

## ***But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go!"***

This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel."

*Acts 9:15, NIV*



# **First Mennonite Church of Halstead**

April 19, 2026

*Heavenly Father, help us to remember that we belong to you. Touch us, heal us, bless us. Walk with us daily so that we may have the courage and faith to meet all life's challenges. Amen.*

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### **Gathering Music – Kent Dick**

*Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies - Koury*

### **Welcome and Announcements - Melanie Haspels**

### **Centering Music – Kent Dick**

*Just As I Am - Thompson*

### **Call to Worship –**

Leader: Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

**People: Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.**

Leader: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**People: Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.**

**\*Worship Through Singing – Take My Life, and Let It Be – VT**  
 #759

1 Take my life, and let it be con - se - crat - ed,  
 2 Take my hands, and let them move at the im - pulse  
 3 Take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry pow'r as  
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would  
 5 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its

G D7 G D G

Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments and my days; let them  
 of thy love. Take my feet, and let them be swift and  
 thou shalt choose. Take my lips, and let them be filled with  
 I with - hold. Take my will and make it thine; it shall  
 trea - sure store. Take my - self, and I will be ev - er,

C G D G D Em D G C G/D D G

flow in cease - less praise, let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 beau - ti - ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
 mes - sag - es from thee, filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
 be no lon - ger mine, it shall be no lon - ger mine.  
 on - ly, all for thee, ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

**Scripture** – Acts 9:1-19a (1706-07)

**Offering & Offertory** – Church Budget

*Lord, Speak to Me* - Broughton

Kent Dick

**Worship Through Singing** – *Ancient Words* – Lyrics Projected

**Children's Time** – Melanie Haspels

*A nursery is available in the basement for children aged 4 and younger following Children's Time.*

**\*Worship Through Singing – Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing – HWB #110**

1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my  
 2 Je - sus! the name that charms our fears, that  
 3 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice new  
 4 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as -  
 5 Glo - ry to God and praise and love be

1 great Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my  
 2 bids our sor - row cease, 'tis mu - sic to the  
 3 life the dead re - ceive, the mourn - ful, bro - ken  
 4 sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the  
 5 ev - er, ev - er giv'n by saints be - low and

1 God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace.  
 2 sin - ner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.  
 3 hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.  
 4 earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.  
 5 saints a - bove, the church in earth and heav'n.

**\*Worship Through Singing – Be thou my vision – HWB #545**

SLANE 10 10. 9 10

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, be thou my true word;  
 3 Be thou my buck - ler, my sword for the fight.  
 4 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain emp - ty praise;  
 5 High King of heav - en, when vic - t'ry is won

1 naught be all else to me save that thou art.  
 2 I ev - er with thee, and thou with me, Lord.  
 3 Be thou my dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light,  
 4 thou mine in - her - it - ance, now and al - ways.  
 5 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!

1 Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 2 Thou my great Fa - ther, thy child may I be,  
 3 thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tower.  
 4 Thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 5 Heart of my heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

1 wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 2 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.  
 3 Raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 4 High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 5 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

**Congregational Prayer** – Pastor Steve

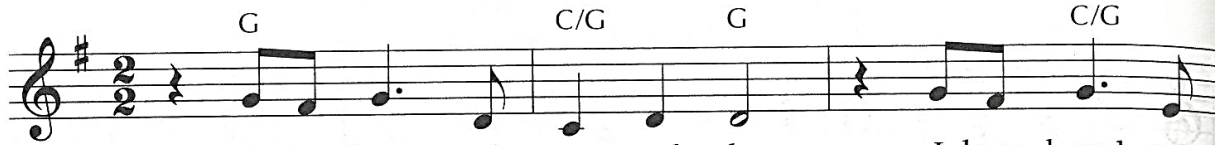
**Message** – Pastor Steve

*When Light Changes Everything*

**Response Song** – *Hosanna (Praise is Rising)* – Lyrics Projected

**Closing Prayer**

**\*Sending Song - Here I Am, Lord - VT #545**



1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my  
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my  
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will call the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in deep - est sin my hand will  
 peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn a -  
 poor by name. I will set a feast for them. My hand will



