**First Mennonite Church of Christian**

**Pastor Peter Emery**

**Pianist – Delonna Barnett**

**Worship Leader – Lurline Wiens**

**December 31, 2023**

**Gathering and Praising**

Prelude

Welcome

Morning Prayer

Christmas Monologue–Magi–Promise of a King Dwight Goering

Call to Worship
Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come!
**People: God’s glory has risen upon us.**Leader: Despite the state of this world:
**People: Despite illness, despite fear;**Leader: Despite disappointment, despite injustice;
**People: Despite sadness, despite violence;**Leader: Despite grief, and despite despair–
**People: God’s glory will appear over us.**Leader: Lift up your eyes and look around:
**People: See the light of God’s hope, the light of God’s peace,**Leader: the light of God’s joy, the light of God’s love.
**People: See the light of God’s healing for us, for our community, for our world.**Leader: Let us lift up our eyes and look around.
***ALL: Then we shall see and be radiant,
our hearts shall thrill and rejoice.***

*\*Hymn – “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” VT #263*

 “The First Noel, the Angel Did Say” VT #250

Scripture – Matthew 2:1-12

Special Music Deb Lichti

**Receiving God’s Word**

Sermon – “Where is the Child” 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 Beautiful Star of Bethlehem” VT #275

*\*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 31, 2023**

**PRAYER PLACES/JOYOUS JOURNEYS**

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

**Pray for Peace** everywhere.

**May we all have a vision now and then, of a world where every neighbor is a friend. Happy New Year**

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

**January 6:** Take down Christmas decorations, 9:00 am

**January 7:** Communion

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

**Sunday, January 7: Organist – Bev Hasan, Worship Leader – Randy Stucky, Special Music – New Hymn**

# 36“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law? 37Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%2022%3A36-40&version=NIV#fen-NIV-23910a)] 38This is the first and greatest commandment. 39And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%2022%3A36-40&version=NIV#fen-NIV-23912b)] 40All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

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**Announcements**

**Saturday, January 6,** the Visual Team will be taking down Christmas decorations at 9:00 am. If you can come help, that would be greatly appreciated.

**Sunday, January 7** we will be having Communion during the worship service. Prepare your heart to partake of Communion.

**January 14,** the Worship Service will be a remembrance of this last year, 2023. Following the Worship Service we will have an ethnic pot luck meal. Bring your favorite ethnic foods to share, whatever they may be.

**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 fur ther 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.