

First Mennonite Church of Halstead

March 8, 2026

*Gracious God, as we spring forward into a new season, awaken our hearts to your presence. Even when our bodies feel weary, renew our spirits with your joy. Prepare us now to worship you in spirit and in truth.
Amen.*

Gathering Music – Youth Bells

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, arr. Jolea Jensen

Welcome and Announcements - Debbie Nightingale

Centering Music – Leise Läuten Bell Choir

Day by Day, arr. Barry Braman

***Call to Worship** – Pastor Steve

***Worship Through Singing – Lord, I Am Fondly, Earnestly Longing – VT #555**

G C G

1 Lord, I am fond - ly, ear - nest - ly long - ing in - to thy
 2 Dead to the world would I be, O Sav - ior, dead un - to
 3 I would be thine and serve thee for - ev - er, filled with thy

D G C G

ho - ly like - ness to grow, thirst - ing for more and deep - er com -
 sin, a - live un - to thee. Cru - ci - fy all the earth - ly with -
 Spir - it, lost in thy love. Come to my heart, Lord, come with a -

D Em D A D Refrain

mun - ion, yearn - ing thy love more ful - ly to know.
 in me, emp - tied of sin and self may I be. O - pen the
 noint - ing, show - ers of grace send down from a - bove.

G D

wells of grace and sal - va - tion, pour the rich streams
 O - pen the wells of grace and sal - va - tion, pour the rich

deep in - to my heart. Cleanse and re - fine my
streams deep in - to my heart. Cleanse and re - fine my

G

thought and af - fec-tion, seal me and make me pure as thou art.
thought and af - fec-tion, seal me and make me pure as thou art.

Am D7 G

***Worship Through Singing – I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say –**

VT #536

Em C G D G Am Dsus D

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest.
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am the dawn-ing light.

Em Am Em D G Am Em

Lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst-y one; stoop down and drink and live."
 Look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

Bm Em Am G Bm Em Dsus D

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea-ry, worn, and sad.
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream.
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun,

C Am Em D G/B Am Em

I found in him a rest-ing place, and he has made me glad.
 My thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 and in that light of life I'll walk till tra-v'ling days are done.

Offering & Offertory – Church Budget

As Jacob With Travel, arr. Barry Braman

Leise Läuten
Bell Choir

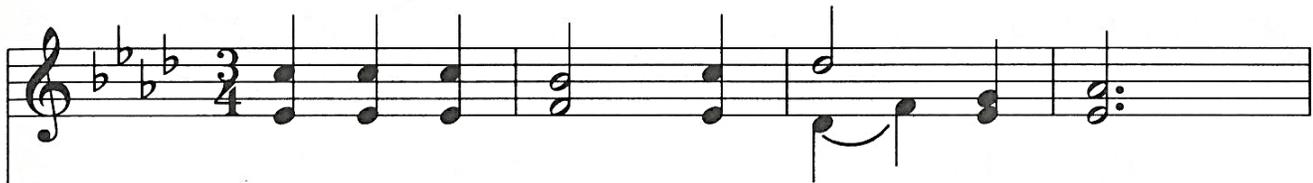
Scripture – John 4:5-42 (p. 1651)

Children's Time – Brocia Mueller

Worship Through Singing – *At Your Feet* – Lyrics Projected

Worship Through Singing – *Jesus, the very thought of thee* –

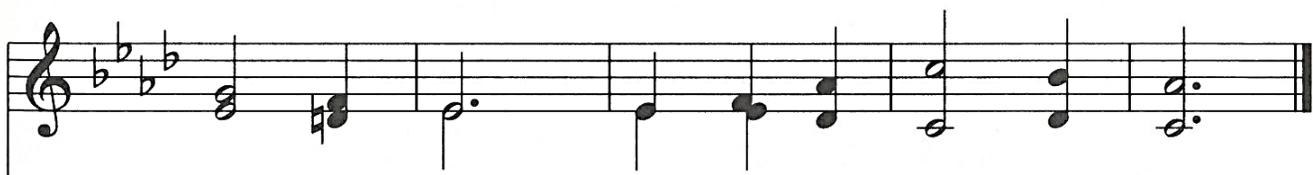
HWB #588



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of thee
2 Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite heart!
4 But what to those who find? Ah, this
5 Je - sus! our on - ly joy be thou,



1 with sweet-ness fills my breast; but sweet - er far thy
2 nor can the mind re - call a sweet - er sound than
3 O Joy of all the meek! To those who fal - ter
4 nor tongue nor pen can show! The love of Je - sus -
5 as thou our prize wilt be; Je - sus! be thou our



1 face to see and in thy pres - ence rest.
2 thy dear name, O Sav - ior of us all.
3 thou art kind! How good to those who seek!
4 what it is, none but his loved ones know.
5 glo - ry now, and through e - ter - ni - ty.