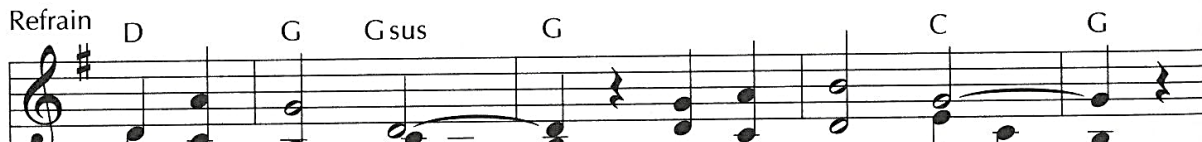
save. I who made the stars of night,  
 way. I will break their hearts of stone,  
 save. Fin - est bread I will pro - vide



I will make the dark - ness bright. Who will bear my  
 give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my  
 till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my



light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 life to them. Whom shall I send?



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?



Am7 G/B Am/C C D

I have heard you call-ing in the night.

G Gsus G C/E G

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

Am7 D G Gsus G

I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude** – Kent Dick

*Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing* - Smith

\*Please stand if you are able

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## **CHURCH CALENDAR**

April 19	2:00 p.m.	Dutch Blitz game afternoon
April 20	7:30 p.m.	Vision Team meeting
April 22	6:30 p.m.	VBS meeting
April 23	1:00 p.m.	Care Team meeting
April 26	12:00 p.m.	Last Sunday Potluck and membership conversation
	6:00 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups Women's Bible Study

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The rose on the organ is in honor of Jim Koehn's 91<sup>st</sup> birthday** on April 23. Happy Birthday Jim!

**The May-June issue of *The Upper Room* is available** on the table at the back of the sanctuary and is in the literature rack outside Stauffer Hall.

**There will be a Dutch Blitz game afternoon today at 2:00 p.m.** Bring a friend, bring a snack and come have some fun!

**The deadline for the May newsletter is Wednesday, April 22.**

**There will be a Care Team meeting this Thursday, April 23, at 1:00 p.m.**

**The church camp out at Camp Mennoscah is May 2-3.** Forms to sign up will be in mailboxes and on the table at the back of the sanctuary. They need to be returned to Gregg's mailbox by next Sunday, April 26. Sign-ups for Sunday morning breakfast foods will be coming soon!

**Next week, April 26, will be our final Last Sunday Potluck!**

Please bring a dish or two to share. Immediately following, we invite you to join together for a conversation on church membership. The goal of this meeting is to explore what membership means to people and hear directly from those who worship here. Whether you are a long-time member, a frequent visitor, or somewhere in between, your perspective is valuable as we reflect on this aspect of our life together. Pastor Steve will offer

some history on what brings us to this conversation. Then we will have some table discussion with questions such as, "What does the concept of church membership mean to you personally?" and "What do you see as the primary function or goal of membership within a church body?" If you would like to look at the current membership guidelines listed in the Church Constitution beforehand, copies are available on the back table in the foyer. A link to the constitution on the website was sent with the bulletin packet. We hope to see you there for this important conversation!

**All women and girls are invited to the annual Mennonite Women** in Mission's potluck salad supper on Monday, April 20, at 6 p.m. at Tabor Mennonite Church, rural Newton. Our guest speaker will be Kate Mast speaking on "Our Time, Our Stories, Our Stuff." Please bring a potluck salad and one small item that is a treasure of yours to share with your table group. RSVP is not required. More information is on our website at [mennonitewomeninmission.org](http://mennonitewomeninmission.org) or on their Facebook page.

**The Bethel College Service Club invites you** to join them for an evening of singing and service on Friday, April 24, from 6 - 8 p.m. at the MCC building in North Newton. A meal of hotdogs and hamburgers and a concert by Bethel College's Woven and Open Road groups will take place prior to the packing of relief kits. The meal is by donation with all proceeds benefiting MCC. The Service Club has a goal of packing 500 kits for the evening. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend so they can plan for food.

