAISE

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship – A Litany for the Moment

God of surprising birth

You are not the savior we expect,

Your power does not look like the power

We want our God to demonstrate.

We wait.

We wait in darkness.

We wait in anguish and we wait in hope.

We wait, knowing that we need one another and

Your presence to grasp hope.

We have harmed and been harmed through words and deeds, and in the things we have chosen not to do.

We know the harm is not the end, we know that together and with You harm can transform to harmony.

God of foolish birth.

Your grace baffles us.

You meet us where we are and, mercifully, we are not left where we were found.

We watch.

We watch in anticipation of this grace.

We watch, peering into the darkness knowing that Your light can be found.

In our clumsy ways we hope to reflect Your grace to those around us.

May we humbly accept those gifts from each other, knowing Your transformative power can make them what they are meant to be.

God of humble birth

You disrupt our assumptions of You and of one another,

Transforming judgment to understanding;

discrimination to solidarity; mercilessness to compassion.

We wonder.

We wonder at the audacity of Your manger birth, modelling the power of weakness.

Though the work can be difficult, when we live Your call to justice and mercy, we honour Your surprising, foolish and humble birth. Amen.

HYMN *Longing for Light* VT 715

Passing the Peace – Fellowship Greeting

Greet those around you with the peace of Christ!

HYMN *For the Healing of the Nations* VT 705

Children's Time

WE HEAR GOD'S STORY

Lighting the Peace Lamp & Praying for Peace

HYMN *I Bind My Heart This Tide* VT 556

Scripture Reading *Matthew 22:34-40*

Sermon (based on a sermon written by Andres Pacheco Loranzo)

Music for Meditation

WE TELL OUR STORIES

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer (VT 989B with "sins")

WE GO TO LIVE INTO GOD'S STORY

HYMN *We Dream of a Turning* VT 209

Benediction

Postlude

*Worship Resources provided by Mennonite World Conference Peace Commission. *Call to Worship: Compiled by Karen Suderman from Voices Together #896, Robert McAfee Brown, Anne Lamott, the Anglican Book of Common Prayer.*

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.

Sound: Earl Ediger & Allen Yoder
Livestream: Jonathan Wenger
Ushers: Dennis & Jennalee Boggs
Nursery: Anna Crable & Javion Crable
Organist: Pauline Buller
Worship Leader: Delon Martens
Song Leader: Jon Miller
Scripture Reader: Randy Rempel
Children's Time: Hilda Iwashige
Preacher: Tonya Ramer Wenger

TODAY:

Text prayer requests to Pastor Tonya @ 620-513-2828

Offerings to support FMC mission and ministry are received in the offering box at the back, or on our website.

Fellowship time with drinks after worship in Common Grounds Room

Sunday School for all ages @ 11:00:

Toddlers and K-5th (in basement SS rooms)

Jr Youth & Senior Youth (all the way upstairs)

Salt and Light Bible Study (basement fellowship hall & Zoom)

Connection & Conversation Class (basement adult SS room)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **September 27 – FMC serves at the Soup Kitchen** (sign up in foyer)
- **September 28 – FMC Safe Sanctuaries Training** for all who volunteer with children and youth at FMC. Lunch & childcare provided.

- **October 5** – signup deadline for **October 19** *Guess Who's Coming for Sunday Supper!!* Sign up in the foyer to be a host or a guest.
- **October 12** – CROP walk, Rice Park – registration @ 1:30pm. Donations payable to CWS/CROP may be sent to Grace Episcopal Church, 2 Hyde Park Dr, Hutchinson KS 67502
- **October 26** – Budget meeting @ 11:00am. Children's Sunday School.

FALL WNAF (Wednesday Nights at First) Series: *"Learn-Pray-Act: Local Justice Initiatives"* will be held on Wednesdays beginning October 8. The evening schedule will be:

5:45-6:45pm Dinner provided (donations accepted to cover costs)

6:45-7:45 Adult Program & Children's Activities

- **October 8:** Food Justice
- **October 15:** Community Justice
- **October 22:** Earth Justice
- **October 29:** Immigration Justice

DEVOTIONAL GUIDES. New issues of *Rejoice!* and *Upper Room* are available above the mailboxes.

Reno County Food Bank donations for September: Canned meat/tuna

Pastor Tonya will be on retreat this week: Monday – Tuesday until 2pm.

October 26 – Church budget meeting (look for proposed budget 2 weeks earlier). Plan to be part of this conversation about supporting FMC's mission and vision.



Arms Wide Open: To Serve & Be Served

Phone: 620-662-9385

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9-2pm; Wed 12-3pm

www.hutchfmc.org :: office@hutchfmc.org

Pastor Tonya Ramer Wenger: tonya@hutchfmc.org

Pastor Jim Unruh: jhunruh.ju@gmail.com

Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Joy Miller: joymiller@hutchfmc.org