



Luke 1:39-55 • illustratedministry.com

December 14, 2025 – ADVENT 3

Unexpected Joy

First Mennonite Church

Prelude

Gathering Christmas Singing *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (v. 1, 3, 4) VT 245
Still, Still, Still (v. 1, 3) VT 264

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

One: We gather together in this place:
All: prophets and dreamers, singers and poets,
 One: we who dare to imagine a world renewed;
All: we who dare to dream God's dream.
 One: We sing with Elizabeth and Mary.
All: Our spirits rejoice in God, our savior!
 One: We bless the God of justice and joy,
All: who lifts up the lowly and vulnerable.
 One: God's mercy is upon us all,
All: from generation to generation.
 One: Come and worship, all you who dream and wait.
All: We have come to wonder and praise.

Prayer

HYMN *O Come, O Come, Immanuel* VT 210
Praying for Peace and Lighting the Peace Lamp
Passing the Peace – Fellowship Greeting

One: May the peace of Christ be with you. ALL: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

HYMN *With Mary Sing Magnificat* VT 208
Advent Candle Lighting
Children’s Time

Prayer for Illumination
Character Narrative: Elizabeth

Scripture Reading: *Luke 1:39-55; Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11*
Sermon



Music for Meditation

Prayers of the People & Lord’s Prayer (VT 989B with ‘sins’)
One: Gracious God,
All: may we be bearers of joy, carrying good news,
blessing one another for this journey we share.

SENDING HYMN *He Came Down* VT 239

Charge: A Call to Advocacy
Benediction
Postlude

*Worship Resources – Illustrated Ministry
If you need a hearing assist device, please ask at the sound booth in the back of the sanctuary.

The Hat, Mitten & Sock tree is up in the foyer! Place donations of new items in the basket by Dec 15, and we’ll deliver to Salvation Army.

Infant Care Bundles for MCC have been prepared with items families in crisis around the world need to care for a newborn. The basket in the foyer displays the contents of one kit for a boy and one kit for a girl. A donation of \$25 (to FMC, designated for *Infant Care Kits*) will pay for one bundle. The bundles will be dedicated on Christmas Eve.

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: Adam Pounds
Livestream: Joel Iwashige
Ushers: Jon & Martha Miller
Nursery: Donna Davis
Pianist: Shelley Kauffman
Worship Leader: Carol Moore
Children's Time & Percussion: Stephanie Gehring
Scripture Reader: Cheryl Warkentin
Advent Candle Lighting: Joanna Wenger,
Martina Borao Nadal, Tonya Ramer Wenger
Character Narrative (Elizabeth): Santalena Caudillo
Song Leader & Preacher: Tonya Ramer Wenger

Reno County Food Bank donations for December: Pasta.

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.
FMC leads worship at Mennonite Friendship Communities
Sunday School for all ages at 11:00am

- UPCOMING EVENTS:**
- December 21 – Service of Nine Lessons & Carols
 - December 21 – 5:00pm Longest Night Service; 5:45pm Soup Meal; 6:30-7:30 Caroling
 - December 24 – Christmas Eve Worship @ 7pm – family friendly! Dedication of Infant Care Kits to be sent by MCC to families around the world. Social time in fellowship hall following worship.

Longest Night Service . . . 5:00pm on December 21. You are invited to a quiet service called *Longest Night: Christmas in a Time of Loss*. This gathering is especially for those who are finding it hard to navigate the holidays for many reasons that can

make this season feel heavier. Come for a gentle time of worship ... a quiet place held within the peace of the Christmas story.

Soup Supper . . . 5:45pm on December 21. All are welcome. *If you can bring a crock pot of soup to share, please let Joretta Martens know!*

Caroling in the church neighborhood . . . 6:30pm. Bring finger food desserts to share afterward.

Christmas Eve Worship . . . 7pm on December 24. You (and your family and friends) are all invited to our intergenerational Christmas Eve service with opportunities for all ages to participate through scripture, acting out the Christmas Story (come a bit early to get your costume – no rehearsal required!), singing, playing the Kristal Bells, lighting candles and more. Stay for the Christmas fellowship time in the basement – bring sweet or savory finger foods to share in this celebration!

Read THIS WEEK @ FMC posted at ***hutchfmc.org*** on Tuesdays for more announcements, opportunities for sharing and serving, resources to support your personal growth, and events to celebrate this season of hope.



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: joy@hutchfmc.org