**The Halstead Interfaith Council will donate funds** to our Halstead / Bentley School District for backpacks and school supplies for families in need. Congregation members from all our community churches are invited to contribute. If you would like to donate to this fund, please write your checks to First Mennonite Church and designate Interfaith School Supplies. We may make our donations any time until the end of May. Thank you for helping to support our students and their families.

**WDC Resource Library** - Need a resource but can't get to the WDC Resource Library during open hours? We now have after-hours lockers to pick up library materials on weekends and during

evening hours. Contact Jennie at [crlib@mennowdc.org](mailto:crlib@mennowdc.org) to arrange pickup. Resource Library Open Hours: Mon-Thurs, 8:30am-4:30pm  
**Mennonite Disaster Service will hold their Family Program** in Hesston this summer. Work projects include building cabinets, packing MCC kits, and helping Hesston College prepare their campus for the fall semester. A link to sign up was sent with the bulletin packet.

**Pine Village's Benefit Day will include their pulled pork and baby back ribs fundraiser and their annual car show on Saturday, May 9.** Pulled pork by the pound and baby back ribs sold by the rack are available for pre-order. Orders can be made online at <https://www.pinevillageks.org> or by returning a pre-order form to Pine Village. All orders must be in by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 24. The car show is on Saturday, May 9, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. A BBQ dinner (cost by donation) will be from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The event is free for spectators and includes inflatables for the children. BBQ pre-orders can be picked up at the Wellness Center during the car show or on May 11 or from 12 – 3 p.m. If you have a vehicle you would like to show, sign up online at [www.pinevillageks.org/eventsignup](http://www.pinevillageks.org/eventsignup) or call 620.345.2901. Car Show entries are \$20.

**Hesston College Updates: Hesston College theatre's playwriting festival, "Pen to Paper to Performance"** will be held May 1 and 2 in Keim Center. The festival brings to life several winning 10-minute play submissions written by area playwrights and will be performed both nights at 7 p.m. A talk-back time with the playwrights will follow each performance. Tickets (\$5/students, \$10/adults and seniors) will be available at the door. For more information, visit [hesston.edu/theatre](http://hesston.edu/theatre).

**Bethel College Updates: Sun., April 19** – Composer recital: Professor Kris Hilding, Bethel College, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. **Thurs., April 23** – Bethel College Wind Ensemble concert, Chris Miertschin, director, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. **Sun., May 3** – Masterworks concert at Bethel College: The Creation by Joseph Haydn.

**Camp Mennoscah Updates:** Camp Mennoscah is seeking a bookkeeper/reservation specialist. Experience with accounting/bookkeeping and general office duties is preferred. Must have good phone, people and email skills, along with strong organization. This position has potential to be a part- or full-time position. Candidate will also need to be able to pass a background check and have transportation to camp property. Some remote work may also be available. If interested, please send inquiries and resume to Olivia Bartel, [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org).

**PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES**

- Western District Conference: Give thanks for the youth workers’ retreat hosted this week by WDC. Pray for all who lead youth ministries, and for WDC congregations as they provide support and accountability to nurture trust, wisdom and joy in this ministry.
- Mennonite Mission Network: Caleb and Stephanie Schrock-Hurst have been onsite at Mennonite Christian Hospital (MCH) in Hualien, Taiwan, for more than two months. Pray that the Bible study they are now leading with MCH staff will be a fruitful and fulfilling time of study and fellowship for all involved.

**SUNDAY INFORMATION**

<b>NURSERY TODAY</b>	Marilyn Mueller, Kaitlen Ortman, Megan Ortman
<b>PIANIST/ORGANIST</b>	Kent Dick
<b>OFFERING LAST SUNDAY</b>	
Church Budget	\$1,350.00
Interfaith School Supplies	100.00
MCC Sale	20.00
MCUSA	985.00
Pine Village	50.00
<b>ATTENDANCE ON LAST SUNDAY</b>	106
<b>OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY</b>	Pine Village
<b>NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY</b>	Shaun Ortman, Diana Torres, Luke Haspels