

March 23, 2008

Easter Sunday

We Have Seen the Lord!

*"He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said."
-Matthew 28:6*

Gathering Our Praise

PRELUDE Deloris Schmidt

AT THE TOMB *Matthew 28:1-10*

CALL TO WORSHIP Worship Leader, Carol Duerksen

*GATHERING OUR PRAISE *"Christ the Lord is risen today"* No. 280

*PRAYING FOR GOD'S PRESENCE

*SINGING OUR PRAISE *"Lift your glad voices"* No. 275

*WELCOME & GREETING EACH OTHER *Please pass the welcome pads*

WORSHIPING WITH OUR OFFERINGS AND DEDICATING THEM
Coins collected for MCC Relief Sale Penny Challenge

CHILDREN'S STORY Kim Funk

TESTIMONY Venita Schroeder

SONG *"In Christ alone"* Insert

Proclaiming God's Word

HEARING THE EPISTLE *I Peter 1:3-8*

TESTIMONY Marcene Entz

SONG OF PRAISE *"Love is come again"* Adult Choir

HEARING THE EPISTLE *Colossians 3:1-4*

AFFIRMATION OF THE RISEN CHRIST

We believe in God.

Who lights the dawn to chase away the darkness;

Who rolls away each stone of doubt;

Who surprises us with incredible gifts of family and friends, silence and laughter.

Who raises us from sadness and despair to the possibilities of blessing and joy.

We believe in Jesus,

Friend of the poor and searcher for the lost,

Who comes to us in our grief and longing, calls us by name and sends us on the paths of peace to speak of an awesome love that is not overcome by death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

The hidden partner, the gentle messenger of God,

Who fills our every breath with blessing;

Who guides us in the dark, beckons us to do good, speaks to us in dream and image, and watches over us with tender compassion.

We believe in this church,
An instrument of God in this present moment, striving for justice,
celebrating in joy, clawing at despair, living in hope, praying for healing and
forever proclaiming Good News of God's persistent and redeeming love. AMEN!

SPECIAL MUSIC *"God so loved the world"* Adult Choir

HEARING THE NEW TESTAMENT *Acts 10:34-44* Doug Krehbiel

SERMON *"Witnesses to the Resurrection"* Corey Miller

Responding to God's Word

SPECIAL MUSIC *"The heavens are telling"* Adult Choir

PRAISING OUR RESURRECTED LORD *Psalms 118:1-2,14-24*

SONG *"Marvelous in our eyes"* No. 143CS

EASTER PRAYER Karen Andres

PARTICIPATING IN THE RESURRECTION

CLAIMING GOD'S PROMISE *Romans 6:1-4*

*SONG OF HOPE *"Thine is the glory"* No. 269

*SENDING

POSTLUDE

Today

Christ is risen from the dead! The God of victory, who raised Jesus, transforms our fear to joy. Christ's resurrection power waits to give each of us new life in Jesus' name! What better response is there than to offer our praise and worship to our loving God and our living Lord Jesus Christ!

We welcome all of you to our time of worship! May you experience resurrection power this morning!

Near the end of our worship service, we will invite everyone to participate in adding beauty, color and life to the cross by bringing a carnation to the cross. Let us anticipate what we will create together as Christ's resurrection people!

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

The drama group: Laura Unruh, Kristin Unruh, Jim Schmidt, Michael Unruh.
Jasmine Brandt for the dance movement.
Doug Krehbiel and friends for their gifts of music.
Dale Alderfer for building the stone that was rolled away.

This morning you were greeted by Gayle Funk & Brian Voth, Monica & Carson and Brad & Sara Hiebert.
Please take time to fill out our friendship pads. Come back and join us again.

Childcare is available during worship today.

On the table in the foyer are **PRAYER REQUEST CARDS**. You are invited to fill one out if you have a request and return it to a pastor's box.

No Sunday School classes today.

Easter Lilies:

- ℣ In memory of Leonard Wiens - shared by Flo Wiens.
- ℣ In memory of Eldon and Susie Goertzen -
shared by Brenda Buller and Stan Goertzen and families.
- ℣ In memory of Ernest Bleam - shared by Lewis Unruh family.
- ℣ In memory of John Kerchner, Sr. - shared by Phil and Sarahanne Unruh.
- ℣ Celebrating Life - shared by Lester, Lois and Brittany Voth.
- ℣ In memory of Alfred Voth - share by Rose Voth.
- ℣ In memory of Orlando Voth and Rebecca Haile -
shared by Brian Voth, Gayle Funk, Monica and Carson.
- ℣ In memory of Arnold H. Schmidt and Eileen Meyer -
shared by Dorothy Schmidt and family.
- ℣ In memory of Marvin Regier and Nathan Aaron Schmidt -
shared by Grace Regier.
- ℣ In memory of Mary Ellen Goertz - shared by Ernest and Elma Goertz
- ℣ In memory of Dan and Esther Thiesen and Robert John and Dorothy Roadway - shared by Ann and Alvin Thiesen.

Earth's saddest day and gladdest day were just three days apart!
--Susan Coolidge

This Week

Monday, March 24

Newsletter items are due in the secretary's office.

Tuesday, March 25

7:00 p.m.—Prayer and Envisioning group will meet.
—Historical Committee meeting.

Wednesday, March 26

6:15 p.m.—Children of Light practice.
7:00 p.m.—TMYF
7:15 p.m.—FaithWeaver Friends, Youth Explorers

Saturday, March 29

9:30 a.m.—Children of Light practice.

