



First Mennonite Church of Halstead

March 1, 2026

If there is any hardness in our hearts today, Lord, please remove it from us. We desire to have hearts ready to fully receive your grace and mercy. Amen.

Gathering Music – Kent Dick

God So Loved the World – John Stainer

Welcome and Announcements - Chuck Haspels

Centering Music – Kent Dick

Ah, Holy Jesus – Thomas Bliss

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Children of God, in Lent we remember that salvation is an unearned gift.

People: We gather to lay down the burden of trying to earn God's love.

Leader: Like Nicodemus in the dark of night, we come seeking truth.

People: Like those seeking the light, we open ourselves to the Spirit.

Leader: Let us worship the One who calls us to be born anew in grace.

***Worship Through Singing – O Worship Our God – VT #129**

1-3 O wor-ship our God in the beau-ty of ho-li-ness, in the

beau-ty of ho-li-ness, in the beau-ty of ho-li-ness.

1 Mak-er of the star-light be-yond us, with-in us, from
 2 Je-sus, born of Mar-y, be-fore us, be-side us, your
 3 Spir-it, ev-er mov-ing, a-round us, a-mong us, breathe

si-lence, ho-ly won-der, you birth cre-a-tion's chor-us,
 hum-ble love vic-to-ri-ous has brought a great sal-va-tion,
 mer-cy, flame with jus-tice, mak-ing new your whole cre-a-tion,

oh, glo-ry hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, with

joy we come be-fore you and glo-ri-fy your name.

***Worship Through Singing – From the Waters I Will Rise – VT**

#442

D D/F# G A

1 From the wa - ters I will rise— I will rise and
 2 From my kneel - ing I will stand— I will stand and
 3 From my won-d'ring I will know— I will know and
 4 From my death I'm born a - new— born a - new, I

Bm D/A G D/F# Bm7

walk. Wipe the wa - ter from my eyes— walk with
 sing. Reach for me and take my hand— sing with
 dream. Shar - ing wis - dom, we will grow— dream with
 live. Come and see what God will do— live with

1-3 Em Em7/D Cadd9 G6/B A 4 Em Em7/D A/C#

(Sop. 1-3) me in Christ.
 me, walk with me. me in Christ,
 me, sing with me.
 me, dream with me.

A G/B A D D/A A7 D

live with me in Christ.

Offering & Offertory – MC USA

The Mystery of God – Paul Taylor

Kent Dick

Scripture – John 3:1-17 (p. 1649)

Children's Time – Brocia Mueller

Worship Through Singing – For God so loved us – HWB #167



1 For God so loved us, he sent the Sav - ior. For God so
 2 He sent the Sav - ior, the bless'd Re - deem - er. He sent the
 3 He bade me wel - come; oh word of mer - cy! He bade me
 4 Glo - ry and hon - or, O Love e - ter - nal, to thee be



loved us, and loves me too.
 Sav - ior to set me free. Love so un - end - ing,
 wel - come; oh voice di - vine!
 giv - en while life shall last.



I'll sing thy prais - es. God loves his chil - dren, loves e - ven me.



1 Gott ist die Liebe, lässt mich erlösen.
 Gott ist die Liebe, er liebt auch mich.

3 Er sandte Jesum, den treuen Heiland,
 er sandte Jesum und macht mich los.

2 Ich lag in Banden der schnöden Sünde,
 ich lag in Banden und konnt nicht los.

4 Jesus, mein Heiland, gab sich zum Opfer,
 Jesus, mein Heiland, büsst meine Schuld.

Refrain Drum sag ich noch einmal:
 Gott ist die Liebe,
 Gott ist die Liebe,
 er liebt auch mich.

Worship Through Singing – *Holy Spirit* – Lyrics Projected

Congregational Prayer – Pastor Steve

Message – Pastor Steve

When God Meets Us Where We Are

Response Song – *Spirit of the Living God* – Lyrics Projected

***Closing Prayer**

***Sending Song - In Christ Alone - VT #332**

1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found; he is my
 2 In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh— full - ness of
 3 There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

(G) (Em7) (A7) (D) (G) (D) (G)
 Ab Fm7 Bb7 Eb Ab Eb Ab

light, my strength, my song— this cor - ner-stone, this sol - id
 God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right-eous-
 world by dark - ness slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious
 pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first cry to fi - nal

(A) (D) (G) (Em7) (A7) (D)
 Bb Eb Ab Fm7 Bb7 Eb

ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.
 ness, scorned by the ones he came to save,
 day, up from the grave he rose a - gain!
 breath, Je - sus com-mands my des - ti - ny.