***Closing Prayer**

***Sending Song** – *Come Just as You Are* – Lyrics Projected

***Benediction**

***Postlude** – Cindy Siemens

*Please stand if you are able

CHURCH CALENDAR

Mar. 8	6:00 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups
	6:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Mar. 11	8:00 p.m.	Easter Cantata practice

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 Neighbors Store is requesting monetary contributions to defray expenses for the Easter meal boxes they distribute. Contributions can be placed in the offering and designated for Neighbors Easter boxes. The sign up to receive an Easter box begins Monday, March 9, and ends on Monday, March 23.

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 bulletin board or visit with Alan and Marilyn Mueller about your options!

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.

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.

Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale: New, in-the-package items are needed for this year's Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale Children's Auction. Items that are popular with kids include Hot Wheels, Barbies, board games, LEGO sets, art and craft kits, sports equipment, puzzles, plush animals and outdoor toys. Items may be given to Alan and Marilyn Mueller for delivery to the Sale or brought directly to the Pride of Kansas building on Friday or on Saturday morning before 8:30 a.m. Volunteers to help clerk the Children's Auction are also needed. Contact Brad Kohlman at bkohlman@conradeinsurance.com if interested in serving in this way.

Bethel College Updates: Tues., March 10 - Bethel College Wind Ensemble concert, Chris Miertschin, director, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. **Wed., March 11** - Life Enrichment program, 9:30 a.m., "The Historical Roots of Putin's Russia," Matt Cotton, McPherson College; 10:50 a.m., "How to Protect the Earth's Biodiversity Forever: Lessons from Maitreya Buddha, Pharma Bros, and Yucca Mountain," Dr. Adam Smith, Missouri Botanical Gardens, St. Louis. **Thurs., March 12** - Closing reception for Rachel Epp Buller and "Daily Commitments," 6-7 p.m., Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel

College. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m. **Thurs., March 12** – Bethel College Jazz, Chris Miertschin, director, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. **Thurs., March 12** – Ceramic artist Isaac Shue, owner of Gallery Mostaza in Newton, will present an artist talk, 7 p.m., Ad Building chapel at Bethel College.

Camp Mennoscah Updates: We are pleased to report that our most recent workday saw final installation of cover plates on the electrical switches and outlets in the retreat center, as well as bathroom mirrors getting hung. Baseboards are nearly done, all bedrooms have been cleaned out, and bedroom and the basement common area carpets have been shampooed, making the basement essentially move-in ready!

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Western District Conference: Give thanks for WDC's Hispanic Transitional Ministry Resourcing project, and pray for participating churches as they nurture congregational identity and strengthen leadership capacity to navigate pastoral and congregational changes in ways that are relevant to their cultural context.
- Mennonite Mission Network: On this International Women's Day, pray that women across the street and around the world feel empowered to live out their faith in meaningful ways, despite any negative pressures they may feel from the patriarchal systems in their communities, homes, churches and countries.

SUNDAY INFORMATION

NURSERY TODAY

Ruth Mueller, Kaitlen Ortman, Brianna Oneth

PIANIST/ORGANIST

Cindy Siemens

OFFERING LAST SUNDAY

Bethel College	\$25.00
Church Budget	1,730.00
Camp Mennoscah	25.00
MCUSA	1,186.00
Verenike	928.00
Verenike Supper (2/28/26)	12,431.00
Wednesday Supper	25.00
Western District Conference	75.00

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

86

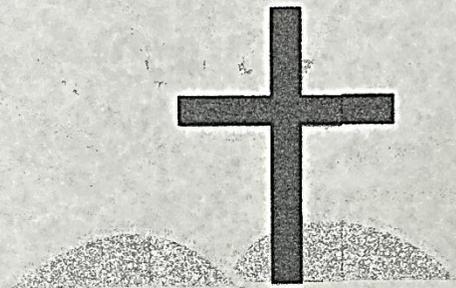
OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY

Bethel College

NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY

Diana Torres, Raquel Wilcox, Luke Haspels

NEIGHBORS EASTER MEALS



*We are requesting monetary
contributions to defray expenses
For Easter Meal boxes.*

*In 2025, we distributed meals to
37 families at an approximate
cost of \$40 per family.*

*Our deepest thanks for your continued support
of our mission to assist members of our
community who are in need.*