Next Sunday, March 30

9:30 a.m.— We will continue to celebrate Easter's Wonder. The theme of the morning is "Living in Easter's Joy." Children of Light will be performing "Many Fish for Fishers of Men", we will receive Violeta Ajquejay as a member and we will rejoice in the good news of Jesus' resurrection! The texts will be Psalm 100, Nehemiah 8:10, Philippians 4:4-9, Luke 24:36-49 and Corey will be preaching.

10:45—Sunday School for everyone.

NOON: CARING GROUP LEADER'S pastoral training meeting has been set for March 30 with a potluck meal. Care givers, deacons & others interested are invited. Families welcome. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

Announcements

THANKS YOU to our church family for the beautiful flower arrangement, good wishes and cards for our anniversary last Sunday. -LeRoy and Alice Funk

THE AGAPE SENIOR CENTER is inviting everyone to a pork barbecue supper catered by Bob and Connie Boese on Saturday, April 5, 6pm. This is the annual fundraiser and will feature Dave Anderson with his dulcimer. Call in reservations by March 26 to enjoy an evening of food and music. 367-2275.

THE ALEXANDERWOHL MENNONITE MEN'S pancake and sausage supper Saturday, March 29 at the Goessel Grade School. All you can eat served from 6-8:00pm. Donations gratefully accepted to help purchase a new power point projector. Come out and enjoy the food and fellowship!

WDC BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT March 31-April 5 at Bethel College.

AN INVITATION FROM ORSCHELEN FARM AND HOME STORE. Orscheln's is inviting church attenders to purchase items the week of March 23 and they will issue a check back to the church for 5% of all receipts turned in to Kim. (Place receipts in sec. mailbox) See the note on the bulletin board for further details.

Stewardship Workshop: Stewardship theologian, author, and speaker Lynn Miller will lead a workshop at Shalom Mennonite Church on Saturday, April 26, from 8:00 am to noon on **THE POWER OF ENOUGH.** It's designed for anyone interested in learning how to find real contentment by discovering what "enough" means in your life. Includes practical help and useful exercises you can apply to your own situation. No charge, offering will be taken. Morning coffee break provided, childcare available. Please RSVP with Shalom Mennonite Church, 283-7395, email the church office at office@shalomnewton.org, or return registration form (*available in Tabor office*). Don't miss this unique opportunity!

CAMP MENNOSCAH:

- >>Retirees' Relaxation Retreat, April 14-16. Brochure posted.
- >>Men & Boyd Retreat April 25-27. Don't miss out.
- >>Camp catalogs are on the table in the foyer. Sign up for scholarships.
- >>Nurses & kitchen staff need for the camping season. Call 620-297-3290.

ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS:

- * A story from **MISSION PARTNERS** Joe and Anna Sawatzky.
- * **JOB OPENINGS:** Newton EtCetera Shop: Retail Manager.
Mennonite Mission Network: Mennonite Voluntary Services director.

KANSAS MENNONITE RELIEF SALE:

April 11 & 12, 2008

Kansas State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, Kansas

>>PLEASE support our Tabor people who are in charge of areas at the MCC sale by filling their signup sheets: **SELLING SAUSAGE** (Lewis and Carrie Unruh); **CUTTING AND COOKING SAUSAGE** (Dale and Mary Alderfer); **PLANTS AND THINGS** (Sara Hiebert, Kristi and Sharon Unruh); **NEW YEARS COOKIES** (Brent and Pam Abrahams).

>>**THE CHILDREN'S COIN OFFERING** last Sunday was \$68.09. Keep the coins coming and the cans ringing!!

>>**CHECK SIGNUP SHEETS** on the table to see how you can help.

>>Those of you bringing your **PROJECTS** to the basement, PLEASE put a full description, who built the project, and any story or interesting facts which will help your project sell better. When your project is complete call Jerry so he can take a picture and get it posted on the website.

>>**TABOR 5K RUNNERS & SUPPORTERS:** We would like to see everyone involved as either a runner or giving pledges. Those of you running PLEASE try and get more pledges for MCC than you did last year. *IF you are running the 5K PLEASE put your names in Jerry and Leann's box right away and we will put your names in the bulletin.*

>>If you would like an UPLIFTING EXPERIENCE, we invite you to help make **20,000 VERENIKE** Tues. morning, April 8, at the Hillsboro Fairgrounds (signup sheet). For those of you who are not steady on your feet come and help in the "final pinching" quality control area. Those steady on your feet can help in other areas. This IS a very FUN day that is guaranteed to lift your spirits.

>>There are two boxes under the signup table, one for "new" or "like new" toys for the **CHILDREN'S AUCTION** and another for items for the **QUILTERS CORNER**.

>>It is NOT too late to start a **WOOD AND METAL PROJECT**. It is NOT too late to be transplanting and starting seeds for "**PLANTS AND THINGS**".

>>There is still opportunity to donate to **PRESALE EXPENSES**. Consider donating \$40 to celebrate the sales 40th anniversary. Place your donation in Kris & Archie Schmidt or Leann and Jerry Toews' mailbox.

Did you know?

The last time that Easter was this early was in 1913 and it won't happen again until 220 years from now. So enjoy this "early Easter" for you probably won't see another one like it!

We live and die; Christ died and lived! ~John Stott

Peace, lived out in us.

The joyful news that Christ is risen does not change the contemporary world. Still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice. But the fact of Easter gives us the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline, and make the sacrifice.

~Henry Knox Sherrill