**First Mennonite Church of Christian**

**Pastor Peter Emery**

**Organist – Roberta Gingerich**

**Worship Leader – James Allen**

**December 24, 2023**

**Gathering and Praising**

Prelude

Introit – “I Heard the Bess on Christmas Day” FMCC Singers

Welcome

Morning Prayer

Lighting the Advent Candle:

 Monologue - Mary – The Promise of a Baby Nikki Unruh

Call to Worship
Leader: We give thanks to you God,
**People: for the body of a tiny baby, life and breath in a tiny ribcage, Immanuel, God with us, a promise of salvation.**
Leader: We give thanks
**People: for loving parents,**Leader: for the light of a star,
**People: for the radiance of angels,**Leader: for the running feet of shepherds,
**People: for all the joy of that first Christmas.**Leader: We thank you for today,
**People: that you have given our bodies life and breath this Christmas,**Leader: that we are here, now,
**People: gathered with these people, joined in one accord in prayer to you.**

***All: Let the light of Jesus shine in our hearts as we come together for worship.***

*\*Hymn – “O Come All Ye Faithful” VT #241*

 “O, How Joyfully” VT # 254

Scripture – Luke 1:46-55

Special Music - “God Rest You Merry Gentlemen” FMCC Singers

**Receiving God’s Word**

Sermon–“My spirit rejoices in God my Savior” Pastor Pete Emery

Moment of Meditation

**Sharing with One Another**

Announcements

Sharing Joys and Prayer Requests

Prayer of the Church

**Going in God’s Name**

Sending – “O Come, O Immanuel” FMCC Singers

*\*Benediction*

Postlude

*\*Those who are able are invited to stand*

Pastor Pete Emery

Pastor Pete’s email: fmcc.pastorpete@gmail.com

Pastor Pete’s Cell Phone: 785-577-1447

Pastor’s office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Study Phone 620-345-8766

Church Secretary: Lurline Wiens

Lurline’s phone number: 620-345-6657

Lurline’s email: fmcc.secretary1@gmail.com

Office hours: Tues. 1:00-4:30PM, Thurs-Fri. 8:30AM-11:30am

Church Phone: 620-345-2546

Church Website: www.fmccmoundridge.org

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**First Mennonite Church of Christian**

**Moundridge, KS**

**A Welcoming Community of Christians for Peace**

**December 24, 2023**

**PRAYER PLACES/JOYOUS JOURNEYS**

**Congratulations** to Kevin Vivanco on his graduation from WSU.

**Great news** from the Blessing Box. People are using it. Continue your support.

**Pray for Jerroll Goebel** as he goes through some health issues.

**Pray for Peace** everywhere.

**“For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6**

If you have prayer requests or items of joy, contact one of the Care Team members so we can add those requests as needed. Members are: Pat Krehbiel, Dwight Goering or Cheri Kaufman.

Opportunities

**Today:** 9:30: Sunday School

 10:30: Worship Service

**December 24:** Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 pm

**January 7:** Communion

**January 14:** Remembering 2023 during church service, Ethnic pot luck following church service

**Sunday, December 31: Pianist – Delonna Barnett, Worship Leader – Lurline Wiens, Special Music – Delonna Barnett**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

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**Announcements**

**This evening at 7:00 pm** will be our Christmas Eve Service. Come here some of the stories behind our favorite Christmas Carols and then sing the Carols.

**The Moundridge Community Blood Drive** is scheduled for December 29, 2023 at 12:00 noon until 6:00 PM at the Pine Village Wellness Center. For an appointment call 1-800-733-2767 or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org/) and use “Moundridge” for the sponsor code.  Thank you for your support.  If you have any questions, call Carol at 620-345-6774 or email bczerger@mtelco.net.

**Hoffnungsau Mennonite Church, Inman**, is celebrating 150 years August 31 - September 1, 2024.  SAVE THE DATES!  We are planning a Sunday School class reunion along with other activities.  Share with your families and others who have Hoffnungsau connections.  Watch Hoffnungsau's Facebook page for church trivia and more details of our weekend celebration.  If you'd like to be added to our email list for further details as they develop, please contact Barb at bj.reeves@live.com.

**Register now for the MCC South Texas Learning Tour, February 4-9, 2024!** This immigration-focused learning tour presents a unique opportunity to engage directly with organizations making a positive impact on our neighbors. You won’t want to miss this opportunity. Details and online registration can be found at [mcc.org/south-texas-lt](https://mcc.org/events/immigration-learning-tour-south-texas). Deadline to sign up is Jan. 20. Please contact Abraham Diaz Alonso with questions, abrahamdiazalonso@mcc.org.