What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are
 till on the cross as Je - sus died, *the wrath of
 And as he stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has
 No pow'r of hell, no hu - man plan, can ev - er

(G) (D/F#) (A) (G) (D) (G)
 Ab Eb/G Bb Ab Eb Ab

stilled, when striv - ings cease. My com - fort - er, my all in
 God was sat - is - fied. My ev - 'ry sin on him was
 lost its grip on me; for I am his and he is
 pluck me from his hand; till he re - turns or calls me

(A) (D) (G) (Em7) (A7) (D)
 Bb Eb Ab F m7 Bb7 Eb

all, here in the love of Christ I stand.
 laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
 mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
 home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

***Benediction**

***Postlude** – Kent Dick

Sarabande – arr. George Blake

*Please stand if you are able

CHURCH CALENDAR

Mar. 1	12:00 p.m.	Advanced Bells practice
Mar. 4	5:00 p.m.	Kids Club
	6:00 p.m.	Wednesday Night Supper
	8:00 p.m.	Easter Cantata practice
Mar. 8	10:30 a.m.	Advanced Bells play during worship
	6:00 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups
	6:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The rose on the organ is in honor of Anna Lee Ewert's 93rd birthday on March 2. Happy Birthday Anna Lee!

VBS planning has begun! You can help us out by starting to save brown packing paper that comes in deliveries and keeping your eye out for (super cheap) greenery and fake plants at yard sales and thrift shops. This year's theme is Rainforest Falls.

It's time to bless our college students again! We will be collecting snacks (tortilla chips, salsa queso, skittles, other candy, etc.), gift cards (Fast food, gas, etc.) We will be collecting items under the coat rack throughout the month of March. Thank you for your contributions!

The MCC Comforter Blitz is this week--March 2-4-- at Journey facilities at Yoder. More information can be found on their website: <https://mcc.org/events/mcc-comforter-blitz>

The MCC Sale is coming up on April 10-11 and there are a number of ways you can be involved....from Run for Relief to the Quilters Corner to serving at Feeding of the Multitude. Check out

the opportunities on the board by the coat rack or visit with Alan and Marilyn Mueller about your options!

Please join MCC Central States for our Annual Meeting as we hear an MCC update from MCC U.S. Board Chair Emerson Leshar. The meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 7, at MCC Central States, 121 E. 30th in North Newton. If you would like to join us via Zoom, please email tinaschrag@mcc.org for a link to the meeting.

The Outreach Team of Hesston Mennonite Church invites your participation at a March 7, 2026, Spring Symposium on the Future of Water in Kansas. We are co-sponsoring this event to be held at Dyck Arboretum (177 W Hickory St), Hesston, Kansas, from 8:30 to 4:30 pm on Saturday, March 7. Experts and water managers from state, local and municipal agencies will address critical issues that affect our state's water resources and demands. For more information, contact arboretum@hesston.edu.

Newton Et Cetera Shop Update: The Local Giving Grant cycle to non-profits is now open. Information and the application can be downloaded at newtonetceterashop.com/localglobal-giving. We still need volunteers! We have numerous days and times available for individuals or teams. Applications can be picked up in the shop or completed online at newtonetceterashop.com/volunteer.

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association's annual meeting will be held on March 8 at 2:30 p.m. at Hopefield Mennonite Church, 1823 Aztec Lane, Moundridge. Glen Ediger, a Bethel College graduate, will be our guest speaker. He will be speaking about "Mennonites, Farming, Wheat and Threshing Stones." Entertainment will be provided by Sam Shilts. There is no need to RSVP.

Hesston College Updates: Tues., Mar. 3 – Faculty artists violinist Solomia Soroka and baritone Scott Hochstetler presents an evening of music for voice and violin, 7 p.m., Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 S. Main St., Hesston. Free admission.

Camp Mennoscah Updates: The unseasonable weather has been a blessing at Camp Mennoscah, as those who participated in a workday on Feb. 16 were able to build forms and lay out rebar

in preparation for two exterior concrete pads that were poured the following day. The pads meet code on the 600-amp electrical service installed at the retreat center and also provide a home for the exterior HVAC units that control the basement and main floor common areas. This, along with window trim, baseboards, bathroom shelving, carpet repairs, and more was also done on the 16th, and we thank those who joined us for that work, and those who support these efforts financially through their \$20 monthly recurring gift using the "Donate here" button at www.CampMennoscah.org.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Western District Conference: During this season of Lent, pray for all WDC congregations as they seek to walk in the way of Jesus and nurture faithful discipleship.
- Mennonite Mission Network: Beginning tomorrow, the Anchorage, Alaska, and Colorado Springs, Colorado, Service Adventure units will gather in San Angelo, Texas, to serve with Mennonite Disaster Service. Pray for a great week of serving and learning together, as well as safe travels for the participants as they travel.

SUNDAY INFORMATION

NURSERY TODAY	Marilyn Mueller, Tia Regier, Kalyn Ortman
PIANIST/ORGANIST	Kent Dick
OFFERING LAST SUNDAY	
AMBS	\$663.00
Birthday	41.00
Church Budget	1,720.00
MCC Sale	350.00
Mutual Aid	725.00
Wednesday Supper	121.00
ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY	75
OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY	Church Budget
NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY	Ruth Mueller, Kaitlen Ortman, Brianna Oneth